



# MY TEMPLE. DESTROYED?

CAN G-D DESTROY THE HOLIEST PLACE  
ON EARTH? A DEEPER MEANING INTO THE  
REASON AND PURPOSE OF DESTRUCTION

## HANDOUT

1. The lion came, under the constellation of lion, and destroyed the Lion of G-d, in order that the Lion shall come, under the constellation of lion, and build the Lion of G-d.

*Yalkut Shimoni, Jeremiah 259*

2. Anyone who breaks utensils, tears garments, destroys buildings, stops up a spring, or ruins food with a destructive intent transgresses the command 'Do not destroy.'

*Maimonides, Laws of Kings 6:10*

3. Destroy all the places in which the nations [of Canaan] served their gods... Tear down their altars, break their monuments, burn their asheirah trees and smash their idols...  
**You shall not do the same to the L-rd your G-d.**

*Deuteronomy 12:2-4*

4. He tells His words to Jacob, His statutes and His judgments to Israel.

*Psalms, 147:19*

5. Behold, I shall dispatch the nations of the north... and Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylonia, My servant, and I shall bring them upon this land and its inhabitants.

*Jeremiah 25:9*

6. A song of Asaph. O God! Nations have come into Your heritage, they have defiled Your Holy Temple, they have made Jerusalem into heaps.

*Psalms 79:1*

7. It is forbidden to demolish a synagogue, or any part thereof, even for a most positive and G-dly purpose -- unless the purpose is to rebuild or improve the synagogue itself.

*Ramah, Orach Chaim 152; Tzemach Tzedek Responsa, Orach Chaim, Responsa 20*

8. The demolition is itself an act of building

*Mordechai on Talmud, Megillah, section 826*

9. And He said to Abram, "You shall surely know that your seed will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and they will enslave them and oppress them, for four hundred years...  
**and afterwards they will go forth with great possessions.**

*Genesis, 15:13-14*

10. Blasted be the *bones* of those who *calculate* the End.

*Talmud, Sanhedrin 97:B*