

The Gospel of LUKE



Chapter 19:45-20:8
The Temple's End

Luke 19

⁴⁵ Then Jesus entered the Temple and began to drive out the people selling animals for sacrifices. ⁴⁶ He said to them, “The Scriptures declare, ‘My Temple will be a house of prayer,’ but you have turned it into a den of thieves.”

Luke 19

⁴⁷ After that, he taught daily in the Temple, but the leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the other leaders of the people began planning how to kill him. ⁴⁸ But they could think of nothing, because all the people hung on every word he said.



Isaiah 56

⁶ “I will also bless the foreigners who commit themselves to the LORD, ⁷ I will bring them to my holy mountain of Jerusalem and will fill them with joy in my house of prayer. I will accept their burnt offerings and sacrifices, because my Temple will be called a **house of prayer for all nations.**

Jeremiah 7

⁴ ...don't be fooled by those who promise you safety simply because the LORD 's Temple is here. They chant, "The LORD 's Temple is here! The LORD 's Temple is here!" ⁵ But I will be merciful only if you stop your evil thoughts and deeds and start treating each other with justice; ⁶ only if you stop exploiting foreigners, orphans, and widows...

Jeremiah 7

...⁹ Do you really think you can steal, murder, commit adultery, lie, and burn incense to Baal and all those other new gods of yours, ¹⁰ and then come here and stand before me in my Temple and chant, “We are safe!”—only to go right back to all those evils again? ¹¹ Don’t you yourselves admit that this Temple, which bears my name, has become **a den of thieves?**

**GOD NEVER WANTED RELIGION AS AN END
IN ITSELF; HIS *PEOPLE* ARE HIS TEMPLE**



Luke 20

¹ One day as Jesus was teaching the people and preaching the Good News in the Temple, the leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the elders came up to him. ² They demanded, “By what authority are you doing all these things? Who gave you the right?” ³ “Let me ask you a question first,” he replied. ⁴ “Did John’s authority to baptize come from heaven, or was it merely human?”

Luke 20

⁵ They talked it over among themselves. “If we say it was from heaven, he will ask why we didn’t believe John. ⁶ But if we say it was merely human, the people will stone us because they are convinced John was a prophet.” ⁷ So they finally replied that they didn’t know. ⁸ And Jesus responded, “Then I won’t tell you by what authority I do these things.”



**A MERE OUTWARD SHOW OF RELIGION
ENCOURAGES A NARCISSISTIC SPIRITUALITY**



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