

# Jeremiah 32:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But they set their abominations in the house, which is called by my name, to defile it.

## Analysis

**They set their abominations in the house, which is called by my name, to defile it** (וַיִּשְׂמוּ שִׁקּוּצֵיהֶם בְּבַיִת אֲשֶׁר־נִקְרָא שְׁמִי עַלָּיו לְטִמְאוֹ)—The ultimate desecration: placing shiqquts (שִׁקּוּץ, detestable idols) in **the house called by my name**, i.e., the Jerusalem temple. Historical precedent includes Manasseh's Asherah pole in the temple (2 Kings 21:7) and later abominations cataloged in Ezekiel 8.

The verb tame (טָמַא, to defile) denotes ritual pollution making the holy place unfit for God's presence. That they defiled **the house called by my name**—God's earthly dwelling where His Name (His revealed character and presence) resided—was spiritual treason. Jesus later cleansed the temple (John 2:13-17), and Paul warns believers, 'If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are' (1 Corinthians 3:17).

## Historical Context

King Manasseh (697-643 BC) introduced pagan altars, Asherah poles, and astral deities into the temple courts (2 Kings 21:3-7). Though Josiah reformed the temple (2 Kings 23), subsequent kings allowed idolatrous practices to return. By Jeremiah's time, syncretistic worship had thoroughly corrupted temple worship.

## Related Passages

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. What 'abominations' might defile the temple of your body (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)?
2. How does mixing Christianity with cultural idols parallel Judah's temple desecration?
3. In what ways can religious institutions become polluted while maintaining external forms of worship?

## Interlinear Text

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וְשֵׁן יָמוֹ	שְׁקִיצֵיהֶם	בְּבֵית	אֲשֶׁר	נִקְרָא	שְׁמִי
<b>But they set</b>	<b>their abominations</b>	<b>in the house</b>		<b>which is called</b>	<b>by my name</b>
H7760	H8251	H1004	H834	H7121	H8034

  

עַל יְיָ	לְטַמְּאוֹ:
H5921	<b>to defile</b>
	H2930

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jeremiah 7:30** (Parallel theme): For the children of Judah have done evil in my sight, saith the LORD: they have set their abominations in the house which is called by my name, to pollute it.

**Jeremiah 23:11** (Parallel theme): For both prophet and priest are profane; yea, in my house have I found their wickedness, saith the LORD.