

The **Good News** that John Wrote

***...that you may believe that
Jesus is the Christ, the Son of
God, and that believing you
may have life in his name.***

John 20.31

Life in the Spirit

Objectives of the Class

- To behold in our hearts the glory of Christ
- To participate more deeply in life in the Spirit
- To become more conformed to His image

Overview

John 2:13-25

Prayer Before Reading Scripture

Shine within our hearts, loving Master, the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend the message of Your Gospel. Instill in us also reverence for Your blessed commandments, so that having conquered all sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual life, thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to You. For You, Christ our God, are the light of our souls and bodies, and to You we give glory together with Your Father who is without beginning and Your all holy, good, and life giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Watch
John 2:13-25

Study

John 2:13-25

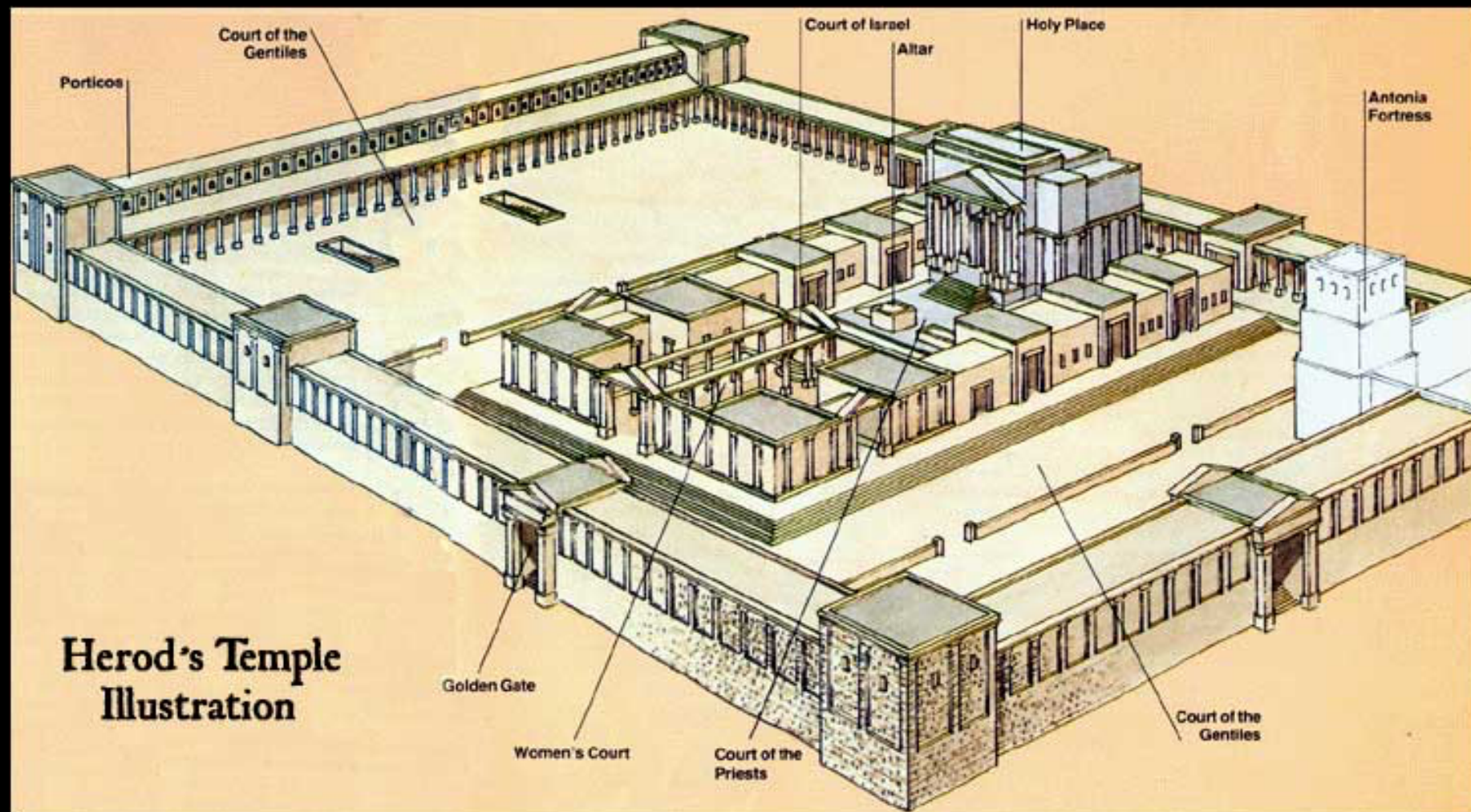
Objectives of the Class

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John 2.13 It was almost time for the Passover Festival, so Jesus went to Jerusalem. (GNB)

John 2.13 The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. (RSV)

1. Questions go here. (Put answers in notes)



John 2.14 There in the Temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and pigeons, and also the moneychangers sitting at their tables. (GNB)

John 2.14 In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers at their business. (RSV)

1. What part of the temple were the money-changes and merchants in?
2. Why were there there?
3. Who allowed them to be there?
4. Would it have been a quiet place of prayer?

John 2.15-16 So he made a whip from cords and drove all the animals out of the Temple, both the sheep and the cattle; he overturned the tables of the moneychangers and scattered their coins; and he ordered those who sold the pigeons, "Take them out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" (GNB)

John 2.15-16 And making a whip of cords, he drove them all, with the sheep and oxen, out of the temple; and he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; you shall not make my Father's house a house of trade." (RSV)

1. How many times did Jesus cleanse the temple?
2. How do the charges presented here differ from the cleansing recorded in the other Gospels?
3. What was risky about what Jesus did?
4. What is significant about "my Father's house"?
5. What Messianic significance is Jesus' cleansing of the temple?

John 2.17 His disciples remembered that the scripture says, “My devotion to your house, O God, burns in me like a fire.” (GNB)

John 2.17 His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for thy house will consume me.” (RSV)

1. Where does this quotation come from?

John 2.18 The Jewish authorities came back at him with a question, “What miracle can you perform to show us that you have the right to do this?” (GNB)

John 2.18 The Jews then said to him, “What sign have you to show us for doing this?” (RSV)

1. The Greek word σημεῖον means “sign” (as translated by the RSV)

John 2.19 Jesus answered, “Tear down this Temple, and in three days I will build it again.”
(GNB)

John 2.19 Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” (RSV)

1. What did Jesus mean by “this temple” and “three days”?
2. Why did Jesus speak cryptically to them?

John 2.20 “Are you going to build it again in three days?” they asked him. “It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple!” (GNB)

John 2.20 The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?” (RSV)

1. How many Jewish temples stood on the temple mount?
2. How long did it take for Herod's rebuild the 2nd temple?

John 2.21-22 But the temple Jesus was speaking about was his body. So when he was raised from death, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and what Jesus had said. (GNB)

John 2.21-22 But he spoke of the temple of his body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken. (RSV)

1. What were the Jewish leaders and the disciples blind to?
2. What scripture did they believe after Jesus rose from the dead?

Some Old Testament Prophecies about the Crucifixion and Resurrection

- Crucifixion
 - Ps 22 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax, it is melted within my breast; my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue cleaves to my jaws; thou dost lay me in the dust of death. Yea, dogs are round about me; a company of evildoers encircle me; they have pierced my hands and feet — I can count all my bones — they stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them, and for my raiment they cast lots.
- Resurrection
 - Read: Acts 2.23-27
 - Ps 16.8-10 (LXX 15.8-10) I kept seeing the Lord always before me, because he is at my right, that I might not be shaken. Therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will encamp in hope, because you will not abandon my soul to Hades or give your devout to see corruption (διαφθορά).

John 2.23 While Jesus was in Jerusalem during the Passover Festival, many believed in him as they saw the miracles he performed. (GNB)

John 2.23 Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs which he did; (RSV)

1. What does “belived in him” mean?

John 2.24-25 But Jesus did not trust himself to them, because he knew them all. There was no need for anyone to tell him about them, because he himself knew what was in their hearts. (GNB)

John 2.24-25 but Jesus did not trust himself to them, because he knew all men and needed no one to bear witness of man; for he himself knew what was in man. (RSV)

1. Why

Re-Read
John 2:13-25

Watch and Apply

John 2:13-25

Applying the Cleansing of the Temple to Our Lives

- Why was Jesus so upset about the merchants and money changers?
 - It prevented people from praying to God
 - Prayer is best made in stillness
- We are each a living temple of the Spirit of God
- Drive the distractions of the world and their grip on us out of our hearts
- Hesychasm (ἡσυχασμός < ἡσυχία) = stillness

Achieving the Objectives of the Class

- To behold in our hearts the glory of Christ
 - What did you observe that revealed to you the glory of Christ?
- To participate more deeply in life in the Spirit
 - What did you learn that can help you to participate more deeply in the life of the Spirit?
- To become more conformed to His likeness
 - What did you observe in Christ that you need to conform to?