



## DEN OF THIEVES

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### *Matthew 21:12-14*

*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. 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.*

### *Jeremiah 7:8-12*

*8 "Behold, you trust in lying words that cannot profit. 9 Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, burn incense to Baal, and walk after other gods whom you do not know, 10 and then come and stand before Me in this house which is called by My name, and say, 'We are delivered to do all these abominations'? 11 Has this house, which is called by My name, become a **den of thieves** in your eyes? Behold, I, even I, have seen it," says the LORD.*

**When we do not give our whole heart to God we give Him half hearted worship. It is a half hearted attempt. It is like sacrificing a blemished or defiled lamb.**

### *Exodus 12:5*

*5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats.*

**Christ is the lamb of God, a male without blemish. His heart was wholly given in sacrifice to the Father. Christ was not half hearted. In order for your sacrifice of worship to be acceptable to the Father it must be given from a whole heart. It can only align with the sacrifice of Christ if it is of the same kind as Christ's sacrifice. It must be given from a pure heart. A pure heart is a holy heart. It is a heart that is wholly given. A half hearted lukewarm response to God is not acceptable to God. If you can not give Him all, from a pure heart of complete and total love for Him and Him alone, then He does not want any of it. It is all or nothing with God.**

### *Malachi 1:13-14*

*13 You also say,*

*' Oh, what a weariness!'*

*And you sneer at it,"*

*Says the LORD of hosts.*

*" And you bring the stolen, the lame, and the sick;*

*Thus you bring an offering!*

*Should I accept this from your hand?"*

*Says the LORD.*

*14 “ But cursed be the deceiver*

*Who has in his flock a male,*

*And takes a vow,*

*But sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished—*

*For I am a great King,”*

*Says the LORD of hosts,*

*“ And My name is to be feared among the nations.*

**The deceiver is the one who makes a vow, saying, “Oh God I give you my whole heart”. But when it comes time to reveal the whole heart with a sacrifice, the deceiver brings a blemished, sick, lame lamb. One of the poorest most pathetic lambs are picked and sacrifice to God. A half way gift from a half way heart. God is saying, *I am a great King and My name is to be feared among the nations. Don't come to Me any more with your half hearted worship.***

**A half hearted sacrifice can not be met by the fire of God because it is not a revelation of the only acceptable sacrifice: Christ. If it is not a whole heart it is not a revelation of Christ's whole heart given to the Father. It can not be receive or met with the fire of God. The worship will not reveal the power of God. It will not be anointed, it will not burn with the glory of God. It will be lukewarm half hearted, dry, dead. It is this kind of worship that will put out the fire of God and kill a church. It is this kind of worship that robs from God. It robs puts the fire out. It robs the anointing and the glory of God departs from the church. The half hearted diminish the house of the Lord in the earth. Worship that belongs to God is not given to God. It is instead stolen from God and given to His enemy: Satan. It is layed at the feet of Gods advisory and used by him to enlarge his kingdom. The thievery must stop. The thieves must stop. They must be driven from the house of the lord. God is coming with a Word of fire to His house. It is coming to purify His temple and release before the Father an offering that is acceptable. An offering that is made by fire. An offering that comes up before the throne of God as an expression of complete and total sacrifice. It is the whole heart given that becomes the aroma of Christ reflecting the complete and total sacrifice of Christ's heart in love to the Father.**

### ***Malachi 3:1-5***

*1 “Behold, I send My messenger,*

*And he will prepare the way before Me.*

*And the Lord, whom you seek,*

*Will suddenly come to His temple,*

*Even the Messenger of the covenant,*

*In whom you delight.*

*Behold, He is coming,”*

*Says the LORD of hosts.*

*2 “ But who can endure the day of His coming?*

*And who can stand when He appears?*

*For He is like a refiner's fire*

*And like launderers' soap.*

*3 He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver;*

*He will purify the sons of Levi,*

*And purge them as gold and silver,*

*That they may offer to the LORD*

***An offering in righteousness.***

***4 “ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem***

***Will be pleasant to the LORD,***

***As in the days of old,***

***As in former years.***

*5 And I will come near you for judgment;*

*I will be a swift witness*

*Against sorcerers,*

*Against adulterers,*

*Against perjurers,*

*Against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans,*

*And against those who turn away an alien—*

***Because they do not fear Me,”***

***Says the LORD of hosts.***

#### ***Matthew 21:12-14***

*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. 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.***

#### ***Malachi 1:7-8***

*7 “You offer defiled food on My altar,*

*But say,*

*‘In what way have we defiled You?’*

*By saying,*

*‘The table of the Lord is contemptible.’*

*8 And when you offer **the blind as a sacrifice,***

***Is it not evil?***

***And when you offer the lame and sick,***

***Is it not evil?***

*Offer it then to your governor!*

*Would he be pleased with you?*

*Would he accept you favourably?”*

*Says the Lord of hosts.*

It is after Christ cleansed His temple that it became a house of healing. The blind and the lame were healed in the temple after the thieves were driven out. It is after the thief has been expelled from our temples, our hearts, that God will be able to heal our spiritually blind eyes and our lame efforts. It is after He comes to His living temple to cleanse us that the sacrifice is complete and total. Our temple, the den of thieves, will be restored to become a whole heart commitment, a house of prayer. It will be true prayer. Prayer that ascends before the Father from lips of a pure heart. A heart full of pure and holy love for Him and Him alone. It will no longer be worship and prayer that ascends before God as an abomination from lips of deceit and hearts that steal because they are half committed and lukewarm. Half in love with the Father and half in love with the flesh, the world and the devil.

**Malachi 3:4**

*“ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem  
Will be pleasant to the LORD,  
As in the days of old,  
As in former years.*

Then, at that time, once the cleaning of the temple has taken place, *the offering will be pleasant to the Lord. It will be the aroma of Christ. Now it stinks of sinful flesh, the world and the devil.*

**Leviticus 23:18**

*18 And you shall offer with the bread seven lambs of the first year, without blemish, one young bull, and two rams. They shall be as a burnt offering to the LORD, with their grain offering and their drink offerings, an offering made by fire for a sweet aroma to the LORD.*

**Ezekiel 20:41**

*41 I will accept you as a sweet aroma when I bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you have been scattered; and I will be hallowed in you before the Gentiles.*

**2 Corinthians 2:15-16**

*15 For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. 16 To the one we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life.*

We are only a sweet aroma to God if He is hallowed in us. He is hallowed in us to the degree we reveal Christ. Christ can only be revealed in us as the flesh is crucified with Him. It is the flesh burning that produces the aroma. It is the sacrifice, the death that produces the life. The life is the very revelation of Christ coming up as an incense before the Father from a burning church. It is a sweet aroma that rises up when we in love give our whole heart to the Father by daily taking up our cross and joining Christ in His sacrifice of suffering. It is this burning, this whip, that cleanses the temple and makes it holy. It is obedience to the Spirit, a taking up of our cross daily, a daily sacrifice, that follows to produce a holy church. You are the temple of God. The dwelling place of the fire. The place of God's dwelling. You must be daily giving the sin nature, your flesh, to the fire. It is this perpetually burning, the fire must not go out in the temple, that produces the acceptable sacrifice. It is this burning that reveals Christ in the

temple of God. Christ's actual presence is revealed here. At the place of the cross, at the place of burning. It is an ongoing death through a daily walk of obedience to the will of the Father that produces and ongoing incense of burning, an ongoing offering of Christ. It is this offering that is holy. We are His temple and we must be as He is. We must be holy.

### **1 Corinthians 3:16-18**

*16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 17 If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. **For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.***

### **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**

*19 Or do you not know that **your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit** who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 For you were bought at a price; therefore **glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.***

### **2 Corinthians 6:16**

*16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? **For you are the temple of the living God.** As God has said:*

*“ I will dwell in them*

*And walk among them.*

*I will be their God,*

*And they shall be My people.”*

### **Ephesians 2:19-22**

*19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a **holy temple** in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for **a dwelling place of God** in the Spirit.*

**The house of God is growing into a holy temple in the Lord. The acceptable offering is the whole heart. It is after the cleansing that Christ comes and sits down in His temple to teach and heal. It is then that it is called by all nations a house of prayer. A great division is coming to the church. It will be all or nothing. God will no longer tolerate the lukewarm, the idolatry of self worship in His temple. The precious must be separated from the vile. The pure and holy from the defiled and unclean. The whole heart from the half.**

### **Matthew 13:47-50**

*47 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered **some of every kind**, 48 which, when it was full, they drew to shore; and they sat down and gathered **the good into vessels, but threw the bad away.** 49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, separate the wicked from among the just, 50 and cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”*

### **Matthew 24:38-41**

*38 For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the*

*coming of the Son of Man be. 40 Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. 41 Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left.*

**I don't know about you, but I do not want to be left. I want to be taken. Now is the day to fill your vessel, your temple, with oil and fire. Now is the day to prepare to be taken. The abomination of desolation is at hand. The idolatry of self, the idol of flesh, has been placed in the holy temple of God. The idol is attracting demons. Satan sits down on this throne to be worshipped. His desire from the beginning has been to be as the most high. He has desired to steal the worship that only belongs to God away from God. If you are lukewarm you are giving half your heart to Satan and enabling him to do this. If you are a lukewarm, half hearted, the half committed type Christian, then you need to take heed to the warning of the Spirit. The day of the lukewarm Christian is coming to an end. God will now only receive a sacrifice that is made by fire. The zeal of the Lord is burning to totally consume and receive a whole heart sacrifice.**

### ***Zechariah 8:2***

*2 "Thus says the LORD of hosts:*

*' I am zealous for Zion with great zeal;  
With great fervour (fire) I am zealous for her.'*

### ***John 2:14-17***

*14 And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. 15 When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables. 16 And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!" 17 Then His disciples remembered that it was written, h"**Zeal for Your house as eaten Me up.**"*

**The Christians who continue to steal glory from God, with a divided heart, will be driven from His house. He will have a church without spot of wrinkle. If you stand against Him with your persistent stubborn haughty rebellion then you will be cut down before Him. He is rising to take His throne over the worship that can only rise before Him from those who are of a pure heart. The whole heart is the pure heart. He will no longer tolerate His house being made a DEN OF THIEVES.**

*"Those who you do not awaken will die in their sleep".*

***I will no longer tolerate the lukewarm in my church. I will spew the lukewarm out of my mouth. The fence sitters must get off the fence. They must get in or get out of my house. I need your whole heart. All who do not give their whole heart to me, steal from me. They steal the glory from my house. The divided heart steals. My house is to be called a house of prayer but the divided hearts have made it a den of thieves. They steal by not giving to me pure worship from a pure heart. They hold back their heart and hold back their worship. With a half heart they worship me and with the other half they worship another. The worship of self has filled my house with the aroma of self and polluted my sanctuary. The idol of self has been placed before me, in my house, to pollute and defile my sanctuary. The worship of self has come up before me as a stench in my nostrils. It is the worship of the sin nature, the idolatry of flesh, a putrid smell and an abomination in my sight.***