

## Day 3. John 2:18-25

### OBSERVATION – WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

Read chapter 2

Mark key words in verses 18-25

Mark the word *entrust* the same way you marked *believe*

### INTERPRETATION – WHAT DOES THE TEXT MEAN?

#### Verses 18-22

What do the Jews (most likely from the Sanhedrin) ask Jesus in verse 18? *What sign do you show us for doing these things?*

They are basically asking “by what authority did you just regulate the activities in the temple?” Read Deuteronomy 18:20-22 and explain how the people were supposed to judge whether a person was a false prophet or speaking truth? *If the prophecy wasn’t fulfilled, then the person was a false prophet and should be put to death.*

Answer these questions from this section:

What did Jesus prophecy about the temple?	<i>That if it was destroyed, he would raise it up in 3 days</i>
What did the Jews think Jesus was saying?	<i>That he would build up the physical temple in front of them in 3 days, even though it took 46 years to build</i>
What did Jesus really mean?	<i>He would raise from the dead in 3 days after his body (the temple) was destroyed</i>
The disciples heard this conversation between the Jews (probably the Sanhedrin) and Jesus. Did the disciples understand in this moment what Jesus meant? When did they understand?	<i>No, not until after Jesus’ resurrection did they fully understand.</i>

<p>This section includes another claim of deity. What kind of power that only belongs to God is Jesus claiming?</p>	<p><i>The power of resurrection, the power of bringing back to life</i></p>

Let's explore the history and picture of the temple before we finish this section.

The Temple	
<p>The current temple of Jesus' day was part of Herod the Great's reconstruction and expansion project that began in about 19 or 20 B.C. So, by the time of Jesus ministry, it had been about 46 years into the project.</p>	<p>-----</p>
<p>Watch this short video showing what the temple would have looked like at the time of Christ and write what you find interesting.</p> <p><a href="http://www.4onemore.com/temple">www.4onemore.com/temple</a></p>	<p><i>Answers will vary</i></p>
<p>Look back at John 1:51. In that verse, what replaced the ladder to heaven?</p>	<p><i>The Son of Man</i></p>
<p>Watch this excellent video about the Temple from Got Questions Ministries and write what you learn and how it applies to this section in John.</p> <p>You can find the video at <a href="http://www.4onemore.com/veil">www.4onemore.com/veil</a></p>	<p>.</p> <p><i>Answers will vary</i></p>

### Verses 23-25

From verse 23, did the crowds in Jerusalem who “believed in his name” because of the signs have true saving faith? Why or why not according to verses 24-25? *No, they just showed enthusiasm for the spectacular miracles Jesus did. They didn’t follow him. (Matthew 16:24). Jesus didn’t “entrust” himself to them – because he knew their hearts.*

Mark the word entrust (verse 24) the same way you marked *believe*. John is using the same Greek word for *believe* for these two words! This little paragraph is significant. While the crowds may be drawn to Jesus because of the miracles, Jesus knew that they were not genuinely converted. In other words, belief is more than just intellectual agreement or assent. Read James 2:19-20 and explain how it’s not enough to intellectually know that God is real to have true saving faith. *Even the demons believe that God is real – and they shudder – because they know He is holy.*

Fill in these blanks:

“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\_\_.”

How do these verses show Jesus deity? *Only God is all-knowing and can see into the hearts of men*

These verses are very important! Because through the rest of John, we will meet people who genuinely believe in Jesus as the Messiah, and others who walk away in unbelief. Jesus knows everyone’s heart. And this unbelief in some hearts is the reason that they will not understand what Jesus is saying to them. Read I Corinthians 2:14.

Can you summarize in your own words what this section means?

*(Answers will vary) Jesus shows his deity by claiming to have the power of resurrection. He foretells his death and resurrection. He also shows his deity because he knows the hearts of men.*