

A House of Prayer

Isaiah 56:7c & Luke 19:41-48

"It is written," he said to them, "'My house will be a house of prayer'; but you have made it 'a den of robbers.'" Luke 19:46

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2

Isaiah's vision: ALL people can come to the presence of God
...my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.

Jesus saw Jerusalem and wept! WHY? (past, present & future)
As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city,
he wept over it and said,

"If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.

Jesus foretold the coming SUFFERING & DESTRUCTION

The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side.

They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you."

And Jesus acted to RESTORE God's purpose

Then he entered the temple area
and began driving out those who were selling.

"It is written," he said to them, "'My house will be a house of prayer'; but you have made it 'a den of robbers.'"

The result: the POWERFUL wanted to kill him. (on the cross)
Every day he was teaching at the temple.

But the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the leaders among the people were trying to kill him.

Yet they could not find any way to do it, because all the people hung on his words.

Jesus came to FULFILL Isaiah's prophecy

Jesus REPLACED the temple of the LORD where we come to the presence of God

Jesus forced a DECISION that disrupted the status quo (Love Him or hate him!)

Questions for each of us today:

Should I revere as HOLY the temple in Jerusalem (or our church building)?

Does Jesus WEEP when he sees my life because I fail to recognize God's coming?

Have I made a decision about Jesus that others can see in the way I live and talk?