

SECOND CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE

The **first cleansing** of the temple occurred at the beginning of Jesus' ministry during the Passover (John 2:13-22).

The **second cleansing** of the temple occurred at the end of His ministry during Passover (Matt.21:12-17; Mark 11:15-17; and Luke 19:45-48).

The second cleansing occurred four days before His crucifixion.

We will study our lesson text by the following four homiletical points.

- Temple traders (11:15) Seller and buyers, money changers, and dove sellers
- Temple traffic (11:16) Shadow Christology and secular utensils
- Temple teaching (11:17) Scriptural quotes (Isa.56:7; Jer.7:11; Psa.8:2/ Matt.21:16)
- Temple traitors (11:18-19) Scheming of apostate religious against Jesus (Matt.21:15; Luke 19:47-48)

This lesson will study SEVEN aspects of the SECOND CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE by Jesus Christ.

1. Jesus asserted His authority over the temple, shadow Christology, and religion by cleansing the temple.

Jesus declared that He was greater than the Sabbath and the temple in Matt.12:1-8.

Stephen discussed the biblical history of the shadow Christology of the tabernacle -temple (Acts 7:44-59/ Moses, David, Solomon, and Herod/ Acts 6:13-14; John 2:19).

Apostate religion had desecrated the temple and shadow Christology. Jesus made this point at the beginning and at the end of His earthly ministry.

“And to those who were selling the doves He said, Take these things away; stop making My Father’s house a house of merchandise.” (John 2:16)

“It is not written, ‘ My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations? But you have made it a robbers’ den.’” (Mark 11:17/ **Jesus made it a question** - Isa.56:7)

2. Jesus attacked the racketeering, commercialization and exploiting of shadow Christology of the temple.

Jesus raised the same issue at the first cleansing as mentioned in point one. “And He entered the temple and began to cast out those who were buying and selling in the temple, and overturned the tables of the moneychangers and the seats of those who were selling doves.” (Mark 11:15)

Apostate religion had commercialized the word of God and shadow Christology. They were fleecing the poor as well as the rich for grace services. Apostate religion is no respecter of person when it comes to money.

3. Jesus challenged Pharisaical religion’s apostate policies, teachings, and leadership by cleansing the temple.

They had led the people astray of doctrinal truth regarding the gospel of Christ and God’s grace.

They had turned the house of prayer into a den of thieves (mark 11:17).

They had failed to shepherd the people of God. “And seeing the multitudes, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast like sheep without a shepherd.” (Matt.9:36)

4. The secular use of the temple had taken priority over the spiritual teaching of the word of God.

In the second cleansing, Jesus disrupted both the secular trading and the traffic through the temple during Passover. “And He would not permit anyone to carry goods (skeuos/ secular utensils) through the temple.” (Mark 11:16)

Jesus was the Passover lamb that had come to take away the sin of the world (1 Cor.5:7; John 1:29, 36).

5. The temple was *His Father's house* because He was the only begotten Son of God and because He was the fulfillment of shadow Christology.

Jesus declared this at the age of 12 at a Passover (Luke 2:41-52). “And He said to them (parents), ‘Why is it that you were looking for Me? Did you not know that I had to be in *My Father's house*?’” (Luke 2:49)

Jesus referred to the temple this way at both the first and second cleansing (John 2:16; Mark 11:17).

6. The Pharisaical leadership is upset with His attack upon their commercialization of the temple and His popularity

“And the chief priests and the scribes heard this, and began seeking how to destroy Him; for they were afraid of Him, for all the multitude was astonished at His teaching.” (Mark 11:18)

They get upset that the children are singing Hosanna to Jesus (Matt.21:15-16).

They intensify their plot to murder Him (Luke 19:47-48). Because they despise Jesus, the spiritual truth taught by Him is unacceptable (NV of reversionism).

7. In four days, the temple will fulfil its biblical purpose of shadow Christology, but not its prophetic role.

“Jesus answered and said to them, ‘destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’” (John 2:19; 19-22)

Over the next 40 years (30-70AD), the temple will have only a historical monument value.

Then the temple will cease to exist because of the 5th cycle of divine discipline to Israel by Rome until the Second Coming of Jesus (Deut.28; Lev.26; Matt.24:1-2; Mark 13:1-2; Luke 21:5-6).

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. Behold your house is being left to you desolate!” (Matt.23:37-38)