

Vision Statement who we are in GI (2019)

“We are an End-Time Church, House of Prayer, and Bride of Christ in preparation: in intimacy, character and power; to stand with Israel and to bring in the harvest of the nations for Jesus’ glorious return.”

1. **We are an End time church, House of Prayer** (Matt 24-25)
 - a. End time church embracing the prophetic urgency of the last day and the ultimate destiny of the church (John 17:20-26; Eph. 1:10, 3:9-11; Ezk 36-39; Zech 12-14; Rev 1-3, 12).
 - b. House of Prayer (a.k.a. Tabernacle of David) – important role of intercession & worship, reaching the weak marginalised (Is 56:3-8; Mk 11:17; Amos 9:11-12; Acts 15:16-17; Mal 1:11; Rev 5:8, 8:3-6).
e.g. Vision of bowl of incense

2. **Bride of Christ in preparation** (Rev 19:7-9)
 - a. **Intimacy** (Jn 14:21-23)
 - (1) Extravagant devotion to Jesus Christ as the life goal. E.g. David, Paul, Mary of Bethany (Phil 3:10-11; Luke 14:3-9; Ps. 27:4)
 - (2) Following Jesus by embracing the cross (Luke 9:23)
 - b. **Character** (Romans 9:28-29)
 - (1) Commitment to life of personal holiness & obedience - Fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-25);
 - (3) Character before gifts in ministry: humility, faithfulness, and love (Is 66:2; Phil 2:1-11; Matt 11:25-30; Rev 14:1-5)
 - c. **Power** – Gifts of the Spirit; Power of the ages to come in Word & Spirit; Sevens Spirits of God. E.g. Elijah & John the Baptist (1 Cor 12:4-11; Heb. 6:6; Rev 4:5; 5:6; Is 11:1-2). E.g. Prophecy of the 7 lamps burning and encounter on 7 Spirits of God.

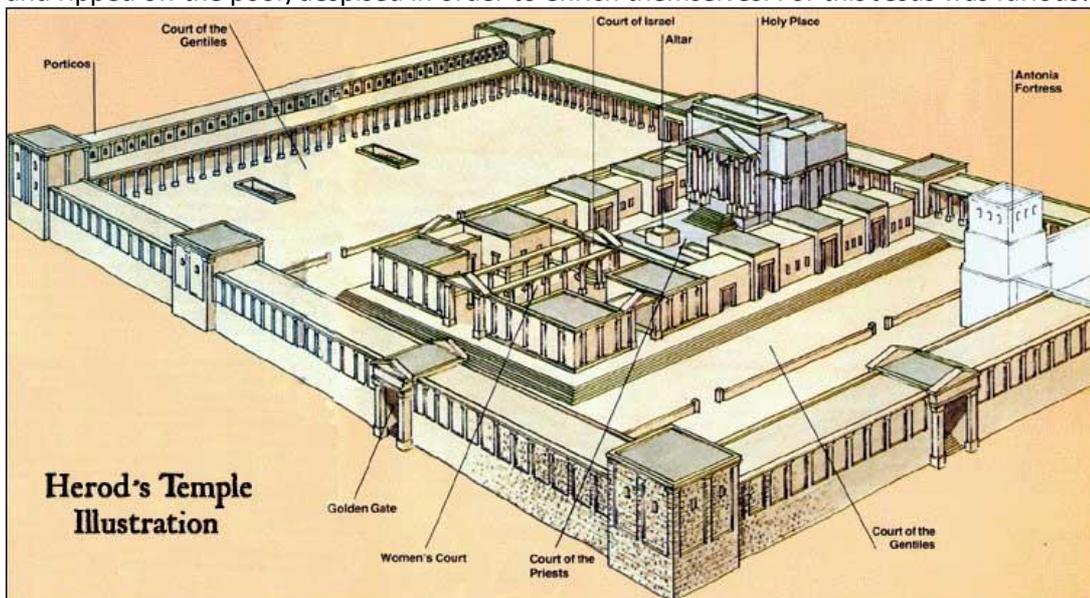
3. **To stand with Israel, and to bring in the harvest of the nations for Jesus’ glorious return** (Matt 13:39)
 - a. Mandate to become a friend to Israel in the time of persecution and restoration (Jer. 30:7; Zech. 12-14; Rom 11:11-36; Eph 2:14-18)
 - b. Harvest within Australia and among the nations of the world (Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:17-21; Rev 14:14-16)

Jesus' Two Titles to Describe God's People: (1) House of Prayer for All Nations; (2) Church

- Vision of the Bowl of Incense – defining the term 'internal burning vision' (~2011)

House of Prayer for All Nations

1. OT Is. 56:3-8. (God's original intention of what God's people are to be unto God Himself).
2. It is 'descriptive ID' of the people of God from the beginning (There was no physical building called the 'House of Prayer' (referring to 'Herod's temple) – brings out the nature of what the gathering of God's people meant to God Himself).
3. Jesus equated 'My Father's house' with the 'House of Prayer for all nations.'
 - How many fathers are attracted to the children's voice when they come home? (Prayer) *"Dad welcome back home; Look, daddy is here; Did you get my cookie?"* Not silence. What if you come home and your children are always playing 'mahjong' or poker (& totally ignore you)?
 - The main purpose of the temple/tabernacle is to 'host God's presence in their midst.' But sin must be kept out of the sanctuary of God (C.f. Ex 40 – contrary to normal building tabernacle was erected from inside out ~clean room)
 - However, the value system of the world has come right into the temple to such a degree and caused the Father to walk out of His house (e.g. Ezk 10:15-19) // Jesus' entry from east get! What is holy and sinful must not come in contact – 'abomination' '~makes God want to throw up?')
4. What was the main problem Jesus had with the temple of His day? 'Spirit of mammon': "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!" (John 2:16) – e.g. They created 'holy cow'; specialised 'temple coin' and sold them at jacked up price.
 - Herod's temple 3 compartments: (See Diagram): 'Holy Place' (Priests); 'Inner Court' (Priests/Israel's (men) court); 'Outer Court' (women's court/gentiles court). It was in gentiles' court that they sold '(un)holy cows' that angered Jesus the most! Why?
 - Who has the greatest privilege & access to God? (1) Priests; (2) Israelite (men); (3) Israeli women; (4) gentiles [Temple precinct was divided in 4 parts]. The most privileged (priests & men) who have greater access to God are to intercede/pray for the less privileged (women, sick, gentiles ~unbelievers) who does not have the same level of access to God. (*A challenge to Christian men today!*) But the privileged/gifted have rigged the system to their advantage and ripped off the poor/despised in order to enrich themselves. For this Jesus was furious!



5. God's purpose of the temple in Isaiah 56:3-8 [READ] is radical vision of the temple! (note: Eunuch/illegitimate were not permitted to enter into temple under OT (Deut 23:1-2).

- Contrary to spatial arrangement (Herod's Temple) at the centre of God's attention is eunuch, outcasts, gentiles! "The reality of God's presence fuelled/sustained by the prayers of the priests (burnt offerings/incense) was to draw in the marginalised/despised/rejected to draw near to God and find special place of acceptance and honour in God's house!"
 - Is 56:9-12 ends with the warning to greedy leaders who only serve themselves. God calls them 'greedy dogs' – hard to imagine more insulting description than this. Exactly describes the situation of Herod's temple in Jesus' day.
6. How did Jesus respond to this situation? "Zeal for your house has eaten Me up." (John 2:17)
- In other words, it made Jesus furious! (Jesus lost it?) – i.e. In 'holy anger' Jesus made a whip and drove out the money changers & overturned the money changer's table out of the temple.
 - c.f. Ps 69:9 'Zeal for your house has eaten Me up, and the reproach of those who reproached You has fallen on Me') – i.e. Jesus knew what He was doing when He cleansed the temple the 2nd time. It was going to cost him his life. Jesus cleansed the temple 2 times. 1st time in the beginning of ministry (Jn 2:13-19). 2nd time at the end of ministry (Mk 11:17). Those who shouted, "Hosanna" (Liberate us!), disowned Jesus, "Let His blood be upon us" by the end of the week.
 - Is this a prophetic picture of the end of the age? Will Jesus cleanse the church at the end of the age? 'A ship on the sea is alright. But the sea in the ship is all wrong.'
7. Has God abandoned His original plan for the temple as the House of Prayer for all nations because Israel failed to live up to that purpose with Herod's temple?
- "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up...But He was speaking of the temple of His body." (John 2:19-21). What is His Body? Where is Jesus' Body today?
 - Is the Church of God, the Father's house today? The Father's house that God delights to dwell in is the House of Prayer for All Nations. (Prayer at the centre & harvest as outcome) Challenge for men → Prayer!
 - The Church is the only thing Jesus committed to build with His own hands on earth before Jesus returned to the Father! "...and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you find on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven" (Matt 16:18-19) – Church is built on the foundation of Jesus Christ, and built by Jesus, and owned by Jesus. Church at the core has prayer of 2 or 3! (Matt 18:19-20).
 - Be careful to honour the church - extremely silly to despise Church! The same zeal Jesus has for the Father's house is for the church – warning to those who defile the church of God, God will destroy! 1 Cor 3:17. (a) Those who claim church age has ended are in error (c.f. Rev 1-3) – e.g. sometimes 'accountability issue'. What Laodicea church said in Rev 3:17; (b) What about those who love the Lord, but hate to belong to a church? (information, no revelation)
 - Next week, explore why the 'end time church' must be the 'house of prayer' – 'The Tabernacle of David'.

Discussion Questions

1. Read Isaiah 56:3-8. What does it mean to be the House of Prayer for All Nations in God's eyes? (Can you see what's important values/principles?) How is Isaiah's vision of the House of Prayer different from the Temple of Herod in Jesus' day?
2. Read John 2:13-21 & Mark 11:15-19. What did Jesus do in the temple in those passages? Why made Jesus so upset? What caused Jesus do what He did in the temple? Is there anything we can learn from Jesus' action?
3. What is the relationship between the House of Prayer for All Nations and the Church? How is God's original purpose of the House of Prayer in Isaiah 56 fulfilled in the world today?
4. What can we learn as individuals and as a local church, 'Glory International'? How do we fulfil God's original plan for the church in practical ways?

Vision Statement of Glory International

“We are an End-Time Church, House of Prayer, and Bride of Christ in preparation: in intimacy, character and power; to stand with Israel and to bring in the harvest of the nations for Jesus’ glorious return.”

For my house will be called a
house of prayer for all nations

Isaiah 56:7

2019-04-07 Ps. Paul Kim



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(Matthew 24-25)

- **End time church** embracing the prophetic urgency and the ultimate destiny of the church in the last days (Matthew 24-25; John 17:20-26; Eph. 1:10, 3:9-11; Ezk 36-39; Zech 12-14; Rev 1-3, 12).
- **House of Prayer** (a.k.a. Tabernacle of David) – important role of intercession & worship, reaching the weak & despised of the nations (Is 56:3-8; Mk 11:17; Amos 9:11-12; Acts 15:16-17; Mal 1:11; Rev 5:8, 8:3-6).
- e.g. Vision of bowl of incense

Jesus' 2 titles to describe God's people:

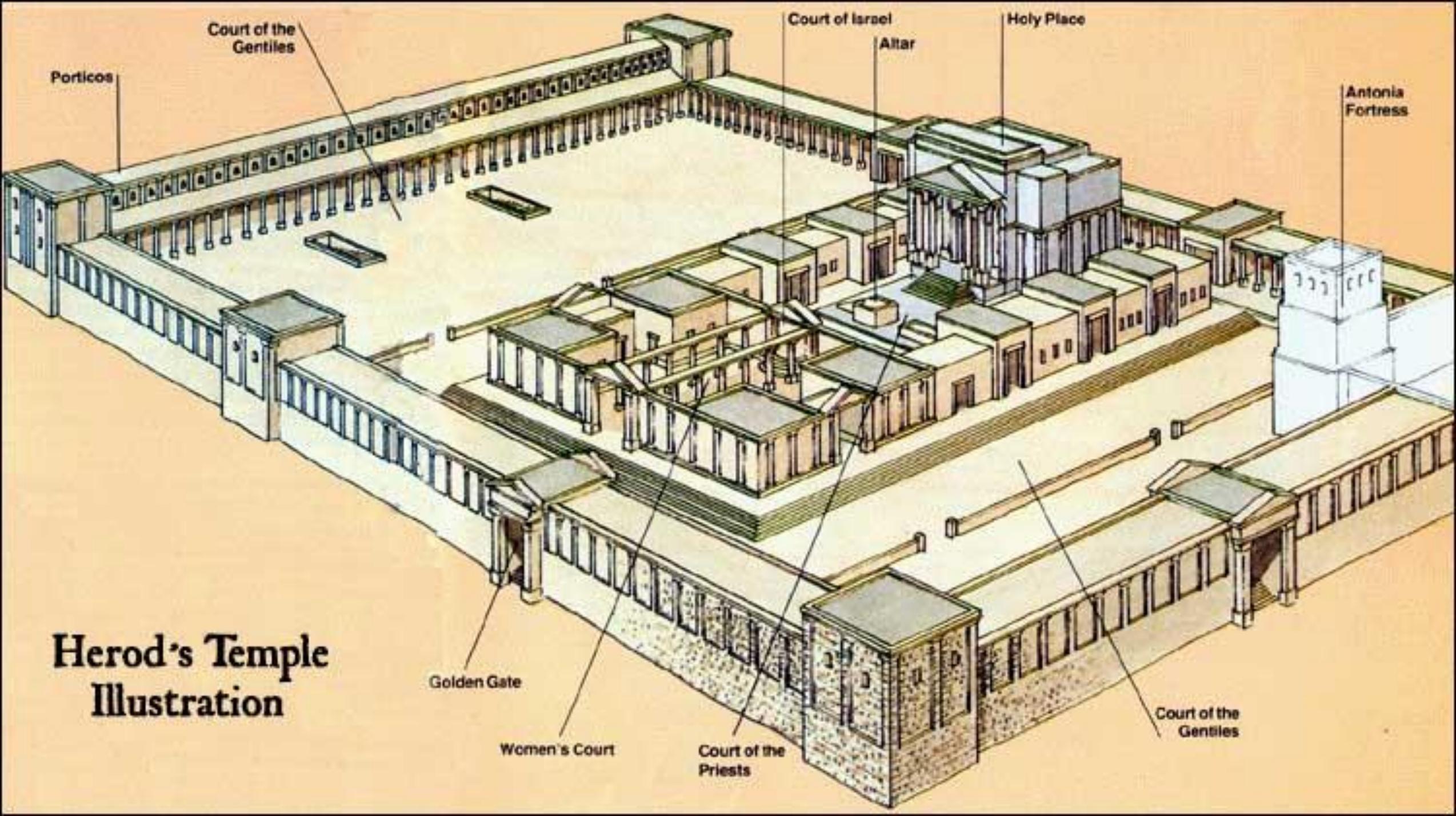
(1).....

(2).....

House of Prayer for All Nations

“...For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.” (Is. 56:7)

- *‘descriptive ID’*
- **‘My Father’s house’ = ‘House of Prayer for all nations.’**
 - Fathers’ attraction to children’s voice.
 - Main purpose of the temple.
 - Value system of the world caused the Father to walk out (e.g. Ezk 10:15-19)



Court of the Gentiles

Porticos

Court of Israel

Holy Place

Antonia Fortress

Altar

Herod's Temple Illustration

Golden Gate

Women's Court

Court of the Priests

Court of the Gentiles

God's Vision for the Temple (Isaiah 56:3-8)

3 Do not let the son of the foreigner Who has joined himself to the Lord Speak, saying, "The Lord has utterly separated me from His people"; Nor let the eunuch say, "Here I am, a dry tree."

4 For thus says the Lord: "To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, And choose what pleases Me, And hold fast My covenant,

5 Even to them I will give in My house And within My walls a place and a name Better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name That shall not be cut off.

God's Vision for the Temple (Isaiah 56:3-8)

6 "Also the sons of the foreigner Who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, And to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants-- Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant--

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."

8 The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says, "Yet I will gather to him Others besides those who are gathered to him."

God's Vision of the Temple in Isaiah 56:3-8

- Contrary to spatial arrangement (Herod's Temple) at the centre of God's attention is eunuch, outcasts, gentiles!
- *“The reality of God's presence fuelled/sustained by the prayers of the priests (burnt offerings/incense) was to draw in the marginalised/despised/rejected to draw near to God and find special place of acceptance and honour in God's house!”*
- *Isaiah's vision ends with warning to greedy leaders.*

God's Vision for the Temple (Isaiah 56:3-8)

9 All you beasts of the field, come to devour, All you beasts in the forest.

10 His watchmen are blind, They are all ignorant; They are all dumb dogs, They cannot bark; Sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber.

11 Yes, they are greedy dogs Which never have enough. And they are shepherds Who cannot understand; They all look to their own way, Every one for his own gain, From his own territory.

12 "Come," one says, "I will bring wine, And we will fill ourselves with intoxicating drink; Tomorrow will be as today, And much more abundant."

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“Zeal for your house has eaten Me up.” (John 2:17)

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(John 2:19-21).**