Temple illustration notes…

The temple mount looking for southwest to northeast. This view shows various entryways into the temple. The southern entrance was the most frequently used by commoners. The Temple was surround by a series of courts. Immediately surrounding the Temple was the court of the priests (smoke can be seen rising from the altar of sacrifice in the court of the priests). The court of the women was a large square court to the east and front of the Temple. The large court surrounding the Temple and its immediate courts was known as the court of the gentiles. A balustrade separated the court of the gentiles from the Temple and its surrounding courts. Non-Jews could not pass the balustrade. It was in the court of the gentiles that money changers and animals were sold. Thus, this was the place of the Savior's cleansing of the temple (Matt. 21:12-13; Mark 11:15-19; Luke 19:41-48; John 2:13-17).

(Peter Connolly, Living in the Time of Jesus of Nazareth.)