

Desecration

God desires *consecration*
Satan desires *desecration*

Manasseh set up the carved image of Asherah, which he made, **in the temple** that the Lord had spoken about to David and his son Solomon: **“I will establish my name forever in this temple** and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel.

(2 Kings 21:7 CSB)

In the temple he found people selling oxen, sheep, and doves, and he also found the money changers sitting there. After making a whip out of cords, he drove everyone out of the temple with their sheep and oxen. He also poured out the money changers’ coins and overturned the tables. He told those who were selling doves,

“Get these things out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a marketplace!”

And his disciples remembered that it is written: Zeal for your house will consume me.

(John 2:14-17 CSB)

Don’t you know that *your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you*, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought at a price. So glorify God with your body.

(1 Corinthians 6:19-20 CSB)

So, what exactly is desecrate?

Merriam-webster.com says, “1. **to violate the sanctity of** 2. to treat disrespectfully, irreverently, or outrageously.” Dictionary.cambridge.org says, “**to damage or show no respect toward something holy or very much respected.**” Another definition is *an unworthy use—the opposite of consecrate*. The Lord said, “**Be holy, as I am holy.**” *holy=set apart=consecrated*

But as the one who called you is holy, you also are to be holy in all your conduct; for it is written, Be holy, because I am holy. If you appeal to the Father who judges impartially according to each one’s work, you are to conduct yourselves in reverence during your time living as strangers. For you know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life.... (From 1 Peter 1:15-18 CSB)

When I was thinking about desecration a couple of things came to mind. One was the movie Doug was telling us was soon to be in theaters—*The Carpenter’s Son*—both blasphemous and a distortion of the true gospel—*desecration*. The other is the lack of respect for our country’s heroes, its history and constitution, for law and order, for truth, for God and country, that is demonstrated on a daily basis through violence and many forms of destruction. Satan is on a roll with desecration. May he soon meet his eternal punishment and be thrown into the lake of fire!



In reference to the scriptures beginning this article:

Asherah was worshipped as the Queen of Heaven or mother of many Gods in various cultures in various ways. By setting up her image in the Temple, Manasseh was leading Israelites down an evil path. Bringing what cultures say is okay into the Temple or Church is not okay! It is desecration. Blasphemy of God's name, the name above all names, the name we share is desecration.

Turning the house of prayer, *today this is the church*, into a place of profit is never okay! It is desecration.

Denying the God of *your body—His temple* His ownership and His glory is not okay. It, too, is desecration.

I thank God for NUMA—a church with one Lord, not part of a system that can be dictated to; an assembly that exists to worship the Lord and bless others; it's not interested in selfish profit or fame, but only a means to be a bigger blessing, to build up and encourage more saints and to set more captives free. I thank God for the people in this assembly who respect the Lord's ownership of themselves and seek His glory, who are not too big in their own eyes to repent and to forgive, and who, as our Lord Jesus, also have a zeal for His house.

May we be always prayerful, teachable and respectful—*consecrated*.