



## Lesson 12 – In His Temple

Based on John 2:12-22

- 1) How does our lesson open today?

**John 2:12-13** After this he went down to \_\_\_\_\_, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and his disciples: and they continued there not many days. And the Jews' \_\_\_\_\_ was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem,

Going back to the earlier verses in John 2, you'll see that the "after this" was referring to Jesus turning water into wine at the marriage feast in Cana. We are still very early into Jesus' earthly ministry.

- 2) What had been the message that John the Baptist was preaching and was spreading like wildfire across the land?

**Matthew 3:2-3** And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at \_\_\_\_\_. For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord, make his paths straight.

The hope of national greatness was dwelt upon with kindling enthusiasm. Jesus knew that this hope was to be disappointed, for it was founded on a misinterpretation of the Scriptures. With deep earnestness He explained the prophecies, and tried to arouse the people to a closer study of God's word.

- 3) What did Jesus see when he entered the Temple campus?

**John 2:14** And found in the temple those that \_\_\_\_\_ oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting:

during the Passover week large numbers assembled, coming from all parts of Palestine, and even from distant lands. The temple courts were filled with a promiscuous throng. Many were unable to bring with them the sacrifices that were to be offered up as typifying the one great Sacrifice. For the convenience of these, animals were bought and sold in the outer court of the temple. Here all classes of people assembled to purchase their offerings. Here all foreign money was exchanged for the coin of the sanctuary.

- 4) What else was the believer supposed to bring with him to the temple?

**Exodus 30:12-14** When thou takest the sum of the children of Israel after their number, then shall they give every man a \_\_\_\_\_ for his soul unto the LORD, when thou numberest them; that there be no plague among them, when thou numberest them. This they shall give, every one that passeth among them that are numbered, half a \_\_\_\_\_ after the shekel of the sanctuary: (a shekel is twenty gerahs:) an half shekel shall be the offering of the LORD. Every one that passeth among them that are numbered, from twenty years old and above, shall give an \_\_\_\_\_ unto the LORD.

Besides this, large sums were brought as freewill offerings, to be deposited in the temple treasury. And it was required that all foreign coin should be changed for a coin called the temple shekel, which was accepted for the service of the sanctuary. The money changing gave opportunity for fraud and extortion, and it had grown into a disgraceful traffic, which was a source of revenue to the priests.



A great number of sacrifices were offered at the time of the Passover, and the sales at the temple were very large. The consequent confusion indicated a noisy cattle market rather than the sacred temple of God. There could be heard sharp bargaining, the lowing of cattle, the bleating of sheep, the cooing of doves, mingled with the chinking of coin and angry disputation.

5) What rules did Moses give concerning Mt Sinai when God visited them in the Book of Exodus?

**Exodus 19:12-13** And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to \_\_\_\_\_: There shall not an hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast or man, it shall not live: when the trumpet soundeth \_\_\_\_\_, they shall come up to the mount.

Thus was taught the lesson that wherever God manifests His presence, the place is holy. The precincts of God's temple should have been regarded as sacred. But in the strife for gain, all this was lost sight of.

Among them, unrecognized and unhonored, stood the One symbolized by all the Temple services. He had given directions in regard to the offerings. He understood their symbolical value, and He saw that they were now perverted and misunderstood. Spiritual worship was fast disappearing. No link bound the priests and rulers to their God.

6) What did Jesus do?

**John 2:15** And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he \_\_\_\_\_ them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables;

As He beholds the scene, indignation, authority, and power are expressed in His countenance. The attention of the people is attracted to Him. The eyes of those engaged in their unholy traffic are riveted upon His face. They cannot withdraw their gaze.

7) What does Jesus say?

**John 2:16** And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of \_\_\_\_\_.

The confusion is hushed. The sound of traffic and bargaining has ceased. The silence becomes painful. A sense of awe overpowers the assembly. It is as if they were arraigned before the tribunal of God to answer for their deeds. Looking upon Christ, they behold divinity flash through the garb of humanity. The Majesty of heaven stands as the Judge will stand at the last day.

8) What Psalm did the disciples quote when they took all this in?

**Psalms 69:9** For the \_\_\_\_\_ of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me.

Soon the tumultuous throng with their merchandise are far removed from the temple of the Lord. The courts are free from unholy traffic, and a deep silence and solemnity settles upon the scene of confusion.



9) What did Malachi say of this day?

**Malachi 3:1** Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his \_\_\_\_\_, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

And why did the priests flee from the temple? Why did they not stand their ground? He who commanded them to go was a carpenter's son, a poor Galilean, without earthly rank or power. Why did they not resist Him? Why did they leave the gain so ill acquired, and flee at the command of One whose outward appearance was so humble?

Christ spoke with the authority of a king, and in His appearance, and in the tones of His voice, there was that which they had no power to resist.

10) What was the message for those who were left in the Temple?

**Psalms 50:15** And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will \_\_\_\_\_ thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

11) For what cause was Jesus brought into the world?

**John 18:37** Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the \_\_\_\_\_. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

The people pressed into Christ's presence with urgent, pitiful appeals: Master, bless me. His ear heard every cry. With pity exceeding that of a tender mother He bent over the suffering little ones. All received attention. Everyone was healed of whatever disease he had. The dumb opened their lips in praise; the blind beheld the face of their Restorer. The hearts of the sufferers were made glad.

12) After a time, the temple authorities returned sheepishly to the Temple, what question did they ask Jesus?

**John 2:18** Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What \_\_\_\_\_ shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things?

13) What did Jesus reply?

**John 2:19** Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in \_\_\_\_\_ days I will raise it up.

14) How did they respond?

**John 2:20-21** Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in \_\_\_\_\_, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? But he spake of the temple of his body.

It was for the sake of those who should believe on Him afterward, that these words of Christ were spoken. He knew that they would be repeated. Being spoken at the Passover, they would come to the ears of thousands, and be carried to all parts of the world. After He had risen from the dead, their meaning would be made plain. To many they would be conclusive evidence of His divinity.

15) How did Paul explain the Divinity and Power of Christ?

**Colossians 2:15** And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, \_\_\_\_\_ over them in it.



16) What did Paul tell the Hebrew believers?

**Hebrews 8:2** A minister of the sanctuary, and of the \_\_\_\_\_ tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

17) What did Zechariah prophesy about Jesus?

**Zechariah 6:12-13** And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The \_\_\_\_\_; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD: Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of \_\_\_\_\_ shall be between them both.

18) What happened on the day of Pentecost AD 31?

**Hebrews 9:11** But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect \_\_\_\_\_, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

19) How did Christ rebuild the Temple in 3 days?

**Hebrews 9:12** Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own \_\_\_\_\_ he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

20) What promise did Jesus leave us with?

**Matthew 28:20** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you \_\_\_\_\_, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

The Truth about God had been subverted by the greed and short-sightedness of man. In essence what was being performed at the Temple when Jesus cleansed it, did not accurately represent the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.

21) What command was given by Paul to the Hebrew believers (and us)?

**Hebrews 4:14-16** Seeing then that we have a great high \_\_\_\_\_, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet \_\_\_\_\_ sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the \_\_\_\_\_ of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.



***Can you see the danger in misrepresenting God?***

***Are you interested in revealing Him accurately?***

***When is the time to come boldly to His throne?***