



Everyday FAITH Family Page

New Testament 2 Jesus Shows He Is True God

Law/Gospel

I sin when I do not honor God's house or when I disturb the worship of others. **Jesus is my holy temple who, by His sacrifice on the altar of the cross, cleansed me from sin and made me a member of His Body, the Church.**

Bible Words

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

1 Corinthians 3:16

Fun Facts

From a distance, pilgrims saw the white, gold-flecked marble of Herod's temple gleaming in the sunlight, urging them onward. Built on the top of a mountain in Jerusalem, the temple covered thirty-five acres.

First-century Romano-Jewish historian Josephus reported that 10,000 skilled laborers worked to build Herod's temple from 19 BC–AD 63, before, during, and after Jesus walked there. Sadly, Rome destroyed it in AD 70.

Just Joking

Where was Herod's temple located?

On the side of his head

Jesus Clears the Temple

John 2:13–22

The temple in Jerusalem was a very busy place. Thousands came to pray and sacrifice daily. Builders worked on its construction every day for eighty-two years, except Sabbaths.

Visitors listened to religious teachers and schmoozed in the large court of the Gentiles. Here, vendors also sold animals and items for sacrifice, and money-changers exchanged foreign coins for those accepted in the temple. (Jews believed coins with human images violated the First Commandment.)

The number of daily temple visitors swelled during feast days. Passover and the week-long Feast of Unleavened Bread drew the largest crowds with an estimated influx of hundreds of thousands of religious pilgrims coming to Jerusalem.

Early in His public ministry, Jesus went to Passover with His disciples. Displeased when He saw merchants and money-changers taking advantage of the people, Jesus made a whip of cords. He drove the sellers and their animals out. He overturned the money-changers' tables and poured their coins on the ground. Later, His disciples remembered that zeal, His jealous love for God, consumed Him (Psalm 69:9).

Appalled, the religious leaders, who made a lot of money from these transactions, challenged Jesus to do a miracle to show His actions were justified. Jesus said, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (John 2:19). This confused them. It had taken forty-six years to build the temple, and it wasn't done. How could Jesus rebuild it in three days?

John explained that Jesus spoke about His body, the temple of God. Jesus knew the religious leaders would kill Him, and He even challenged them to do so. He also knew that God would raise Him from the dead three days later. His disciples remembered this after He rose from the dead, and they believed the Scriptures and the words Jesus spoke.

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for dying for our sins on the cross and rising from the dead to give forgiveness of sin and resurrection to new life to all who believe in You. In Your name we pray. Amen.

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