

“Putting Priorities in Proper Place”

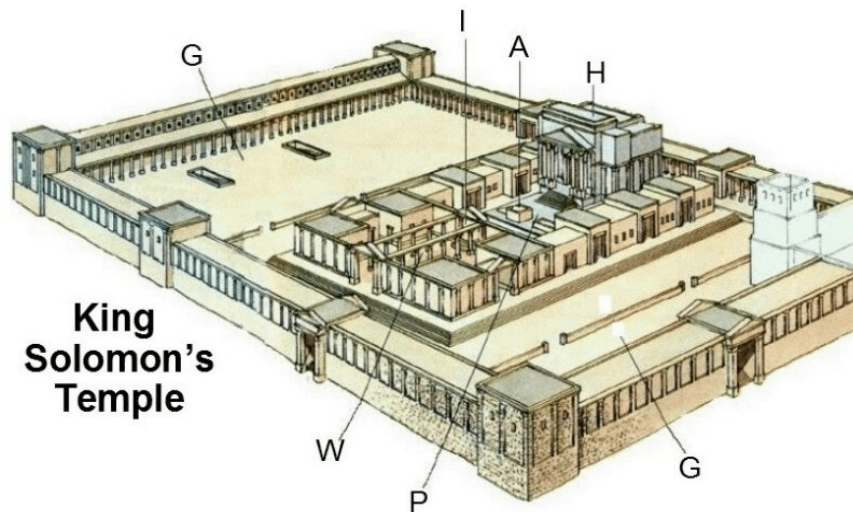
Based on Mark 11:15-18 (NIV)

March 11, 2018

Rev. Roger Madden, preaching

Mark 11:15-16

15 On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple area and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves,
16 and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts.



G = Court of Gentiles.

W = Court of Women.

P = Court of Priests.

I = Court of Israel.

A = Altar.

H = Holy of Holies.

† The incident from our reading takes place in the **Court of Gentiles**.

† This area is meant to be a place of prayer, worship and preparation for all **non-jews** who had **converted** to the Jewish religion.

† Jesus was angry because the Temple was to be a place of **worship**, but true worship had disappeared because of **greed**.

Mark 11:17 - And as he taught them, he said, "Is it not written: "My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations' ? But you have made it 'a den of robbers.'"

† Jesus was focusing on keeping **priorities** where they should be.

† God created me, so that makes me **sacred** and **holy** and that is to be my focus.

† I need to keep my priorities straight - **Faith**, then **Family**, then **Job**, in that order.

† My priorities aren't what I **say** they are, they are revealed by how I **live**.

Applying Today's Message to my Life:

† What order are these priorities usually focused on in my life?

- Faith - Family - Job

† In what type of situations do my priorities in life get out of their proper order?

- How do I bring them back into proper order?

† Do I look out first for myself (like the moneychangers) or for others (like Jesus)?

† What is one way this week I can move toward, or more fully keep, my priorities as they should be?