

# PANORAMA OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST

Jesus' Ministry Begins



# First Miracle

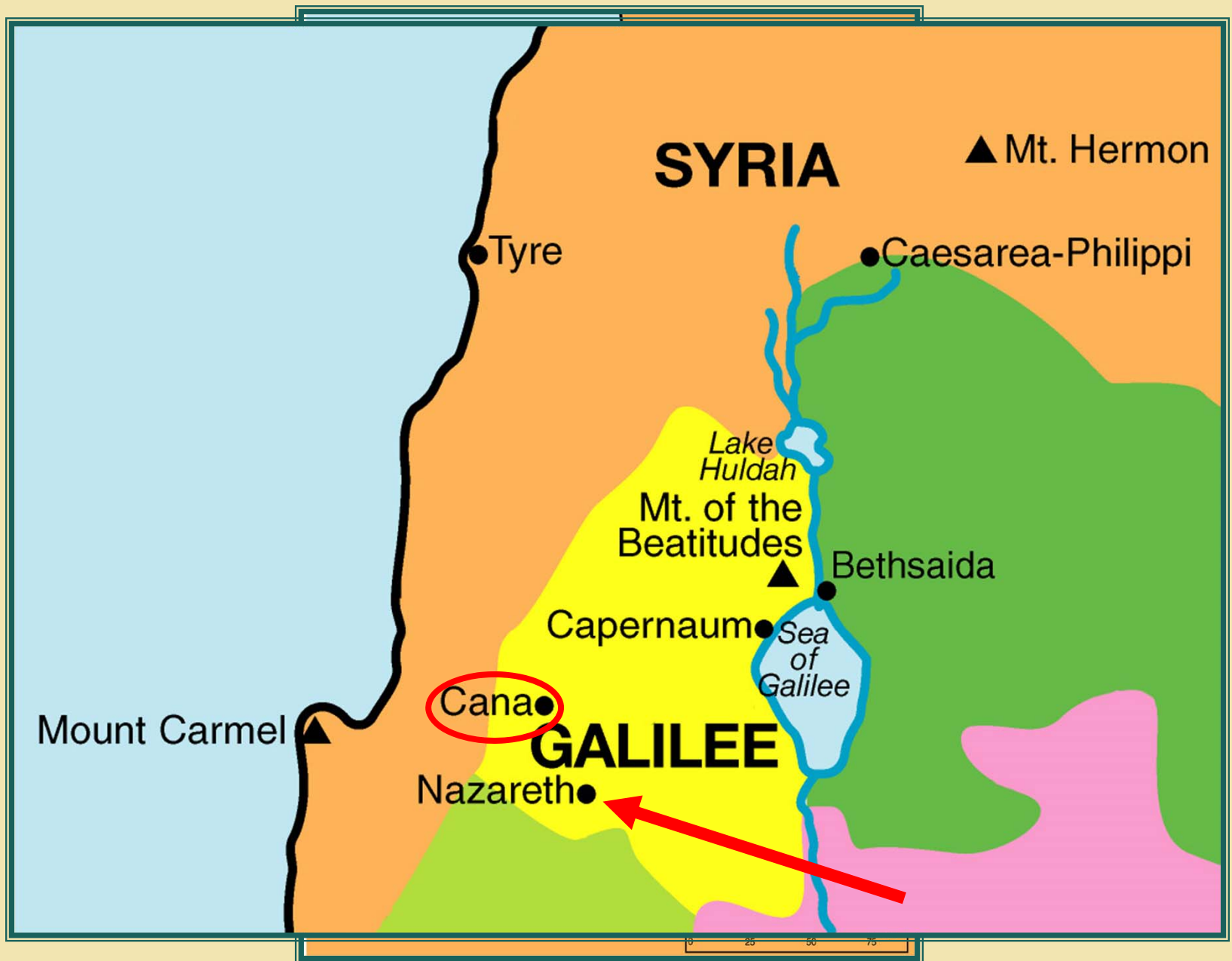
## VI. The first miracle and the beginning of His ministry – John 2:1-3:36

### A. The wedding in Cana (John's first sign) – John 2:1-12

1. John 2:1a – The *third day* probably referred to the third day of Jesus' journey with His six disciples.
  - a. John 2:1b – Cana was a small village ten miles west of the Sea of Galilee.

# First Miracle

- a. John 2:1c – Jesus, His disciples, and his mother, Mary, attended the wedding.



*The Holy Land at the time of Jesus*

# First Miracle

2. John 2:2 – The miracle at the wedding
3. would have strengthened the faith of Jesus' six disciples.
4. ***A QUICK OVERVIEW OF A JEWISH WEDDING***
  - a. The Arrangement – The fathers of the groom and bride negotiated the price to be paid for the bride.

# First Miracle

- 1) Bride of Christ application: God the Father decided the price to be paid for His bride, the church. Christ paid that price in full on the cross. Ephesians 5:25
- 2) God's love motivated Christ's payment. John 3:16

# First Miracle

b. The Betrothal – The betrothal lasted at least one year but could last much longer while the bride underwent preparation and an evaluation of her purity.

1) Bride of Christ application: The church is betrothed to Christ. 2

Corinthians 11:2

# First Miracle

- 2) The church has been set apart unto Christ and will ultimately be purified at the Rapture (1 John 3:2) and judged at the Bema Seat (the Judgment Seat of Christ). 1 Corinthians 3:11-15, Ephesians 5:26-27, Revelation 19:7-8



# First Miracle

c. The Consummation – On the day of the wedding, the groom joyfully took his bride from her home to his home, specially prepared in his father's house.

1) Bride of Christ application: At the Rapture of the church, Christ (the groom) will leave His heavenly home to get the church (the Bride) and take her to His Father's home. John 14:1-3

# First Miracle

- 2) Knowledge of the Bridegroom's imminent return should motivate the bride to live in purity (without sin) during the waiting period. Titus 2:11-13

# First Miracle

- d. The Ceremony – The marriage contract was signed at the groom's home with only the immediate family and two witnesses present.
  - 1) Bride of Christ application: This marriage ceremony of the Lamb and the Church will be in Heaven followed by the second coming of Christ.  
Revelation 19:6-8

# First Miracle

- 2) Having been glorified, the Bride of Christ will be ready for the marriage. Ephesians 5:23
- 3) The Bride of Christ will be dressed in fine linen, signifying that she has been made pure. Ephesians 5:25-27

# First Miracle

e. The Wedding Feast – Many received invitations to the wedding feast, which often lasted seven days.

1) Bride of Christ application: God will issue the invitation to the marriage supper of the Lamb in connection to the second coming of Christ.

Revelation 19:9

2) The Feast will take place on earth, possibly to begin the Millennium.

Matthew 25:1-13

# First Miracle

4. John 2:3a – Running out of wine was a humiliating social problem that might result in fines.
  - a. John 2:3b – Mary turned to Jesus to solve the lack-of-wine problem.
  - b. John 2:3c – In the Old Testament, wine symbolized joy and celebration. Psalm 104:15. Although, the wine ran out, the ultimate Source of joy (Creator Jesus) was present and could solve the problem.

# First Miracle

5. John 2:4a – *Woman* was a title of respect. Jesus politely distanced himself from Mary by using this term.
  - a. John 2:4b – Jesus’ statement reminded Mary that their relationship had changed. Jesus was beginning His public ministry.
  - b. John 2:4c – In John’s Gospel, the phrase *the hour* refers to the time leading up to the crucifixion.

# First Miracle

6. John 2:5 – Mary’s statement to the servants showed her faith and confidence in Jesus.
7. John 2:6 – The water pots were for the ceremonial cleansing of hands for the feast.
8. John 2:7a – According to Jewish tradition, filling the pots for another purpose rendered them unusable ceremonially.



# First Miracle

- a. John 2:7b – During His ministry, Jesus consistently went against legalistic rituals, those not commanded in the Mosaic Law.
- b. John 2:7c – The servants obeyed Jesus' command and filled the pots to the brim, leaving no room for anything to be added.

# First Miracle

9. John 2:8 – The head waiter was not aware of the miracle when he received the water-now-turned-to-wine.
10. John 2:9 – The servants recognized the miracle; however, the miracle was private, intended only for a select audience.
11. John 2:10 – The head waiter discerned a noticeable difference between the first and second wines. He was surprised at this reversal of the custom of serving the best first.

# First Miracle

12. John 2:11a – The miracle was a sign (Greek: *SEMEION*). God designed sign miracles to point to something more important. This sign announced that Messiah, the Creator, had come to save His people. John 20:30-31

a. John 2:11b – Jesus began revealing the glory that John declared he and the other disciples had beheld in Him. John 1:14

# First Miracle

- b. John 2:11c – Since the disciples had already believed in Him for salvation, this miracle strengthened their faith.
- c. John 2:11d – The apostle John shifted from the testimony evidence of John the Baptist to the testimony evidence of the sign miracles.

# First Miracle

13. John 2:12a – Jesus made Capernaum, an important city on the northeastern shore of the Sea of Galilee, a center for His ministry.

14. John 2:12b – Why did Jesus begin His ministry in Galilee and not Jerusalem?

a. By centering His ministry in Galilee, He fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah 9:1-2.

# First Miracle

- b. In Matthew 4:15-16, this same prophecy was applied to Jesus' ministry in Galilee.
- c. Although John 1:9 seems to refer to the Isaiah 9 prophecy, John did not focus on Jesus' Galilee ministry but rather on His ministries in Judea and Jerusalem.

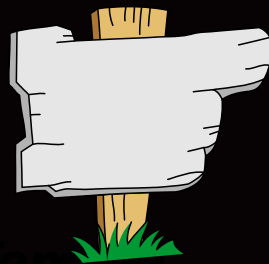
# John



## John 20:30-31

A sign (SEMEION) is a distinguishing mark whereby something is known – *John 20:30-31*.

The sign miracle was secondary to the Truth the sign pointed.



# *John*



## **John 20:30-31**

A sign (SEMEION) is a distinguishing mark whereby something is known – *John 20:30-31*.

The sign miracle was secondary to the Truth the sign pointed.

Like the signs, we need to point people to Christ.



# PANORAMA OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST

Jesus' Ministry Begins



# First Cleansing of the Temple

## B. The first cleansing of the temple – John 2:13-22

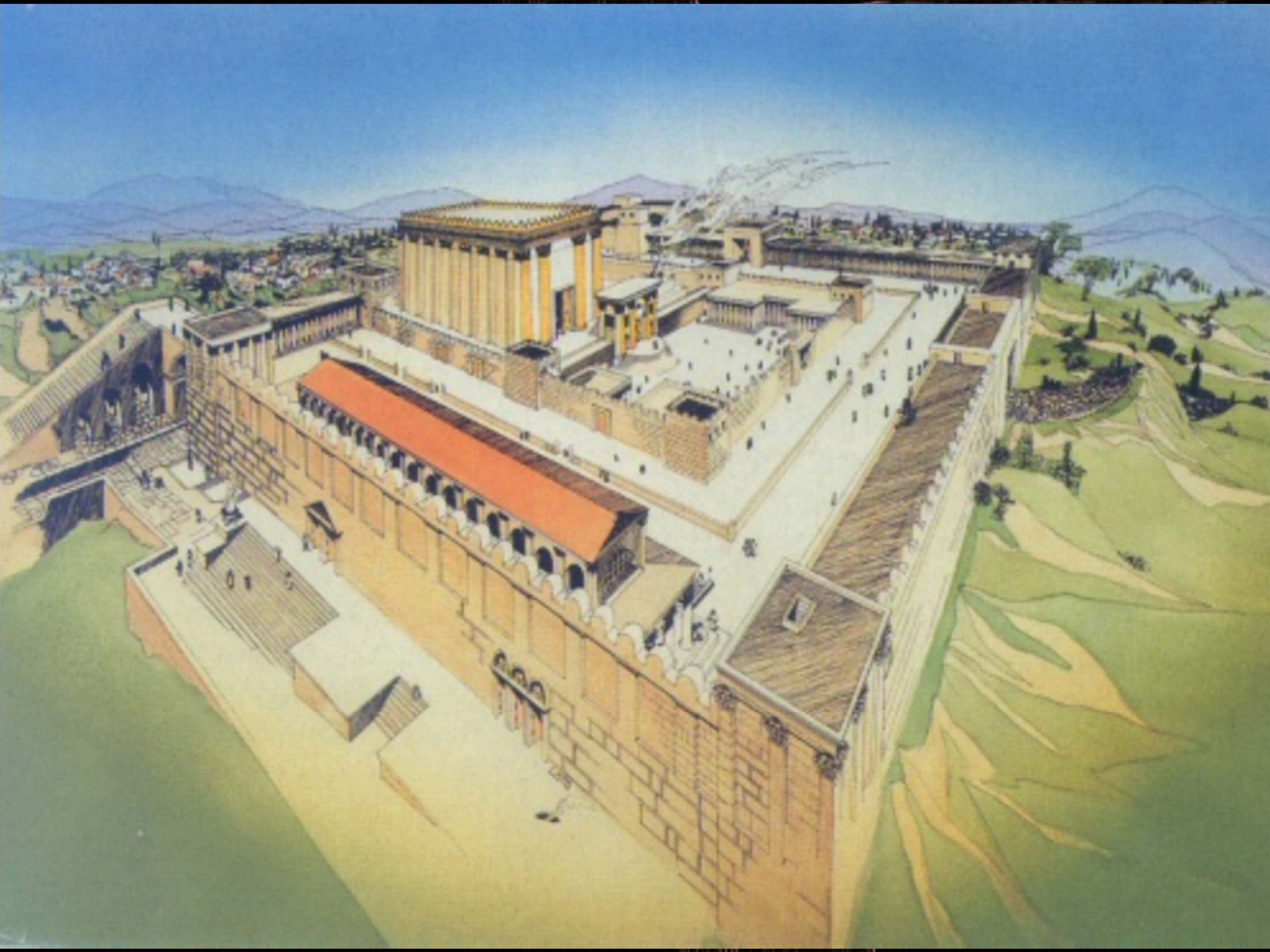
1. John 2:13a – Soon after His baptism, Jesus went to the temple for Passover.
  - a. John 2:13b – Each year, Jews from all over the world came to Jerusalem for Passover as required by the Mosaic Law.

# First Cleansing of the Temple

- b. John 2:13c - Jewish men were required to attend three annual feasts in Jerusalem, Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles.
- c. Passover clearly pointed to the Messiah's work of redemption. John 1:29
  - 1) Exodus 12:1-12 – The Passover memorialized God's redemption of Israel from slavery in Egypt.
  - 2) The details of that event unmistakably typified Christ's work on the cross.

# First Cleansing of the Temple

2. John 2:14a – These events occurred in the Court of Gentiles of the temple.
  - a. John 2:14b – Here, Gentiles could learn about Creator/God; however, the money-making businesses of corrupt religious leaders had destroyed that opportunity.



# First Cleansing of the Temple

- b. John 2:14c – The sacrificial animals had to be without blemish. To get money for themselves, corrupt temple inspectors found problems with every animal brought from the outside and forced people to buy temple animals at much higher prices.

# First Cleansing of the Temple

3. John 2:15a – Jesus first displayed His Messianic authority by using a whip to drive the moneychangers from the temple, His house.
  - a. John 2:15b – Malachi 3:2-3 taught that Messiah would manifest Himself in the temple in a spectacular manner.
  - b. John 2:15c – This event showed that Jesus was a physically strong man with divine authority. No one tried to stop Him.

# First Cleansing of the Temple

4. John 2:16a – Jesus did not oppose the sacrifices; He opposed the loss of purpose for the sacrifices. They had become rituals without reality.
  - a. John 2:16b – Through both His words and actions in taking authority over God's house, Jesus made a Messianic claim to equality with God the Father.



# First Cleansing of the Temple

- b. John 2:16c – Later, the religious leaders used this incident to claim that Jesus was a lawbreaker.

# First Cleansing of the Temple

5. John 2:17a – The disciples recalled Jesus' zeal for the temple and connected it to Psalm 69:9, a Davidic psalm about unjust suffering for obedience to God.
  - a. John connected Jesus to several prophecies in Psalm 69.
    - 1) John 15:25 connects Jesus to Psalm 69:4. *They hated Me without a cause.*

# First Cleansing of the Temple

- 2) John 7:3-5 connects Jesus to Psalm 69:8. *I have become estranged from my brothers and an alien to my mother's sons.*
- 3) Matthew 27:34 and 48 connect Jesus to Psalm 69:21. *They also gave me gall...*

# First Cleansing of the Temple

- b. John 2:17b – The Lord's zeal was not misplaced emotions but biblical understanding of God's plan for Israel.

# First Cleansing of the Temple

6. John 2:18 – In His magnificent entry into the temple, Jesus gave the sign of His Messianic authority, but the rebellious religious leaders did not want to believe He was Messiah. They sought reasons to blame Him.
7. John 2:19 – Jesus answered them with an odd prophecy that they were powerless to prevent or deny. He would die and be resurrected.

# First Cleansing of the Temple

8. John 2:20 – Since the religious leaders were blinded by religious pride, they did not understand His statement about the destruction and resurrection of the temple.
9. John 2:21 – John clarified the Lord's statement, noting that He referred to His death and resurrection.
10. John 2:22 – After the resurrection, the disciples faith was strengthened by remembering this events and Jesus' prophecy three years earlier.