

THE HOUSE OF GOD

Matthew 21:12-17 Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. 13 And He said to them, "It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a den of thieves.' 14 Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them. 15 But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant 16 and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise'?" 17 Then He left them and went out of the city to Bethany, and He lodged there. NKJV

Intro: The story of Jesus cleanses the temple was mentioned in the 4 books of the Gospel. The Bible is giving emphasis and importance about this story and principles for each one of us to live by and to follow.

1. House of Purity- v12

Matthew 21:12 Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. NKJV

*Mark 11:16 and he stopped everyone from using the **Temple as a marketplace.** NLT*

*2Timothy 3: 1-5 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. 2 People will be **lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, 4 treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God-- 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power.** Have nothing to do with them. NIV*

Matthew 24:12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. NKJV

2. House of Prayer- v13

Matthew 21:13 And He said to them, "**It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer,**' but you have made it a den of thieves. NKJV

Mark 11:17 Then He taught, saying to them, "Is it not written, My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations?" NKJV

Isaiah 56:7 Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations. NKJV

- God designed us to be a house of prayer.
- Prayer and intercession must be our lifestyle.
- Prayer must be our top priority in order for us to live victoriously and triumphantly.
- You will never overcome the enemy if you will not prayer.

What is prayer?

- 1) Prayer is a two way communication- we talk and God talks to us. 2) Prayer is a way we develop a close and continues relationship with God.
- 3) Prayer is the way by which the supernatural comes from Heaven to Earth.

Acts 12:5 Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church. NKJV

- The Church has the power to move heaven and earth through prayer and intercession.
- The prayer of the Church brings Heavenly intervention to Earth's crisis.
- Prayer is the foundation of our relationship with God and the key to see the move of God in our personal lives and to our nation.

"Prayer is not a special gift some believers have and other do not. It is the practice of every believer."

Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. NIV

3. House of Power- v14

Matthew 2:14 Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and **He healed them.**NKJV

Mark 16:15, 17-18, 20 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen. NKJV

- God called and anointed us by the Holy Spirit to move in signs and wonders.
- Signs and wonders are not for special gifted anointed few believers. Signs and wonders are for all believers.
- The purpose of signs and wonders is to glorify God and bring souls to the Kingdom of God.

4. House of Praise- v16

Matthew 21:16 and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants **You have perfected praise?**"

- God called us to have a lifestyle of worship.
- House of worship is God's design for us.
- The purpose of worship is for the Presence Of God to come and manifest in our midsts.
- Psalm 22:3 God dwells in the praises of His people.