



# Luke 19:45-48

*The Certain Gospel: Consumer Christianity*

# University of North Carolina Study

“They concluded that most American teens view God as a “combination divine butler and cosmic therapist,” and teens were “primarily concerned with one’s own happiness in contrast to focusing on glorifying God, learning obedience, or serving others.” This was the religion of most teens, the researchers concluded, because it is also the form of religion practiced by their parents. Americans want a god who will serve our needs, fix our problems, and help us achieve our goals.”

*What’s Wrong with Religion?* by Skye Jethani

# What's wrong with consumer Christianity?

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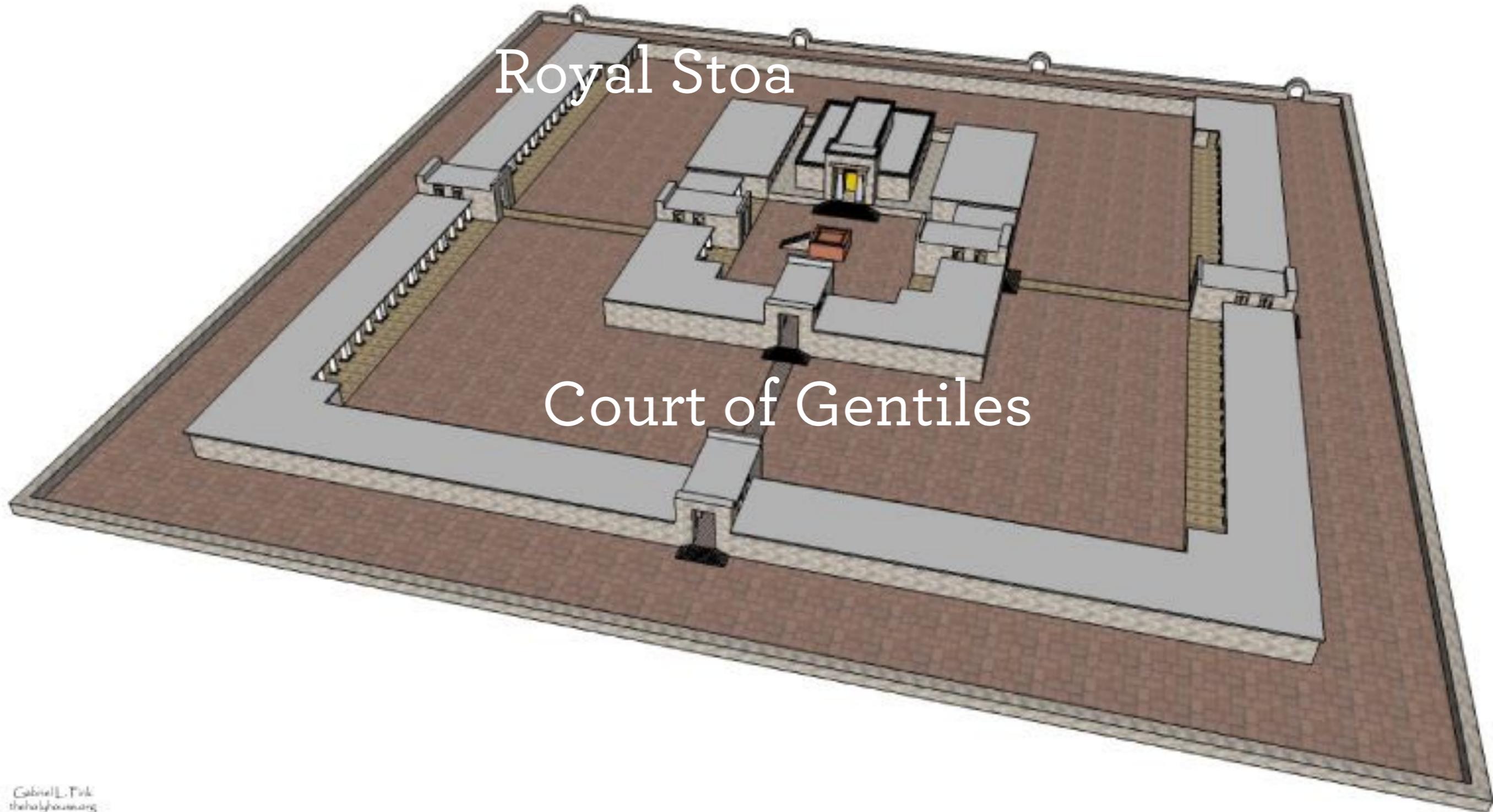
- 1) It takes advantage of others.

# What's wrong with consumer Christianity?

- 1) It takes advantage of others.
- 2) It prevents others from worshiping.

Royal Stoa

Court of Gentiles



Gabriel L. Fink  
theholysm.org

# Isaiah 56:6

And foreigners who bind themselves to the Lord  
to minister to him,  
to love the name of the Lord,  
and to be his servants,  
all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it  
and who hold fast to my covenant— (NIV®)

# Isaiah 56:7

these I will bring to my holy mountain  
and give them joy in my house of prayer.  
Their burnt offerings and sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house will be called  
a house of prayer for all nations.” (NIV®)

**What's the antidote to  
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- 1) Prayer teaches us to love God and others.
- 2) Prayer is worship.

# John 2:18-19

18 The Jews then responded to him, “What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?”

19 Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.” (NIV®)

# John 2:20-22

20 They replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” 21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken. (NIV®)



***The antidote  
to consumer  
Christianity  
is prayer.***

“An ordinary simple Christian kneels down to say his prayers. He is trying to get into touch with God. But if he is a Christian he knows that what is prompting him to pray is also God: God, so to speak, inside him. But he also knows that all his real knowledge of God comes through Christ, the Man who was God—that Christ is standing beside him, helping him to pray, praying for him.”

—*Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis