

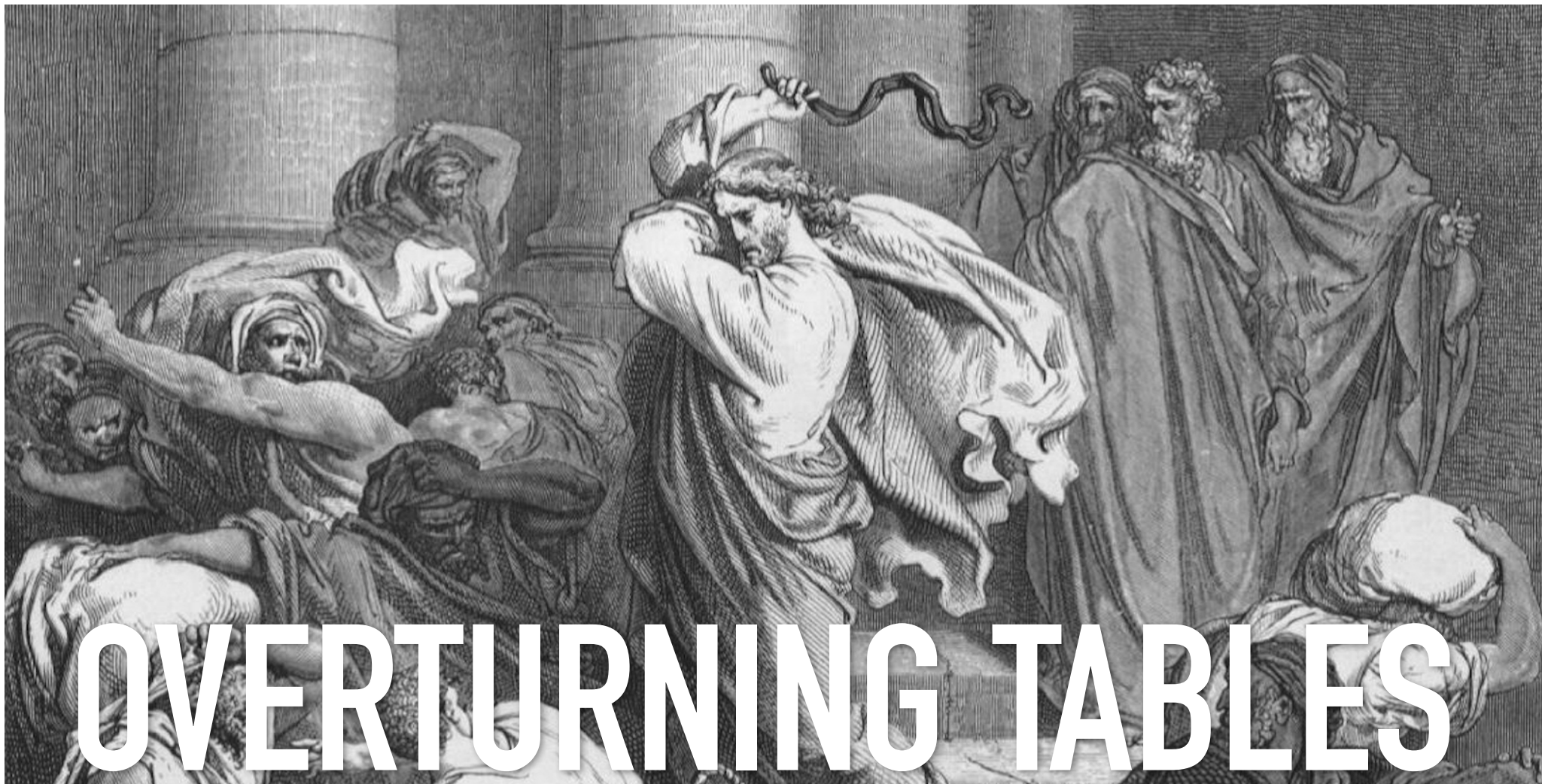


MY FATHER'S HOUSE

John 2:13–22

“A HOUSE OF MERCHANDISE”

- **What Jesus finds in the Temple is noise, chaos, arguing and bargaining, filth, and greed. Where has the reverence gone? Where is the sense of awe and wonder from Psalm 84:1–4? It has all been replaced by corruption and convenience!**
- **Jesus’ extreme response is entirely justified. Because of His great zeal for His Father’s house (Psalm 69:9), He couldn’t help but drive out the elements that made a mockery of the Temple worship. Such measures were expected of the Messiah (Malachi 3:1–4, Jeremiah 23:11–12).**



OVERTURNING TABLES

Most people had come to accept the money-changers as an unfortunate reality. Exploitation, abuse, greed, and empty religion had become the norm. While Jesus seems extreme in His response, it left an impression on the people who witnessed His actions. We, too, shouldn't be afraid of taking extreme measures to combat sin (Matthew 5:29-30).

“DESTROY THIS TEMPLE”

- Interestingly, the Temple leadership does not confront Jesus as if He's done anything wrong (likely out of fear), but only seeks a sign to confirm His authority.
- Jesus' response is so shocking because He is, in their minds, calling for a total demolition of the symbol of their identity (national and religious). They, of course, take Him so literally that the entire point of His “sign” is lost on them — just as Isaiah predicted in Isaiah 6:9–10.
- The Temple was in an almost-constant state of construction and renovation, so Jesus' claim certainly seemed fantastic and unreasonable, at best.



OUR GREATEST FEATS

- Perhaps one of the many reasons the Temple leadership was so upset with Jesus was because His suggestion that He could rebuild the Temple in three days trivialized all of the work that went into their grand edifice.
- Of course, He wasn't talking about the Temple (the building) but the temple of His body. His resurrection from the dead, therefore, represents a greater accomplishment than the construction and maintenance of the Temple. In fact, it makes all of our greatest accomplishments paltry by comparison!
- To all of our pride and arrogance, Jesus would say, "Tear it down and see what I can build in its place!"



SEEKING A SIGN

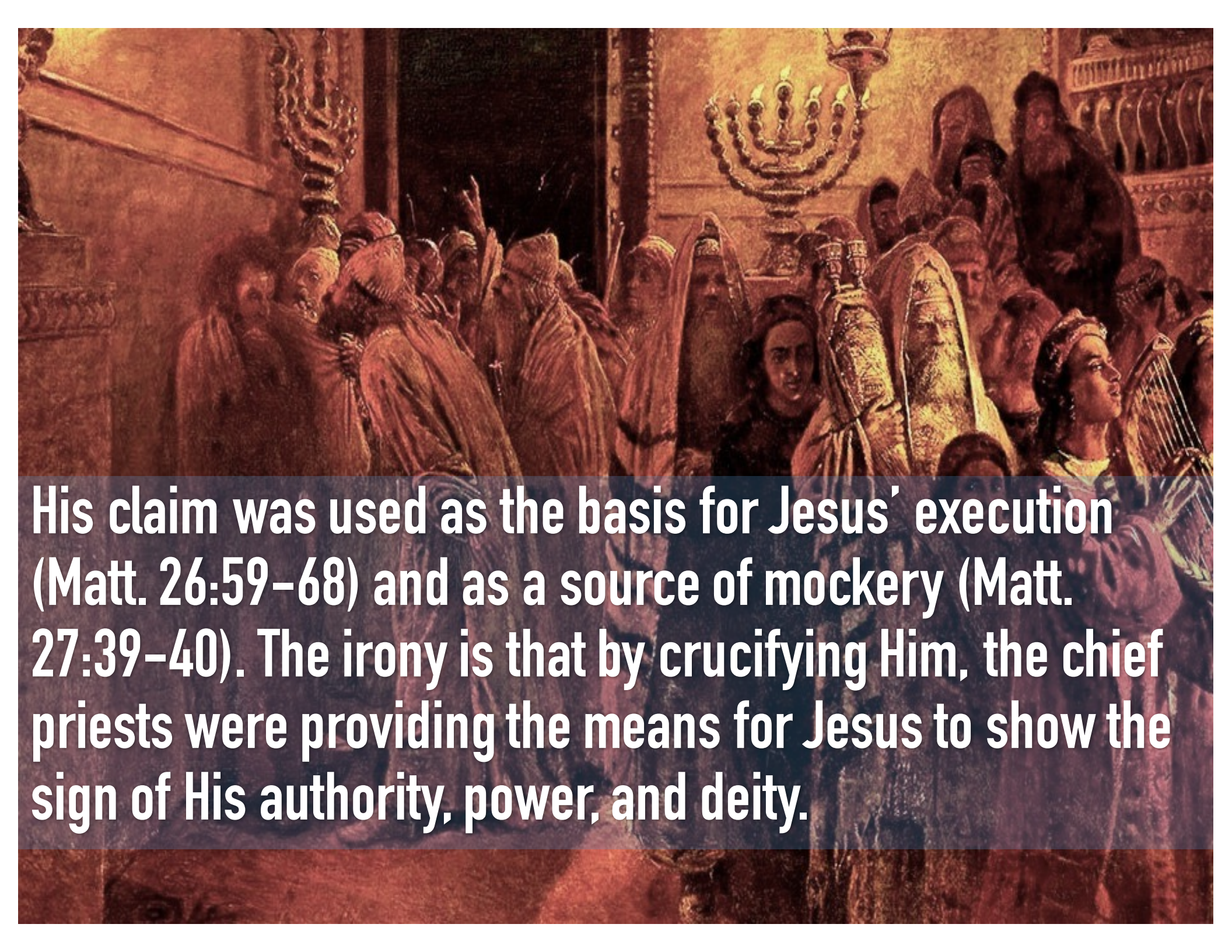
Matthew 12:38-40, 16:1-4



**MATTHEW 21:12-13,
MARK 11:15-18
& LUKE 19:45-48**

WHY TWICE?

- It's sad how little long-term impact Jesus' first time cleansing the Temple had. Three years later and the same rotten people have come out of the woodwork.
- The scene provides a fitting “book end” to His ministry. His mission as Messiah required Him to not only point out the corruption in the current system, but also to see to its eventual replacement — His body becomes the Temple of God, the church (Ephesians 1:22–23, 2:14–22).
- It highlights His consistency, contrasted with the shifting attitude of the Temple leadership. By the second cleansing, they are actively seeking His destruction.



His claim was used as the basis for Jesus' execution (Matt. 26:59–68) and as a source of mockery (Matt. 27:39–40). The irony is that by crucifying Him, the chief priests were providing the means for Jesus to show the sign of His authority, power, and deity.