

**The Gospel of John**

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**The Gospel of John**

**Lesson #17**

**The Journey**

Jim Hoffman

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**The Gospel of John**

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- The Temple complex was roughly 35 acres – 1,550' X 1,000'. That is 5 football fields by 3 football fields.
- In order to clear the temple with seeming ease he will impose his will on theirs – Those in the temple will go from not wanting to leave to being eager to leave.
- He will change their minds supernaturally with a command to leave and though he was outnumbered by the people and the temple police they leave.

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**The Gospel of John**

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- The temple of Jesus' day was Herod's temple – as it turns out, it was the 3<sup>rd</sup> of 5 that would be built.
- The temples were, of course, preceded by the wilderness tabernacle.
- Then we have Solomon's Temple, Zerubbabel's Temple, Herod's Temple, the temple of the tribulation, and finally the temple of the millennium.

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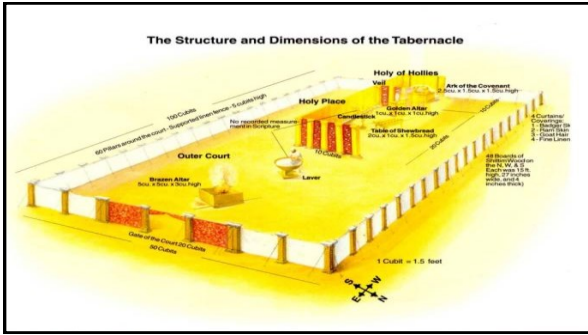
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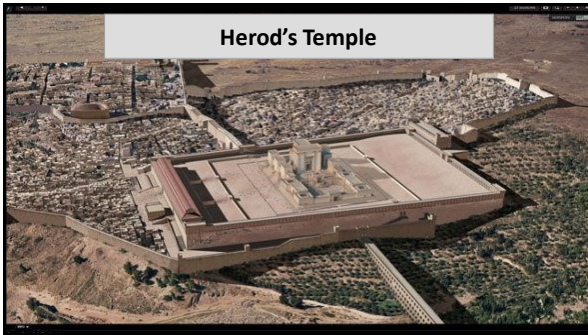
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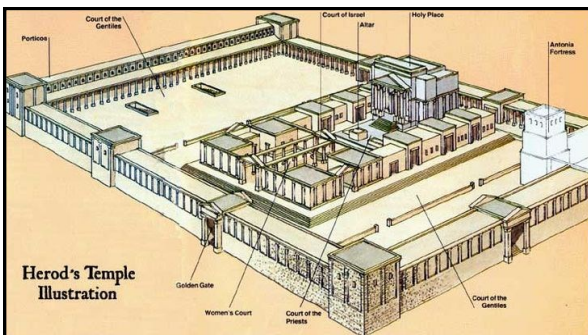
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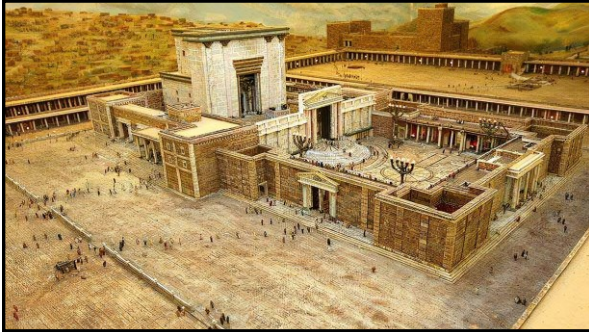
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**The Court of the Gentiles**—situated on the lowest level outside the sacred precincts, this was the only part to which foreigners were admitted.

**The Sacred Enclosure**—located three feet above the Court of the Gentiles; all Gentiles were forbidden, under the penalty of death, to pass through this area.

**The Court of the Women** (sometimes called the Treasury)—three feet higher than the Sacred Enclosure; Jewish women were permitted to enter, but they could not advance any farther.

**The Court of Israel**—ten feet higher than the Court of the Women; all male Jews had entrance.

**The Court of the Priests**—three feet above the Court of Israel; reserved for priests only.

**The House of God**—eight feet above the Court of the Priests. This was divided into two compartments—the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies. Into the former, the priests entered to perform certain duties at stated times, but only the high priest could enter into the latter—even then, it was only once a year, on the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for the sins of the people.

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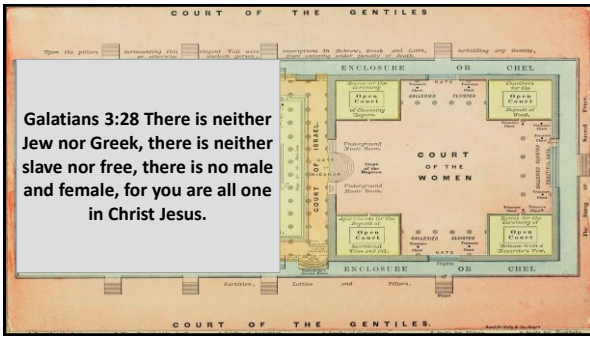
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Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

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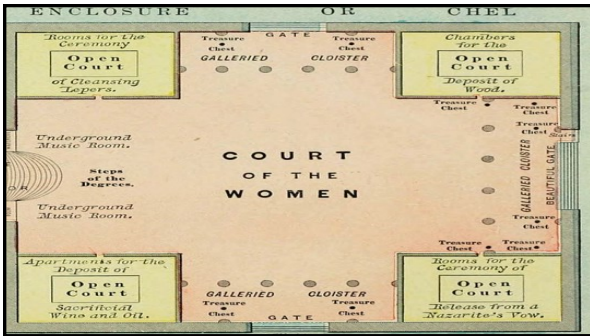
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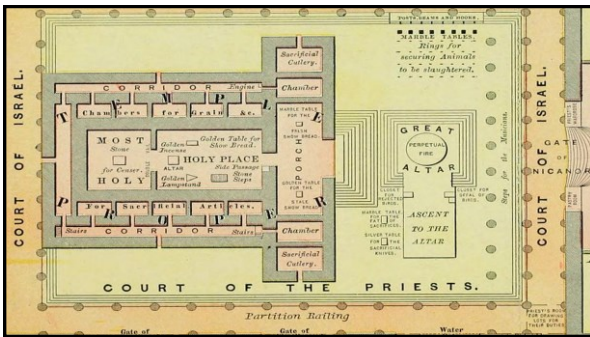
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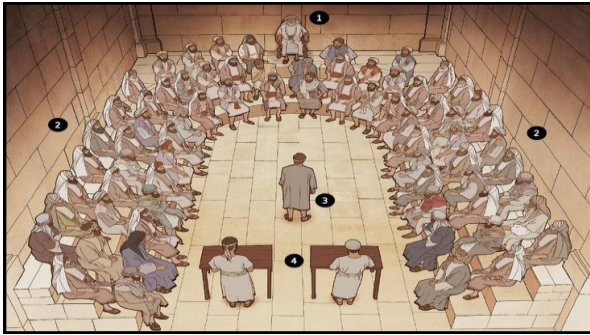
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**The Gospel of John**

John 2:18 So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." 20 The Jews then 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 about the temple of his body. 22 When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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**The Gospel of John**

- It is all through the gospels that "the Jews" wanted a sign from Jesus which is odd because he was doing signs and wonders almost everyday and everywhere he was.
- But because the "powers that be" didn't want to lose their power and prosperity no sign he did was ever good enough for them.
- For if things like opening the eyes of the blind, feeding thousands, and raising the dead were "good enough" then their charade was over.

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### The Gospel of John

- Matt 16:1 And the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him **they asked him to show them a sign from heaven.**
- A sign from heaven? Really? Okay, how about if you kill me and send me into eternity then I raise myself from the dead?
- Would that be enough evidence for you?

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### The Gospel of John

- So, he will finally give them an irrefutable sign – he will resurrect himself from the dead.
- Jesus answered them, **“Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”**
- He promised he would raise a destroyed temple three days after its destruction – the Jews, as was the case on many occasions with Jesus, had no idea what he was talking about.

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### The Gospel of John

- In chapter 3 we will look at the meeting between Jesus and Nicodemus –
- John 3:3 Jesus answered him, **“Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”**
- Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”

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**The Gospel of John**

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**Who raised Jesus from the dead?**

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**The Gospel of John**

- Romans 8:11 But if **the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead** dwells in you.....
- 1<sup>st</sup> Cor 15:15 ..... **we testified about God that he raised Christ**, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.
- And then in our text today Jesus informs us that he would raise himself. (similar to who created the world)

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**The Gospel of John**

- When Jesus says, "**Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**" he wasn't inviting them to kill him.
- He was prophesying they would kill him and that three days later he would raise himself.
- This is what one might call an early indicator – so far as I know Jesus had no even hinted at knowing the future as of yet, but here he does. (and like all true prophecies it would be proven to be just as he said)

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**The Gospel of John**

**Without God there would be no prophecies, only guesses.**

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**The Gospel of John**

- At this point the Jews have no intentions of killing Jesus – they were shaken by him and felt threatened by him, but there is no evidence they wanted him dead .... Not yet.
- So Jesus not only knows the end result of his interactions with the Jews, but he also knows their future thoughts and plans to kill him.
- He would have known the very person who would first want to kill him, all the people who would join in the planning, and all who would be in favor of his murder.

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**The Gospel of John**

“That God is omniscient is not only taught in the Scriptures, it must be inferred also from all else that is taught concerning Him. God perfectly knows Himself and, being the source and author of all things, it follows that He knows all that can be known. And this He knows instantly and with a fullness of perfection that includes every possible item of knowledge concerning everything that exists or could have existed anywhere in the universe at any time in the past or that may exist in the centuries or ages yet unborn.

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### The Gospel of John

God knows instantly and effortlessly all matter and all matters, all mind and every mind, all spirit and all spirits, all being and every being, all creaturehood and all creatures, every plurality and all pluralities, all law and every law, all relations, all causes, all thoughts, all mysteries, all enigmas, all feeling, all desires, every unuttered secret, all thrones and dominions, all personalities, all things visible and invisible in heaven and in earth, motion, space, time, life, death, good, evil, heaven, and hell.

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### The Gospel of John

Because God knows all things perfectly, He knows no thing better than the other thing, but all things equally well. He never discovers anything. He is never surprised, never amazed. He never wonders about anything nor (except when drawing men out for their own good) does He seek information or ask questions. God is self-existent and self-contained and knows what no creature can ever know— Himself, perfectly. 'The things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.' Only the Infinite can know the infinite." A.W. Tozer

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### The Gospel of John

- They are at the temple, so they immediately assumed he was talking about Herod's temple and begin to mock him.
- **"It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?"**
- They were right about the 46 years – Herod wasn't satisfied with Zerubbabel's temple, so he was renovating it and at the time of Jesus ministry 46 years had passed. (incidentally, the work would continue for another 34 years before being complete in roughly A.D. 62)

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### The Gospel of John

- By the way, the sign the Jews had been seeking would have its ultimate fulfillment in the resurrection. I mean, what more could you possibly want.
- There would be no way for his adversaries to claim he didn't die because when Pilate cleared the crosses for the Passover, he saw no need to break Jesus' legs.
- Plus, the spear in his side at the cross was also prearranged by God as a way of proving Jesus died on the cross.

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### The Gospel of John

- **John 2:22** When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.
- Jesus' disciples are watching his interactions with the Jews and they may have thought Jesus promised more than he could deliver with that "raise it up in 3 days" talk.
- But the day comes, after witnessing his resurrection, when it all becomes clear for them.

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Questions?

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