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2/8/2026

John 2:13-25

Message Title: Cleaning House

Big Idea: When you care you keep it clean.

John 2:13 Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

14 And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. 15 When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables. 16 And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!"

The spiritual place of worship had become a physical place of transactions.

The thing God really cares about w/worship is holy hearts & hearts that are holy will obey Him.

Holiness calls for 100%, a full commitment & total dedication.

Spring cleaning questions...

-What have you allowed inside that belongs outside?

-What have you allowed in your heart that is not holy?

-What gets in the way of others coming to the Lord?

James 1:19-20 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Human anger often overpowers human love & mercy, but God's anger exists w/in His love & mercy.

17 Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up."

18 So the Jews answered and said to Him, "What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?"

Malachi 3:1 "Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," says the Lord of hosts. 2 "But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like launderers' soap. 3 He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the Lord an offering in righteousness.

19 Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." 20 Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" 21 But He was speaking of the temple of His body. 22 Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.

Ephesians 2: **13** But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. **14** For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, **15** having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *that is*, the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man *from* the two, *thus* making peace, **16** and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. **17** And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. **18** For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. **19** Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, **20** having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, **21** in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, **22** in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

23 Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did. **24** But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all *men*, **25** and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.

3 Reminders

- 1. Be real & right w/the Lord, your relationship matters.**
- 2. Be holy for the Lord, your heart matters.**
- 3. Be zealous for the Lord, His temple matters.**

LIFE Group Discussion Questions:

General Timeline Guide: (Adjust as appropriate for your group's needs.)

5-10 minutes connecting personally with how everyone is doing.

45 minutes going over message with discussion questions and life applications.

5-10 minutes praying for each other

Discussion Questions

Look over these questions before your group time. Write down your answers or ideas for at least a few questions if not all. You may not get to every question during your time but speak up if you want to talk about one of them in particular. Always try to start with question #1.

1. What stood out to you and/or what do you think God might be speaking about from this message?
2. What was the real problem beyond the buying and selling? What lessons can we learn for our lives from this incident?
3. What are ways Jesus' zeal is different from human anger?
4. What does it really mean for you to know you are the temple of the Holy Spirit?
5. How might we unintentionally create barriers that keep people from encountering God?