



## JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

### Slide 1

*In our last talk, we spoke about Slide 2 the triumphal arrival of Jesus with the crowd of pilgrims arriving in Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover feast. Today we find Slide 3 him in the temple where incredible things are happening that will make Him angry. Yes! You heard right, Jesus is going to get angry. But fortunately, other things will make Him happy. Let's Go! Now let's take a visit to the temple and let's find out what's going on there. At the end of the story, you can answer my questions:*

**Slide 4** - *What is pleasing to God?*

**Slide 5** - *What does He want to find in His house?*

### Slide 6 WHAT IS PLEASANT TO GOD

**Slide 7** The streets of Jerusalem are crowded with thousands of pilgrims going to the temple.

**Slide 8** The temple is the house of God; it's like the church for us today, a place where people gather.

**Slide 9** Pilgrims come to the temple to worship, pray and offer animals as a sacrifice, as God asked. But they're not the only ones coming to the temple. **Slide 10** There are all those who are there to do trade. People are constantly coming and going in a terrible hubbub... It's impossible to hear the prayers and songs of worship.

You can only hear **Slide 11** the howling of cows, **Slide 12** the bleating of sheep **Slide 13** and goats **Slide 14** and the cooing of pigeons. **Slide 15** The temple courtyard has become a real market for animals.

Pilgrims and vendors discuss prices. They argue, quarrel.

**Slide 16** There are also money changers sitting at their small tables **Slide 17** with their silver and gold coins neatly stacked. **Slide 18** They exchange the pilgrims 'money so they can buy things. All these merchants and these "bankers" get rich dishonestly. **Slide 19** The house of God has become a place of commerce, of lies, of deceit.

**Slide 20** Jesus has just arrived. All this "spectacle" makes him very angry. **Slide 21** He takes

some strings. He turns them into a whip and He drives out all these merchants. **Slide 22** He unties the oxen, **Slide 23** the sheep, **Slide 24** the goats. **Slide 25** He kicks them out. Imagine all these animals running bellowing **Slide 26** and bleating..He opens the cages and the pigeons fly away **Slide 27** as fast as they can **Slide 28** He overturns the tables of the money changers. Gold and silver coins roll around. Several people rush to pick them up.

**Slide 29** - No! Jesus says to them. I forbid you to take them!

The temple courtyard is unrecognizable. Everything is topsy-turvy.

**Slide 30** The pilgrims watch in amazement.

**Slide 31** - What's going on? What's the matter with Him?

**Slide 32** - Why are you surprised? Jesus says to them. Don't you know that God said that the temple is his house? **Slide 33** It must be a house of prayer and **Slide 34** you make it cave of thieves!.

Calm gradually returns. **Slide 35** The blind, the lame and the infirm approach Jesus. What will the Lord do? Is He still angry? Will He bless them?

**Slide 36** Yes! He heals them all. He's not angry with them. **Slide 37** He has compassion for all these sick people. People burst with joy:

**Slide 38** - Glory to God! Glory to God!

**Slide 39** The chief priests come together.

**Slide 40** - We must absolutely find a way to stop this Jesus! They say to themselves, very angry. We must get rid of Him as soon as possible!

**Slide 41** And the children who are in the temple, what do they do when they see these blind people who have recovered their sight, those lame and crippled people who jump on their own two feet? **Slide 42** Well! They praise God with all their heart:

- Hosanna! Hosanna! Hooray! Long live Jesus who works these miracles and saves us! Long live Jesus!

**Slide 43** The chief priests approach Jesus.

**Slide 44** - Can you hear what these children are crying?

- Yes of course! Jesus answers. Does that surprise you?

And yet you know this text well: **Slide 45** "O God! You make praises sound from the mouths of children and toddlers sing in your honor." They don't answer and walk away.

What about the children? **Slide 46** They continue to praise God happily.

**Slide 47** A few days later, Jesus returns to the temple. **Slide 48** He sits in front of the trunk.

**Slide 49** A rich man approaches. He puts in the trunk several gold coins. **Slide 50** Another proudly deposits a big handful of silver coins. **Slide 51** A third one checks that people can see him well **Slide 52** before dropping one by one his gold coins, then comes a fourth one, and a fifth one. All put quite **Slide 53** a lot of money.  
Jesus looks at them. He does not say anything.

**Slide 54** A woman arrives. She is alone. Her husband is dead. She is poor. She wears neither jewelry, nor nice outfit but a well worn dress. Yet she comes to the temple to give God her offering and to pray to him.

**Slide 55** She approaches the trunk and discreetly places **Slide 56** two small coins.

**Slide 57** Jesus looks at his disciples and says to them:

**Slide 58** - Did you see that poor widow? Did you see the two small coins she put in the trunk? Truly I tell you, **Slide 59** this woman put in the trunk much more than all the others. For them, the money they gave was money they didn't need, it was superfluous money. But as for her, she gave God everything she has, all she has to live on!

### **Slide 60** 1, 2 3, 4 AND YOU AND ME!

*If Jesus had asked his disciples: **Slide 61** "Who has given the most to God?", **Slide 62** just like you and me, they would quickly have made a little calculation and presto! They would have responded. But, wrong! **Slide 63** They would have been all wrong. God does not count like us. He watches what we give but also what is **Slide 64** in our heart. How do we give it? With joy or with regret? For the love of him or for others to know? I suggest you think about it. Now, our questions: **Slide 65** "What is pleasing to God?" and **Slide 66** "What does he want to find in his house, in his church? », I suggest you make **Slide 67** two lists.*

*-A first list with everything you can do to please to God when we are together in church.*

*-The second list with all the things you can do that do not please God.*

*To help you, you can listen to this talk again or reread the story on our site*

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**Slide 68** *You will find it also in the Gospel of Mark at chapters 11 and 12.*

**Slide 69** 4, 3, 2, 1 AND WE PARENTS!

*Regarding the offering to God, I suggest you have a talk with your children. You will thus be able to enrich their thinking and answer their questions. Then do with them the two lists in the form of a game. Each in turn gives an answer and you discuss it.*

*Just as you teach them respect for others, teach them to respect the presence of God, whether in church, or at home when we come together to pray, sing, read the Gospel. Even if there are only two or three of you, remember, **Slide 70** the Lord promised to be there. Jesus said:*

*“Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
I am in the midst of them”*

*Matthew 18/20*

**Slide 71**