



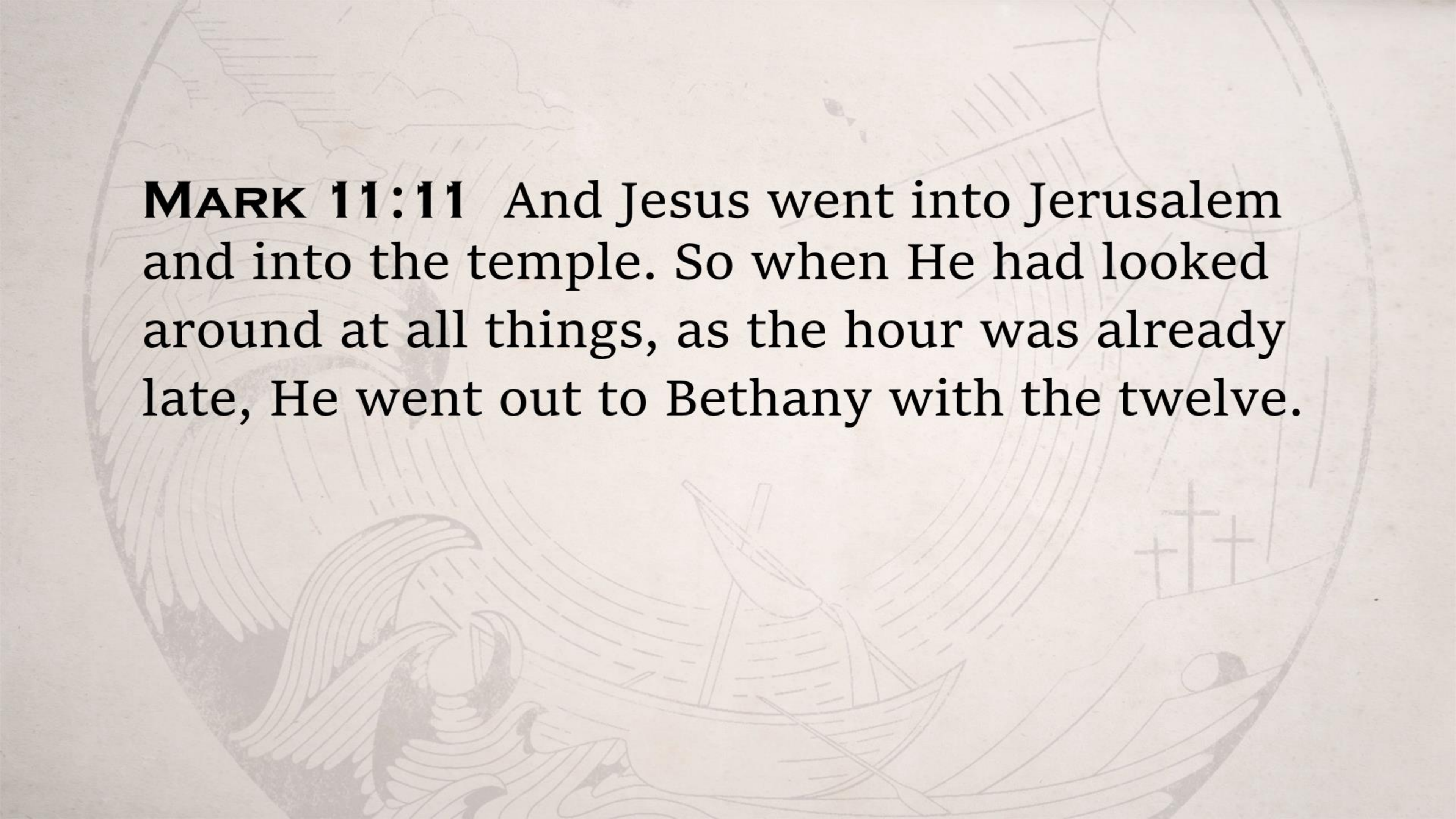
**MARK: GOSPEL TRUTH  
FOR A GROWING CHAOS**

**A CURSE AND A PROMISE (PART I)**



**MARK 11:12** Now the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry.<sup>13</sup> And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs.<sup>14</sup> In response Jesus said to it, "Let no one eat fruit from you ever again." And His disciples heard it.<sup>15</sup> So they came to Jerusalem. Then Jesus went into the temple and began to drive out those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves.<sup>16</sup> And He would not allow anyone to carry wares through the temple.



A faint, circular background illustration of a boat on a stormy sea. The boat is a simple wooden vessel with a pointed prow and a small cabin. The sea is depicted with wavy lines, and the sky above has a sun or moon with rays. The entire scene is enclosed in a thin circular border.

**MARK 11:11** And Jesus went into Jerusalem and into the temple. So when He had looked around at all things, as the hour was already late, He went out to Bethany with the twelve.



# THE SYMBOLIC CURSE

**MARK 11:12** Now the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry.<sup>13</sup> And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs.<sup>14</sup> In response Jesus said to it, “Let no one eat fruit from you ever again.” And His disciples heard it.



# THE SYMBOLIC CURSE

**LUKE 13:6** He also spoke this parable: “A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none.<sup>7</sup> Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, ‘Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?’<sup>8</sup> But he answered and said to him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it.<sup>9</sup> And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.’”



# THE REAL CURSE

**MARK 11:15** And they come to Jerusalem: and Jesus went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves;<sup>16</sup> And would not suffer that any man should carry any vessel through the temple.<sup>17</sup> And he taught, saying unto them, Is it not written, My house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer? but ye have made it a den of thieves.



# THE REAL CURSE

**1 CHRONICLES 6:32** “Moreover, concerning a foreigner, who is not of Your people Israel, but who comes from a far country for the sake of Your great name and Your mighty hand and Your outstretched arm, when they come and pray in this temple;<sup>33</sup> then hear from heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, that all peoples of the earth may know Your name and fear You, as do Your people Israel, and that they may know that this temple which I have built is called by Your name.”



# THE REAL CURSE

**MARK 11:17** Then He taught, saying to them, “Is it not written, ‘**My house** shall be called a house of prayer for all nations’? But you have made it a ‘den of thieves.’”



# THE REAL CURSE

**ISAIAH 56:6** “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—<sup>7</sup>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.”



# THE REAL CURSE

**LUKE 13:34** “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing! <sup>35</sup>See! **Your house is left to you desolate;** and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!’”



# THE REAL CURSE

**1 TIMOTHY 3:15** but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself **in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.**



# THE REAL CURSE

**HEBREWS 10:19** Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus,<sup>20</sup> by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,<sup>21</sup> and having a High Priest **over the house of God,**<sup>22</sup> let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.



# THE REAL CURSE

**1 PETER 4:17** For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?



# THE REAL CURSE

**JOHN 4:23** “But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for **the Father is seeking such to worship Him.**”