

Life in a Jewish household revolved around the obligations to the Lord in His house.

Luke 2:27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law,

As a 12 year old, Jesus debated the Law in the Temple.

Luke 2:46 And it came about that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them, and asking them questions.

Jesus went into the temple a few days after His first miracle.

In 2:13 And the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 And He found in the temple those who were selling oxen and sheep and doves, and the moneychangers seated. 15 And He made a scourge of cords, and drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen; and He poured out the coins of the moneychangers, and overturned their tables; 16 and to those who were selling the doves He said, "Take these things away; stop making My Father's house a house of merchandise."

17 His disciples remembered that it was written,
"Zeal for Thy house will consume me." 18 The
Jews therefore answered and said to Him, "What
sign do You show to us, seeing that You do these
things?" 19 Jesus answered and said to them,
"Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it
up." 20 The Jews therefore said, "It took forty-six
years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in
three days?" 21 But He was speaking of the
temple of His body. 22 When therefore He was
raised from the dead, His disciples remembered
that He said this; and they believed the Scripture,
and the word which Jesus had spoken.

In the first year of Jesus' ministry at about the age of 30 – one of His first acts was to cleanse the temple!

Luke 3:23 And when He began His ministry, Jesus Himself was about thirty years of age, being supposedly the son of Joseph, the son of Eli,



The temple steps where
Jesus drove the money
changers out



This is the first occasion where Jesus is upset by the Jews selling things in the temple.

They were selling things that were needed – the offerings of sheep, oxen, and doves as well as the required coin with no image, but they were doing it in the wrong place.

There may be a Passover at Jn 5:1 as some manuscripts insert the definite article “the”

Joh 5:1 After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ... 7 The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.” (8) Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” ... 14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.”

John speaks specifically of a second
Passover at Jn 6:4

John 6:4 Now the Passover, the feast
of the Jews, was at hand.

Joh 12:1 Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.

Joh 13:1 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

Matthew mentions only one Passover – the last -- as do Mark and Luke. It is the one on which John concentrates Jn 12-19

Mt 26:2 Mark Mk 14:1 Luke Lk 22:1 John Jn 13:1

The ministry of Jesus covered 3 Passovers, perhaps 4 – about 3-4 years.

Matthew, Mark, and Luke, all record a second incident in which Jesus expelled the money changers. Mk 11:15-17 Mt 21:12-13 and Lk 19:45-46 although John skips this account.

Jesus used the temple for teaching.

John 7:14 But when it was now the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and began to teach. 15 The Jews therefore were marveling, saying, "How has this man become learned, having never been educated?" 16 Jesus therefore answered them, and said, "My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me.

It appears that Jesus thought one of the best places to call the faithful to repentance was in the temple.

Luke 19:47 And He was teaching daily in the temple; but the chief priests and the scribes and the leading men among the people were trying to destroy Him, 48 and they could not find anything that they might do, for all the people were hanging upon His words.

Luke 21:37 Now during the day He was teaching in the temple, but at evening He would go out and spend the night on the mount that is called Olivet. 38 And all the people would get up early in the morning to come to Him in the temple to listen to Him.

Matt 24:1 And Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him. 2 And He answered and said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here shall be left upon another, which will not be torn down."

Mark 14:49 "Every day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me; but this has happened that the Scriptures might be fulfilled."

There are some parallels we can draw between life under the law and life under Jesus.

The temple was the dwelling place of the Father and the Jews came to the Sanctuary – the house of God to worship Him.

In this covenant, we are the earthly temple of God – Jesus dwells in us if we live for Him.

1 Cor 3:16 Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 17 If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.

We have an obligation to live for God as we are His temple – His house – today.

1 Cor 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? 20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

Eph 5:25-27 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her; (26) that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, (27) that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless.

Who is the “her” but “us”.

2 Cor 6:15 Or what harmony has Christ with Belial,
or what has a believer in common with an
unbeliever? 16 Or what agreement has the temple
of God with idols? For we are the temple of the
living God; just as God said, "I will dwell in them
and walk among them; and I will be their God, and
they shall be My people. 17 "Therefore, come out
from their midst and be separate," says the Lord.

"And do not touch what is unclean; and I will
welcome you. 18 "And I will be a father to you, and
you shall be sons and daughters to me," says the
Lord Almighty.

Eph 2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, 20 having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

Rev 3:12 'He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

We often sing a song wanting God to prepare us to
be a sanctuary.

1Pe 3:15 but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts,
always being ready to make a defense to everyone
who asks you to give an account for the hope that is
in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

1Th 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself
sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul
and body be preserved complete, without blame at
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word translated sanctify at 1Pet 3.15 is *hagiazō*

Act 20:32 "And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

1Co 1:2 to the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours:

1Co 6:8-10 But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brothers! (9) Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, (10) nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

How can the Lord sanctify us if we do not prepare ourselves.

1Co 6:11 And such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God.

2Ti 2:2 And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

We need to purify ourselves through obedience to God – actually become His temple today.

Have you been washed in the blood? Purified by the Lamb of God? Become a temple in which God lives today?

Rom 6:3-5 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? (4) We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. (5) For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.