

THE TEMPLE  
APPEARANCES  
OF  
JESUS

OR

THE MAN, HIS MISSION, HIS MESSAGE

By

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# INTRODUCTION

While preparing a sermon on “**Jesus – the Man, His Mission, His Message.**” I made an exciting discovery! Much about the mission and message of Jesus was revealed when he was in close proximity to the Jerusalem **Temple**. With excitement, I looked up those occasions when Jesus was near the Temple or synagogue. Here is what I discovered:

## THE MAN

- Jesus, as a baby, was taken to the Temple to be presented Luke 2:22-39
- Jesus, as a boy, was found in the Temple Courts by his parents Luke 2:41-51
- Jesus, as a man, “cleanses” the Temple, and speaks of himself John 2:13-22

## HIS MISSION

- Jesus attends the Synagogue at Nazareth to reveal his mission Luke 4:16-30
- Jesus heals a man at Bethesda pool and later finds him at the Temple John 5:1-14
- Jesus calls “Come to me and drink” at the Feast of Tabernacles John 7:28-46

## HIS MESSAGE

- Jesus attends the Feast of Dedication, says “I give eternal life” John 10:22-39
- Jesus cleanses the Temple for the second time three years later Mark 11:15-18
- Jesus explains the kingdom while walking in the Temple courts Matt 22:1-14
- Jesus declares that he openly taught in the synagogues or Temple John 18:12-23

I discovered that there is a special significance in these Temple visits by Jesus. The Temple was the Jewish Centre of worship – and God’s glory was resident there. As a boy and as a man – Jesus was brought up at the time the Temple was central to His people’s faith. Thus incidents that occur when Jesus is close to the Temple merit our attention.

## JESUS: PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE

**Reading: Luke 2:21-27 JESUS PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE**

*On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise him, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he had been conceived. (Luke 1:31 - to Mary; and Matthew 1:21 - to Joseph). When the time of their\* purification according to the law of Moses (Leviticus 12:1-8) had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: 'a pair of doves or two young pigeons.'*

\* "their purification" refers to mother and child - not mother and father.

This was the first indication, after Jesus was born, that he would fulfil being both God and human. This requirement of mother and child endorses the fact of a saviour who, without sin, nevertheless identified fully with the sinful humanity he came to release from sin. Later, at the commencement of his ministry, he asked to be baptised 'to fulfil all righteousness' (Matthew 3:15).

*"Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the **Holy Spirit** was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the **Holy Spirit** that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. Moved by the **Spirit**, he went into the temple courts." Luke 2:25-27*

The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple as a babe is highly significant.  
What we call the TRINITY is revealed in sharp focus.

1. First the Father. We read that the moment Simeon took the baby Jesus in his arms to present him to God he praised the Sovereign Lord.  
*"**SOVEREIGN LORD**, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."*
2. Secondly the Son: Of course, Jesus was present as a babe at this stage.
3. Thirdly, the Holy Spirit. From the moment the Holy Spirit came upon Mary at the conception of Jesus, God's Holy Spirit was in constant attendance. It was no coincidence that at the time Mary and Joseph went to the temple, the Holy Spirit "moved" in Simeon causing him to attend the temple. The Scripture puts it, "Moved by the Spirit he went into the temple courts." There are three mentions of the Holy Spirit in the three verses 25-27.
  - The first says, "the Holy Spirit was upon him."
  - The second says, "It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ."
  - And third, he went into the temple courts "moved by the Spirit". In verse 25, the underlying original meaning of the word "upon" was that the Holy Spirit was "continually upon" this faithful, elderly child of God.

Verse 26 says that **it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit** that he would not die before he had seen the LORD's Christ/Messiah . This was a wonderful promise to a humble follower of the Lord.

Verse 27 says he came into the temple “moved” by the Holy Spirit. This means “under the control of the Spirit”. This “moving” also involves “insight” as he came expecting to see or learn something important. He saw the Lord's Christ. He recognised the child as the Messiah with these identifications as spoken in verses 29 through 32:

- 1: “my eyes have seen **Your salvation**”
2. “which **You have prepared** in the sight of all people”
3. “a **light** for **revelation** to the **gentiles**”
4. “and for **glory** for **Your people Israel.**”

Simeon gave an inspired prophetic utterance that identified Jesus as the Light prophesied for the nations and for the glory of God's nation of Israel. He also foretells the heartbreak that would come to Mary.

**Reading: Luke 2:33-39 SIMEON AND ANNA THE PROPHETESS**

SIMEON Luke refers to the parents of Jesus as 'the child's father and mother'. This is quite in order as Luke is very aware of the virgin birth of Jesus (I:26-35) and is referring to Joseph as the 'legal' father and parent. In verse 35 Simeon refers to the sword piercing Mary's soul too. Hers as well as Jesus.

ANNA Herod's Temple was very large and included many rooms. Anna may have been allowed to live in one of them. She spent much time in the temple. She must have been a very dedicated worshipper and servant of the Lord.

#### DISCUSSION POINTS

1. In Luke 1:31 the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and said that her new-born child was to be called Jesus. In Matthew 1:21 'an angel of the Lord' appeared in a dream to Joseph and told him not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife because the child in her was conceived from the Holy Spirit. This angel told Joseph to call the baby 'Jesus'. In the first case, there was an actual appearance. In the second, the angel appeared in a dream. In the first situation the angel was named 'Gabriel' - in the second no name was given. But in both visitations the 'parents-to-be' were told to name the baby 'Jesus'. Discuss these two appearances and suggest why there were differences; whether or not Gabriel was the angel in the dream of Joseph; why that angel was not named; why Mary was told first; and what was the purpose of each visitation.
2. What do you think Simeon's words (a) "destined to cause the falling and rising in Israel" (b) "the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed" and (c) "a sword will pierce your own soul too" mean?
3. Anna is called a 'prophetess' according to Dr. Luke - who is always so accurate in his writings and details. What was 'prophetic' about Anna? Profile her character.

## THE BOY JESUS IS FOUND IN THE TEMPLE

**Reading:** Luke 2:41-52      “LOST JESUS” IS FOUND IN THE TEMPLE

This study of Jesus as a boy, turning twelve years of age, is unique! Neither Matthew, Mark nor John say anything about Jesus as a boy. These three writers of the life of Jesus move from Jesus as a baby, around B.C.5 to A.D.26. I have always wondered why this large ‘chunk’ of the life of Jesus has been left alone. I need to accept that what God has permitted to become the sacred record is what is intended. Nevertheless, I would love to know more about Jesus growing up and about his early manhood. It is tantalising to have this remarkable insight, given by Dr. Luke, in Luke chapter 2. The year would be A.D.8.

*41 Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. 42 When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. 43 After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. 44 Thinking he was in their company, they travelled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. 45 When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. 46 After three days they **found him in the temple courts**, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.” 49 “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. **“Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?”** 50 But they did not understand what he was saying to them. 51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. Luke 2:41-52 NIV*

Let us examine some key portions of this account by Luke:

**Verse 41 THE PASSOVER.** There were three feasts (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles) and all Jewish males were expected to attend them (Ex 23:14-17, Dt 16:16). Distance often prevented attendance at all three so Passover was considered the essential one.

**Verse 42** At the age of twelve a boy was called “son of the law” and took his place among all the older males as a student of God’s law. The number twelve in the Bible signifies ‘eternal perfection in God’s administration’ (Rec.Version). For example, twelve tribes, twelve disciples indicate God’s perfect administration number. It was because he was twelve that Joseph and Mary ‘went up to the Feast, according to the custom’.

**Verse 43-45** I can relate a little to what Joseph and Mary must have felt at discovering that their son was not with them. Some years ago my wife and I took our young family of four boys to a ‘family gathering’. Graeme, my youngest at six years of age, found a sand pit in the back yard of the home we were visiting. It was hidden behind a hedge. With his toy tractor in his hand, it was no time at all before he had scoured out roads and was happily having his tractor traversing the network of roads he had created. Then came the time for the whole social group to go on to another home. We piled into cars and off we went. It took three-quarters of an hour to reach our destination. Then it was, that we missed Graeme. We, like Joseph and Mary, had thought he was in the company of his friends in another car. Jumping into my car, I drove quickly back to the first home. Allowing for a further three-quarters of an

hour and time between more than an hour and a half had elapsed since we left Graeme behind. But there he was, behind the hedge in the sandpit, brroom- brrooming his way up and down miniature roads.

**Verse 46** tells us that Jesus was found ‘after three days’. One day travelling away from Jerusalem, the second travelling back and the third looking for him. **‘They found him in the temple courts’** sitting...listening...asking. His intense interest reveals that he had awakened to the need of understanding the Law. He was listening closely to the leading teachers, who were astounded by the clarity and insight of his replies to their questions.

**Verse 47.** It is written that everyone was amazed at his understanding and his answers. This raises an interesting question - which we have placed in ‘Discussion Points’ No.5.

Whatever we think, Jesus aged twelve was exhibiting a depth of understanding the teachers of the Jewish Law had never encountered. Furthermore, his answers to deep spiritual and complex Law questions were that of a skilled and wise adult.

**Verse 48.** We now come to a very important and revealing part of Luke’s account. Mary tells her son that she and his ‘father’ have been very anxious as they looked for him. Her words contain a rebuke – arising out of her worry. ‘Why have you treated us like this?’

**Verse 49.** Jesus reveals his ‘Godliness’ in his reply. He does not take exception to the rebuke. Instead, he says, ‘Why did you search for me? Didn’t you know I needed to be in my Father’s house?’ He gently changes the thinking in his mother’s mind with his response to her reference to his earthly ‘father’ Joseph. He says ‘MY Father’s house’ meaning his heavenly father. This gentle correction reveals that Jesus had a keen appreciation of his relationship with God his heavenly Father. Jesus was saying that since God was his only true and real Father, he belonged in his heavenly Father’s house.

**Verse 50.** Joseph and Mary didn’t really grasp the full import of what Jesus was saying. They were the first recorded sign of his growing independence.

**Verse 51.** Notwithstanding his gentle rebuke, and his admission that now he had another kind of ‘father,’ he was still obedient to his earthly mother and earthly legal father.

**Verse 52.** He grew! “...there was growth in his size, consciousness, and comprehension of events. He was perfect in every stage as he attained it. He was free from the flaws that disfigure the rest of us at each stage of growth.” (Tenney - Wycliffe Bible Commentary)

#### DISCUSSION POINTS

4. Verse 43. ‘the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem.’ The large gathering of pilgrims, including Joseph and Mary’s wider family, must have thought Jesus was with some other members of the family. Why do you think Jesus ‘stayed behind’?
5. Jesus the Son of God had was perfect (as God) and had all possible knowledge. Did he grow into this knowledge or was it always there but not released?
6. What was the purpose in Joseph and Mary not noticing that Jesus was missing?
7. What is the importance of Jesus saying that he had to be in his Father’s house?
8. What do you think is the reason for this story of Jesus at the age of twelve?

## JESUS CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE

**Reading: John 2:13-22 JESUS CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE (FIRST)**

*“In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.” John 2:14-15*

The account of Jesus and the Samaritan woman is a most wonderful one. It helps us understand how to lead a person to God. Notice the beautiful way Jesus dealt with this wayward woman from Samaria –a province of people despised by the Jews. Verse 24 tells us that our worship is not governed by externals or by physical surroundings or by geographical location. Our worship is by a meeting of spirits – God’s and ours. Our worship is not in make-believe, but in truth. Because God is a Spirit – our worship needs to be ‘on his wavelength’.

### DISCUSSION POINTS

9. Jesus was having quite an intense discussion with the woman and arrived at the point where he said, “God is spirit”. What is your understanding of God being “spirit”? How do you explain “God is spirit” and the “Holy Spirit”?
10. The woman was very surprised at Jesus’ remarkable insight into her life. At the end of the discussion what sort of understanding do you think the woman had of God being “spirit”?

## JESUS AT NAZARETH SYNAGOGUE

**Reading: Luke 4:14-30**

*Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit.* Luke 4:14

This verse reveals that before Jesus went into the Synagogue, he had returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit. At Cana, in Galilee, he healed (at a distance) a sick boy.

*He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went to the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read.* Luke 4:16

Let us take a moment to review what Jesus had done since his empowering baptism:

- He had returned from the temptation, defeating Satan – Luke 4:13 / John 1:29
- He had begun to choose his disciples – John 1:35-51.
- He had performed his first miracle at the wedding in Cana, Galilee. – John 2:1-11
- He had cleansed the temple at Jerusalem – John 2:13-22.
- He had met and talked with Nicodemus – John 3:1-21
- It is thought that Jesus was baptizing (it was his disciples – John 4:2) in Judea at the same time as John was baptizing in Samaria – John 3:22-36
- Jesus had visited Samaria, where he met the woman – John 4:4-43
- From Cana he had healed the Capernaum official's son – John 4:46-54

At this point Jesus prepares to visit his home synagogue and announce his mission.

Jesus began his ministry in his hometown – Nazareth. In Old Testament times the central place of Hebrew worship was the tabernacle or temple. But when Jerusalem's temple was destroyed, and the Jews went into captivity in Babylon, there was no central place of worship. So the Jewish people instituted synagogues as local centres of worship. Even when the Temple was restored, synagogue worship continued. Luke 4:16 notes that Jesus had been accustomed to attend synagogue services regularly on the Sabbath. Members participated in the service, and were frequently asked to read the Scripture and make appropriate remarks. The synagogue followed a regular order of readings. Jesus probably took the passage that was usually read on that day. The synagogue custom was that the reader stood up to read (v16) and then sat down to comment upon the reading or teach (v20). Jesus read from Isaiah 61:1-2 declaring openly that this prophecy of the Spirit upon the unnamed person in the text was being fulfilled in and through him. From this point on Jesus was a marked man (see verse 29) but this did not stop his ministry.

[ A further **Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2**]

## DISCUSSION POINTS

11. Look at Isaiah 61:1-2. In this Old Testament passage. Jesus said that the “me” referred to him. But who do you think Isaiah thought it was?
12. Jesus was attending his own home synagogue in Nazareth (“where he had been brought up”). Many listeners would know him as the “carpenter’s son”. At first, they were “amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips”. “All spoke well of him” – verse 22. But soon “all the people in the synagogue were furious” – verse 28. What factors changed their attitude?
13. Jesus was:
  - “anointed to preach good news to the poor”,
  - “to proclaim “freedom for the prisoners”,
  - “to proclaim the recovery of sight for the blind”,
  - “to release the oppressed” and to
  - “proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour”.

Look at each of these in turn and give your explanation of what each means.

14. In verse 18 Jesus says, “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, **because...**” And then goes on to state the above five elements in his mission. Again look at each of the five; explain why it was necessary for Jesus to have the Spirit of the Lord on him.

## JESUS HEALS A MAN BY A POOL

**Reading: John 5:1-15 JESUS LATER FINDS THE MAN AT THE TEMPLE**

*Later Jesus found him **at the temple** and said to him, “See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.” The man went away and told the Jews it was Jesus who had made him well. John 5:14-15*

When the man was healed, he had no idea that Jesus was the one who had healed him.

He went off and headed towards the temple.

It would be good to think that he went there to give thanks to God for his healing.

It was there, in the Temple precincts, that Jesus found the man and gave him the instruction, “You are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.”

It does not necessarily follow that sick or maimed people are so because they sinned.

It is most likely that this particular man was sinning in a particular area of his life.

Hence Jesus commands him not to sin – and it seems that he knew what Jesus meant.

### DISCUSSION POINTS

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# JESUS AT THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES

Since Luke 4:18-19 where Jesus proclaimed his purpose in the Nazareth synagogue, his ministry has been characterised by mighty power:

- There was the astonishing catch of fish (Luke 5:1-11)
- Jesus taught with authority (Mark 1:21-34, Luke 4:31-41)
- Simon's mother-in-law was healed (Mark 1:29-31 etc.)
- Many sick and demon-possessed were healed. (Luke 4:32-34 etc.)
- A leper was healed. (Mark 1:40-45 etc.)
- A Paralytic lowered through the roof was healed. (Mark 2:1-12 etc.)
- Jesus healed a man at a pool in Jerusalem (John 5:1-14)
- A man with a shrivelled hand was healed on the Sabbath (Luke 6:6-11)
- Multitudes were healed by the Lake of Galilee (Mark 3:7-12)
- Jesus selects his twelve disciples (Luke 6:12-16)
- Jesus preaches his "Sermon on the Mount" (Matthew 5 through 8)
- A widow's son is restored to life (Luke 7:11-17)
- Jesus calms the violent storm (Mark 4:35-41)
- Jesus heals the Gerasene demoniac (Mark 5:1-20)
- Jesus heals a woman who touches his cloak (Mark 5:25-34)
- Jesus heals Jairus's daughter (Mark 5:35-43)
- Two blind men and a dumb demoniac are healed (Matthew 9:27-34)
- Jesus miraculously feeds more than five thousand (Mark 6:31-44)
- The reassured disciples see Jesus walking on water (Matthew 14:24-33)
- A Syrophenician woman's daughter is healed (Mark 7:24-30)
- A deaf mute with a speech impediment is healed (Mark 7:31-37)
- This time four thousand people are fed (Mark 8:1-9)
- A blind man is healed at Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26)
- The transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28-36)
- A demoniac boy is healed (Mark 9:14-29)
- Jesus pays **the Temple tax** from a fish's mouth (Matthew 17:24-27)

It is interesting that Jesus paid the temple tax and had met his and the disciples' financial obligations (Matthew 17:27) before they went to the Festival (John 7:2).

**Reading: John 7:14-46 JESUS PROMISES THE LIVING WATER**

*On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus shouted to the crowds, "If anyone is thirsty, come to me and drink. For the Scriptures\* declare that rivers of living water shall flow from the inmost being of anyone who believes in me." (He was speaking of the Holy Spirit, who would be given to everyone*

*believing in him; but the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet returned to his glory in heaven. John 7:37-39 TLB*

\* Scriptures could be Exodus 17:6; Isaiah 44:3-4; 58:11; Ezekiel 47:1-9; Zechariah 14:8

In John 4 Jesus said to the Samaritan woman that he could supply “living” water that would be a spring welling up into eternal life. But he did not, at that time, explain the nature of the water to her.

The meaning is made clear in our passage today (John 7:37-39). The Feast of Tabernacles was a memorial to the forty years Israel spent in the wilderness. It was a feast held annually to remind them they were still as dependent upon God as were their ancestors in the days when God gave them water out of the rock and manna from heaven.

At a certain point during the feast, the High Priest would pour water out of a golden pitcher to symbolize the water given by God.

On each day of the week-long celebration, a procession made its way to the fountain of Gihon, the stream that fed into the pool of Siloam, and there the priest would draw water in the golden pitcher as a choir chanted Isaiah 12:3 (“with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. In that day you will say ‘Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name...’”). The procession would then return through the Water Gate to the temple, around the altar of Holocausts, to the chanting of Psalm 118:25 (“O Lord save us; O Lord grant us success”).

On the final, and climactic day of the Feast, the procession circled the altar seven times. The priest would then pour out the water on the south-west corner of the altar, the direction from which rain-bearing winds came. In the midst of all this imagery – “On the last and greatest day of the feast” – Jesus invites the thirsty to come to him and drink. Whoever receives Jesus receives the water he supplies and will, in turn, be suppliers to others. The Holy Spirit, mentioned twice in one verse, is that water. This was the promise by Jesus of the soon-coming era of the Holy Spirit.

#### DISCUSSION POINTS

19. At the time Jesus taught his disciples to pray “OUR FATHER” would you consider the disciples “children” of their heavenly “Father”? Explain the nature of the disciples’ relationship with their heavenly father.
20. Assuming that the disciples were Father/God-loving believers – why were they encouraged to pray that God, their Father, would give them the Holy Spirit?
21. What was the nature of the gift of the Holy Spirit?

## JESUS AT THE FEAST OF DEDICATION

Between the Feast of Tabernacles and the Feast of Dedication the following occurred:

- Jesus heals a man born blind (John 9:1-49)
- A dumb demoniac is healed (Luke 11:14-36)
- A crippled woman is healed on a Sabbath Day (Luke 13:10-21)
- Jesus continued to teach much and was increasingly facing growing opposition.

**Reading:     John 10:22-39           JESUS CONFIRMS HE IS THE MESSIAH**

*Jesus was in the **Temple area** walking in Solomon’s Colonnade. The Jews gathered around him a, saying, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ (Messiah), tell us plainly.”*  
 John 10:23-24

**DISCUSSION POINTS**

22. Take a look at Acts 4:8. In what way did the Holy Spirit help Peter?

23. How has the Holy Spirit given you the right words at a time of crisis?

## THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE PARABLES

There are three parables that illustrate the work of:   Father           Son           Spirit

• The Big Banquet	Luke 14:16-24	Man			Servant
• The Wedding Banquet	Matt 22:1-14	King	Son		Servants
• The lost: sheep coin son	Luke 15:1-31	Father	Shepherd		Woman

The first two are very similar and should be looked at together. In both there is a big banquet planned by a man (or king). There is no “son” spoken about in the first – but it could be for his son. There is the king’s “son” in the second. In the first there is one “servant” and in the second story there are many “servants”. Nevertheless we can use either one servant or many to illustrate the work of the Holy Spirit.

The third parable (Luke 15:1-31) is very explicit. Verse 3 tells us it is “one parable” but is actually three very similar stories. In verses 4-7 the Shepherd seeks the sheep, finds it, and everyone rejoices. In verses 8-10 the woman seeks her coin, finds it and calls for rejoicing. In verses 11-31 the father (who like our Father in heaven, stays home) waits for the lost son to come to him. As the Holy Spirit is the agency of “new birth” it is entirely appropriate that the Holy Spirit be illustrated by a woman – the facilitator of natural birth.

## DISCUSSION POINTS

24. What are the characteristics of the lost soul? (Sheep, coin and lost son.).

## JESUS CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE AGAIN

**Reading:**     **Mark 11:15-18**     **A SECOND CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE**

*On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the Temple area and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. ...He said, Is it not written MY HOUSE WILL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL NATIONA? But you have made it a den of robbers.*"Mark 11:15-18

### DISCUSSION POINTS

25. Jesus cleverly corrected an erroneous teaching the Pharisees held about the Messiah. What was Jesus correctly teaching about the Messiah?
26. Why did Jesus say that David was speaking by the Holy Spirit?

## JESUS' FINAL VISIT TO THE TEMPLE

### JESUS TEACHES IN THE TEMPLE COURTS

This is a period when Jesus spent much time in the vicinity of Herod's Temple. Luke 21:37 records that:

**“Each day Jesus was teaching at the temple, and each evening he went out to spend the night on the hill called the Mount of Olives.”**

The gospel writers begin their account as follows:

Matthew 21:23 says,

*Jesus entered the temple courts and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?”*

Mark 11:27 says,

*They arrived again in Jerusalem and **while Jesus was walking in the temple** courts, the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?”*

Luke 20:1 begins with,

*One day as he was **teaching people in the temple courts and preaching the** gospel, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, together with the elders, came up to him. “Tell us by what authority you are doing these things.”*

Jesus was **walking within the temple precincts and teaching** when the ‘big guns’ arrived. All three gospel writers state the same reason the big guns tackled Jesus (‘By what authority do you do these things?’). They recognised that Jesus was not speaking for the established religious entity – but spoke in his own right – as if he were God! This, they didn’t believe. Their view was that Jesus was usurping God’s position.

### HIS FINAL WORDS NEAR THE TEMPLE ABOUT A POOR WIDOW

*Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the **Temple** treasury. Mark 12:41*

### .AS JESUS WALKS AWAY FROM THE TEMPLE HE TEACHES END TIMES

Matt 24-25 Mark 13:1-37 Luke 21:5-36

## DISCUSSION POINTS

27. The Day of Pentecost was heralded as a “baptism” (Acts 1:5 and 8). However, when the “baptism” came it is said that they were all “filled” (Acts 2:4). Discuss.
28. Obviously, when Peter was “filled” on the occasion recorded in Acts 4:8 he was not being “born again” – he was already born again. So, discuss the meanings and effects of [1] “born again” by the Holy Spirit [2] “baptism with the Holy Spirit” and [3] “filled with the Spirit”. Give examples, from Scripture, of the differences.