

✍ Jesus has attacked everything that they held dear: He went after their giving; **Matthew 6:2**; their fasting: **Matthew 6:16**; their prayer, **Matthew 6:5**, and their evangelism, **Matthew 23:15**. He went after their self-righteousness and everything they called sacred. He declares the end of all that they hold dear, **Luke 19:43-44**. Jesus predicts the loss of their complete identity as a people; the end of their Nation; the end of their city; the end of their temple; therefore, the end of their "Passovers" and other high holy days; no "Day of Atonement" ever since; no Sabbath ever since, **Numbers 28:9-10**; no forgiveness ever since; **Leviticus 17:11**; **Hebrews 9:22**. Now He goes after their most precious piece of real estate, "The Temple," **Luke 19:45-46**.

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### 1. Who does Jesus think He is?

- ✓ He clearly thinks He's God: **Jeremiah 7:8-11**. Jesus clears the temple and occupies the place for the rest of the time, **Luke 19:47**.

### 2. Jesus was their common problem.

- ✓ He answered and was swayed by none of them. The Pharisees hated the Sadducees, and the Herodians were hated by the other two; they all had widely different views of religion, politics, and culture. But they galvanize to take out Jesus, their common threat. Interesting how it is no different today: we have a world full of different religions that agree on almost nothing, hating each other and killing each other regularly. But they are galvanized in their opinion of Jesus, they oppose the message of His gospel and His authority.

### 3. Jesus has all authority.

- ✓ All of us have some form of authority given to us and are generally under much more authority than we are given. When it comes to Jesus, authority is very different. <sup>18</sup>Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth.", **Matthew 28:18**, absolute authority means He answers to no one outside of Himself. He spoke with authority, **Matthew 7:29**; He forgave sins **Matthew 9:6-8**; and cast out our demons **Matthew 10:1**. He has the authority to judge, **John 5:27**; **John 10:18**; authority over all humanity **John 17:2**. There are no limits to His power, His ability, His right, His will, **John 6:38-39**, nothing can resist His will. He could will that everyone be saved, but He's not going to do that. He will leave that part of His will unexercised.

### 4. Jesus exercises His will and authority over the Temple.

- ✓ This structure only had one purpose, and that was to be a house of prayer. But because they had not used it for the people's gain but for their own gain, Jesus takes it away from them. This was the place where the world could come and find the one true and living God and they had shut the world out. Similarly, we only have one purpose: **Revelation 1:12-13; 20**. The Temple ceased operations almost 2,000 years ago, and God moved from a building into the bodies of His saints. Now, God's temple is scattered all over the world, and "His" special presence is where two or more are gathered, as was true for the building, so is true for "His" new temples. We only have one purpose.

**The lampstand is a very clear picture for us, unambiguous and unmistakable, it only has one purpose, to hold up the light. When a church does not do its one job, He takes it away from us: Revelation 2:5. Jesus closes churches all the time.**

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