

- Videos available on our YouTube channel: www.htchurch.tv
 - All notes, etc. available at: www.htchurch.com/john
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Recap

- We explored the geography around Jesus’ home, the Galilee region.
- “Galilee” comes from the Hebrew word *galil*, which means a circle. Many villages in Galilee feature prominently in the Gospels, such as Nazareth and Capernaum.
- We saw the wedding at Cana, where the couple had run out of wine.
- When Mary asks Jesus to intervene, He tells her that His hour has not yet come. Mary tells the servants to do whatever Jesus might tell them to do.
- Jesus miraculously changes a large quantity of water to wine.
- Jesus did a miracle using water that was reserved for religious purposes. However, He was more concerned about people than man-made rules.
- This was the first time Jesus manifested His glory.

Up To Jerusalem (John 2:13)

Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

- Much of John is built around Jesus attending the feasts of the Lord and participating in them, having debates or dialogues with people.
- In John, Jesus attends five different festivals.

- You always “go up” to Jerusalem, the Throne of the Lord.

Cleansing The Temple (John 2:14-17)

14 And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. 15 When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables. 16 And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!" 17 Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up."

- Understanding something about the Temple area will help us understand why Jesus was angry and what He was trying to teach us and accomplish.
- It will also help you to better grasp many concepts and stories in the Bible.
- In the attached diagram and model, notice the following key features:
 - Beautiful Gate
 - Court of the Gentiles
 - Court of the Women
 - Steps of Ascent
 - Court of Israel
 - The Altar
 - The Laver (Brass Sea)
 - The Holy Place
 - The Most Holy Place (Holy of Holies)
 - Colonnade and large plaza (Court of the Gentiles)

- Understanding Jesus' actions better... Jesus found people in the Temple (Temple Complex), selling oxen and sheep and doves, as well as money changers.
- This religious commerce was necessary for sacrifice and to pay the Temple tax in silver. The tax was paid during the Passover season.
- The “business end of worship” was happening too close to the house of God itself, causing some likely disrespect to the holiness of what was happening within.
- The business activity was happening in the Court of the Gentiles, the only place where Gentiles could worship, and perhaps hear the Bible. God's house was to be called a house of prayer for all nations!
- Jesus could expel them without sin.
- The disciples remembered Psalm 69, where David talked about how zeal for God's house had consumed him.

In Three Days (John 2:18-21)

18 So the Jews answered and said to Him, “What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?” 19 Jesus answered and said to them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” 20 Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?” 21 But He was speaking of the temple of His body.

- John's Gospel is the Gospel that is full of misunderstandings!
- They demand a sign to prove that He had authority to do what He had done.
- Why no arrest of Jesus?
- He called the Temple the House of His Father!

- Jesus says if the Temple were to be destroyed, He would raise it in three days. This time Jesus did use the special word for “temple” that meant the portion of the building that contains the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies. In this way Jesus was saying that He is the true dwelling place of God.
- Jesus is also prophesying in an indirect way that He will die, and rise again.
- He asserts His own independent power over death!
- “Three days” was a common expression used to refer to a day or any part of a day.
- The 46 years here probably run from 20/19 BC to 27/28 AD. The Temple project continued all the way until the year 63 AD. Remember that whenever you calculate dates in the Bible there is no “Year Zero.” (The year after 1 BC is 1 AD!)

They Remembered (John 2:22)

Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.

In order to recall and to fully understand these things they needed to have their minds opened by Christ and enlightened by the new ministry of the Holy Spirit.

He Knew What Was In Man (John 2:23-25)

23 Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did. 24 But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, 25 and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.

- We are not told what these additional signs were, but they must have been numerous.
- Nicodemus will soon come to Jesus and mention signs that Jesus has done.
- In the Greek, John says people believed in Jesus, but He didn't believe in them.
- Jesus didn't entrust Himself to men, because He knew the hearts of men.
- This is another proof of His Divinity, to have perfect knowledge of the hearts of men.

In this story, Christ is revealed as being above the Temple. Just as at Cana, He overrides religious traditions. Jesus is the center of our faith: He is the place where we meet God!

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