

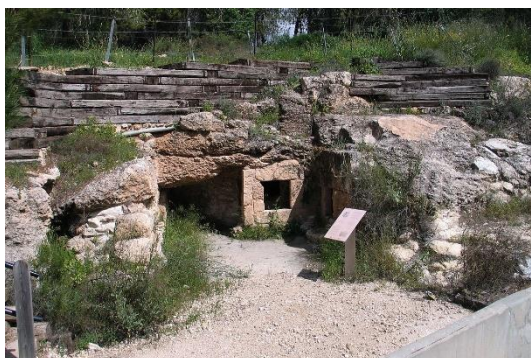
Session 1 Towards Jerusalem and the Temple

Ash Wednesday/Lent collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

Some background knowledge

- Key dates – 29 AD, 64 AD, 70 AD
- Dating the Gospels
- The Gospel relationships – synoptic gospels and John
- From Triumphal Entry to Anointing at Bethany – Gospels as introduction + Passion
- The significance of the Temple in 1st Century Judaism – Psalm 118 (Psalm of ascent)
- Maccabees: messiahship, martyrdom and kingship, the Temple



Tomb of the Maccabees
near present-day Mevo Modi'im



The Temple (Herodian)

Background biblical texts

Psalm 118: 19-29

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

- ²¹ I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.
- ²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³ This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.
- ²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.^[c]
- ²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
- ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.^[d]
We bless you from the house of the LORD.
- ²⁷ The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.^[e]
- ²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.
- ²⁹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

1 Maccabees 13:51

⁵¹ On the twenty-third day of the second month, in the one hundred seventy-first year,^[a] the Jews^[b] entered it with praise and palm branches, and with harps and cymbals and stringed instruments, and with hymns and songs, because a great enemy had been crushed and removed from Israel

Zechariah 9:9

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Isaiah 56:7

... for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

Jeremiah 7:11

¹¹ Has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your sight? You know, I too am watching, says the LORD.

Key events

Triumphal Entry – Cursing the Fig Tree/Cleansing the Temple – Temple debates, teaching and parables – widow's gift – anointing

Questions and reflections

Gooder pages 166-167