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"...a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;"



#### Revelation 19:13-15

[Jesus] is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

### John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. 15 And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables.

### John 2:13-22

And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."



### John 2:13-22

So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about 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 that Jesus had spoken.

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### Silver Half-Shekel Temple Tax









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"Instead of solemn dignity and the murmur of prayer, there is the bellowing of cattle and the bleating of sheep. Instead of brokenness and contrition, holy adoration and prolonged petition, there is noisy commerce."

- D.A. Carson



#### 1 Corinthians 5:6-7

Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little <u>leaven</u> leavens the whole lump? <u>Cleanse out</u> the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our <u>Passover</u> lamb, has been sacrificed.

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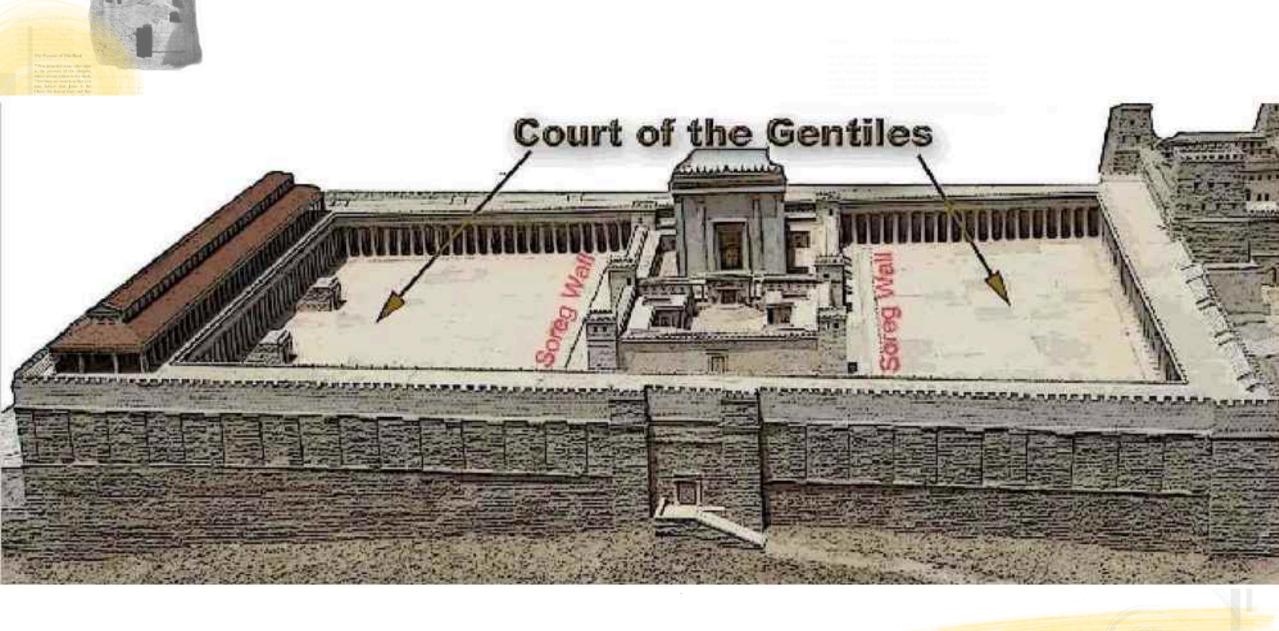
#### 1 Corinthians 5:10 (4 Examples of leaven):

Sexually immorality... Greed... Swindling people... Idolatry.

#### Colossians 3:5-6

Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming.





#### The Book of John

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## Evidences of Israel's Spiritual Decline



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### Evidences of Israel's Spiritual Decline

- John the Baptist as the prophesied forerunner of the Messiah. (John 1:19-26)
  - 2. A joyless nation There was no wine, which was symbolic for joy. (John 2:3)
  - 3. A desecrated temple The most holy place given for Jews to commune with God, was now an idolatrous den of thieves. (John 2:16)

### Malachi 3:1-3 (Written almost 500 years earlier.)

And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord.

#### John 2:23-25

Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

#### Question:

If Jesus' zeal for the holiness of a building made of wood and stone consumed him, what does that mean, when it comes to how he feels about the holiness of you and me?



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#### 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.



#### 1 Corinthians 3:16-17

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.



#### **2** Corinthians 6:16-7:1

What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said,

"I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty." Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

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- 2. You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. (1 Cor. 6:19-20)
- 3. Sin can destroy our bodies if we allow it to. (1 Cor. 3:17)
- 4. You are already holy. (1 Cor. 3:17)

# 1 Corinthians 5:7 (You Are Already Holy)



Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, <u>as you really are unleavened</u>. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.





"Holiness is nothing but the implanting, writing, and realizing of the gospel in our souls."

- John Owen



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- 6. We have the promises of intimacy with God as our Father. (2 Cor. 6:16-7:1)



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- 6. We have the promises of intimacy with God as our Father. (2 Cor. 6:16-7:1)
- 7. The fear of God. (2 Cor 7:1)





Be killing sin or it will be killing you.

~ John Owen

#### Question of the Week

During the Feast of Passover...

what had to be completely removed from everyone's homes, **AND**... what did it symbolize?

