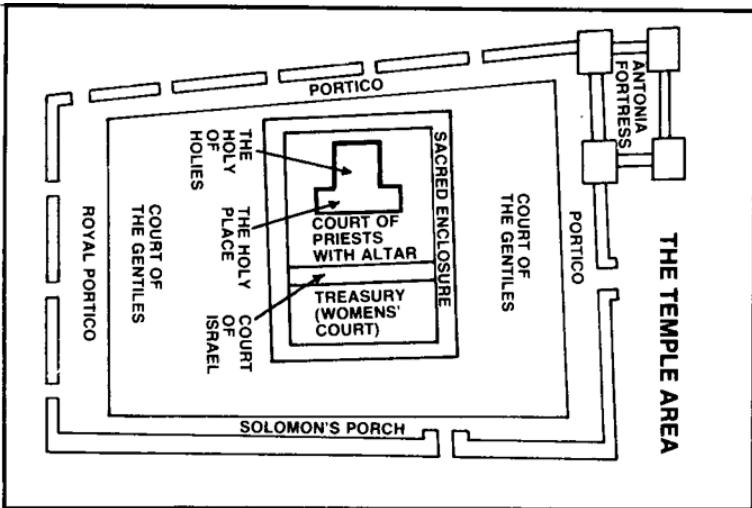


Vs 17 • Jesus' zeal (Malachi 3:1–3) _____

Why was the temple business so offensive to Jesus?



God had a glorious plan to include Gentiles (Isaiah 60:1–4) _____

Acts 8:27–36 • The story of the Ethiopian official & Philip _____

Vs 18–22 • Jesus speaks of the “temple” of His body and the Resurrection _____

Vs 23–25 • Jesus didn’t “entrust” Himself to the crowds, knowing the fickle heart of man _____



Midweek Study • John 1–2
Mt Lassen Community Church
January 8, 2026

John 1:1 •
*In the beginning was the Word
and the Word was with God
and the Word was God*

This verse is the subject of the most notorious “scripture twisting” by the cults. The JWs translate this as “and the Word was a god.”

The literal Greek word order is important:
In the beginning was the word
And the word was with [the] God
And God was the Word

Notice there is no article “a” before “God” in the third line, but JWs put it there in their Bible—claiming the lack of a definite article in Greek means this is a lesser god. So, they add the article “a” in English for clarification.

First line: “**The Word**” is the SUBJECT
“**was in the Beginning**” is the PREDICATE, but it is placed FIRST

Note: John flips the order to stress “in the beginning”—connecting the reader with GENESIS 1, the Creation.

Second line: “**and the word**” is the SUBJECT
“**was with [the] God**” is the PREDICATE

Note: There is an article before “God.” This is typical of nouns in Greek, but not always! In this very chapter are 4 examples of “God” without the article: John 1:6, 12, 13, 18

Third line: “**and God was the Word**”
“**the Word**” is still the SUBJECT (by context)
But “**God**,” is the PREDICATE—but it is placed FIRST in the sentence.

1 • placing the predicate “God” before the subject “the Word” puts EMPHASIS on “GOD.” John is stressing “GOD” as super important. Jesus isn’t “a” god—He is GOD.

2 • Some older translations say, “divine was the word,” in order to keep the word order. The problem is that “divine” is an adjective, but “GOD” is a noun in Greek. This doesn’t work.

3 • MAIN THING: If John was saying Jesus was “a god”—he’d be teaching polytheism, which was heresy to a Jew. There is ONE GOD in Judaism.

4 • Pay attention to verse 3 below...

Vs 2 • Jesus is eternal, and preexisted when time began _____

Vs 3 • Jesus is the Creator of All, the Almighty God _____

Vs 4–17 • *We covered at Christmas (quick review)* _____

Vs 18 • “Only begotten God” or “Only begotten Son” (same meaning!) _____

Vs 19 • John vs the Pharisees _____

Vs 20–24 • John denies any special identification. He wants to be known as just a “voice.” _____

Vs 25 • John’s baptism _____

Vs 26–29 • John points to Jesus, the “Lamb” _____

How was Jesus the “Lamb of God”? _____

Vs 30–34 • John’s testimony _____

Vs 35–51 • *Last Sunday’s sermon* _____

2:1–11 • *Next Sunday’s sermon (sneak preview)* _____

Vs 12–13 • Jesus goes to Jerusalem for the Passover

Vs 14 • Jesus clears the temple _____

Vs 15–16 • Jesus shows us how to get righteously angry—slow down (He took time to weave a whip). _____