



The Church building is the Kingdom of God

the Church Fathers about the meaning of the church building

Heaven on Earth

There are some people who, when coming to the sacred church, do not ascend; rather, it would be more accurate to say they lower the church that represents heaven. These are the ones who come to the temple for the sake of meeting and conversing with one another, displaying and ordering goods. They are similar to each other, as some display goods while others exchange words. Just as the Lord once decisively drove certain people out of that temple, saying, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer, but you have made it a den of thieves' (Matt. 21:13), so He rejects others with this expression, showing that these are not those who ascend to the church, even if they come daily.

Saint Gregory Palamas

House of prayer

"My house is a house of prayer" (Luke 19:46). Every creature—both silent and speaking, both heavenly and earthly—glorifies the Creator. Yet pitiful are those people who, leaving their homes and flocking to the temples in search of some benefit, do not heed the words of God and fail to recognize their own nature. They do not grieve over being possessed by sin, nor do they remember their transgressions with sorrow, nor do they tremble at the thought of judgment. Instead, they extend their hands to each other with

smiles, turning the house of prayer into a place for lengthy conversations, ignoring the psalm that testifies that in God's temple, everyone offers praise (Psalm 28:9).

Saint Basil the Great

Holy Sepulcher

When entering the house of God, let us not be distracted in our minds; rather, let our inner person engage in contemplation and prayer

Saint Ephrem the Syrian

In the temple, everyone should be silent, quiet, and stand with an attentive soul and ear; here, the commands of not an earthly king, but of the Lord of Angels will be read. If we arrange ourselves in this way, the grace of the Spirit will guide us on the path, and we will come to the very Throne of the King and receive all good things through the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Saint John Chrysostom

The church (The temple) is an image of the Holy Sepulchre, and more than just an image, for it contains a place where the Body of the Lord lies, within the inner sanctuary behind the veil, where the sacred Altar is located. Thus, whoever inwardly seeks refuge in this truly divine and God-containing tomb and remains there, focusing and extending their thoughts to God, not only comes to know the divinely inspired words of Scripture, which proclaim the Divinity and Humanity of the Incarnate Word of God but also clearly sees, with the eyes of the mind, the Lord Himself. I would even say—with the physical eyes, for the one who gazes with faith upon the mystical Altar and the Bread of Life resting upon it sees the very Word of God, which became Flesh and dwelt among us. And if one makes oneself worthy for it to dwell within them, then not only will they see, but they will also become a partaker of it and have it dwelling within them, becoming worthy to see and enjoy that

which, as the apostle expresses, the Angels long to penetrate. Through this knowledge and communion, the whole person becomes honorable.

Saint Gregory Palamas

Spiritual Hospital

The Church is a spiritual hospital, and those who come to it should receive the means for healing, apply them to their wounds and leave here with this.

Saint John Chrysostom

Place of God

The temple is the dwelling place of God. Here dwell love and peace, faith and chastity.

Saint John Chrysostom

A place where God gives

...We go to church not only to be here but to take away great and spiritual benefits from here.

Saint John Chrysostom