

# Mark 11:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they come again to Jerusalem: and as he was walking in the temple, there come to him the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders,

## Analysis

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**They come again to Jerusalem: and as he was walking in the temple**—Jesus returns to Jerusalem after the temple cleansing (11:15-18), boldly walking in the very place He had disrupted. **There come to him the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders**—This represents the Sanhedrin's full leadership: chief priests (high priest and priestly aristocracy controlling temple operations), scribes (legal experts and Torah interpreters), and elders (respected laymen from prominent families). Their united delegation signaled official interrogation. The confrontation was inevitable—Jesus had overturned money-changers' tables, driven out merchants, and accused them of making God's house a den of robbers. This directly challenged temple system corruption, threatening both religious authority and economic interests.

## Historical Context

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The Sanhedrin was Judaism's supreme council (71 members) ruling on religious law, criminal justice, and civil governance under Roman oversight. Chief priests included Caiaphas and leading priestly families (predominantly Sadducees). Scribes were Torah scholars, mostly Pharisees. Elders represented wealthy lay families. This diverse coalition—theological adversaries united by perceived threat—confronted Jesus together. The temple was Second Temple Judaism's heart—religious, economic, political. Its Court of the Gentiles had been converted into an exploitative marketplace.

## Related Passages

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

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

## Study Questions

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1. What does Jesus's boldness in returning to the temple after confrontation teach about courageous witness?
2. How do religious systems become corrupted when spiritual authoritymingles with economic interests and political power?
3. Why did the religious establishment perceive Jesus as a threat?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ ἔρχονται πάλιν εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα καὶ ἐν τῷ  
And **there come** **again** **to** **Jerusalem** And **in** G3588  
G2532 G2064 G3825 G1519 G2414 G2532 G1722

ἱερῷ περιπατοῦντος αὐτὸν ἔρχονται πρὸς αὐτὸν οἱ  
the temple **was walking** **as he** **there come** **to** **as he** G3588  
G2411 G4043 G846 G2064 G4314 G846

ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ οἱ γραμματεῖς καὶ οἱ πρεσβύτεροι  
the chief priests **And** G3588 **the scribes** **And** G3588 **the elders**  
G749 G2532 G1122 G2532 G4245