

GOD the SON

Jesus Cleans House!

John 2:12-25

Pastor Jason Dennett's Teaching Notes

NKJV - "After this He went down to Capernaum, He, His mother, His brothers, and His disciples; and they did not stay there many days. Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. 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. And He said to those who sold doves, **"Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!"** Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up." So the Jews answered and said to Him, "What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?" Jesus answered and said to them, **"Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."** Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" But He was speaking of the temple of His body. 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. 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. But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man."

Three sons left home and prospered greatly in life. When getting back together, they discussed their success, and the great gifts they were able to buy their elderly mother, to show her their appreciation. The first son said, "I sent mom a brand new Mercedes. It can go almost 300 miles per hour!" The second son said, "I bought mom a mansion. It has two dozen rooms, a huge pool, and a rose garden!" The third son smirked and said, "I've got you both BEAT! Remember how mom liked reading the Bible when we were young? And you know she can't see very well anymore?... Well, I sent her an AMAZING parrot that recites the ENTIRE Bible! It took elders in the church 12 years to teach this parrot. He's one of a kind!! Mom just has to name the verse and BAM, the parrot recites it!"

Soon after this meeting of the sons, mom sent out her thank you letters. "Andy, she wrote, "the house you built is so big, and even though I live in just one room, I still have to clean the whole house, trim the garden, and sanitize the pool." "John," she wrote, "I am too old to travel and spend most of my time at home, so I never use the beautiful Mercedes." "But Mark," she wrote to her third son, "You are my favorite son. You have such good sense to know what your mother likes. The chicken you sent was simply delicious!!"

People had **'bad vision'** regarding Jesus...he often **surprised** people:

- He was very **SWEET** - kids, harlots, lepers, outcasts...
- He was often very **STRONG** - stumblers, Pharisees, traitors, soldiers...

- I. The **PURIFICATION** of His Temple. (v.12-17)
- II. The **PREDICTION** of His Resurrection. (v.18-22)
- III. The **PRONOUNCEMENT** of His Followers. (v.23-25)

- I. The **PURIFICATION** of His Temple. (v.12-17)

"After this He went down to Capernaum, He, His mother, His brothers, and His disciples; and they did not stay there many days. Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem."

- The emphasis on **Jerusalem** ministry in John is much more than in the other synoptic Gospels, **Matthew-Mark-Luke**. Here John will begin to focus on one of the hostile encounters that Jesus had in the capital city.
- The significance of the **Jewish Passover** festival cannot be overstated in ancient Israel. It was one of 3 major feasts that all Jewish males were expected to attend, if they lived within 15 miles of the Jewish Temple. In the days of Jesus, it was customary that over 2.5 million people would flood Jerusalem during the Passover celebration. Even to this day, at the end of the Passover celebration, all Jews around the world raise their glass and shout: "Next year, in Jerusalem!"

"And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business."

- **The Temple of Herod is where this event takes place. -**
 - Court of Gentiles had been converted into a "**free market**" instead of a worship venue for the non-Jewish worshippers. It was full of distractions, noise, business, and irreverent dishonest dealings.
 - **#1 - Selling of religious ANIMALS...** All worshippers had to ensure that their sacrificial animals were without blemishes, and approved by the priests of the Temple.
 - **#2 - Exchanging of religious MONEY...** All had to pay the temple tax, which was the equivalent of about two days wages for a working man – but had to be paid in the special temple coin. This is why the moneychangers did so much business.

"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. And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!"



- **Obviously, Jesus became ANGRY at what He observed in the Temple on this day....that's right: Jesus Christ did experience ANGER at certain times!**
 - Is this how you imagine Jesus? GOD??
 - This is called the **WRATH** of God, an unpopular attribute with many of us.
 - Remember also, Jesus **NEVER** sinned... though He clearly was angry.
 - How is this possible?? Read Eph 4:26
 - **NKJV** - "Be **angry**, and do **not sin**."
- **I believe, this represented at least 3 things to Jesus:**
 - **DISTRACTION** - The **craziness** made it impossible to focus on GOD!
 - **OBSTRUCTION** - The **greediness** made it hard to get to GOD!

- REBELLION - Their **sinfulness** became enflaming to GOD!

- **We need a cleansing of GOD'S HOUSE - corporately!**

- Religious **Commercialism**...interested in **money schemes**.
- Religious **Hypocrisy**... living a totally different **lifestyle in private**.
- Religious **Falsity**... **no genuine desire** to know God or love Him.
 - Ancient Roman Catholic practice of "**indulgences**"...
 - Ancient Roman Catholic practice of "**relics**"...
- -
 - Modern "**prosperity**" churches manipulate giving..
 - Modern "**commercial**" churches sell everything..

- **What about GOD'S HOUSE here - our CCPR church?**

- - **1 Cor 3:9-11, 16-17 NKJV** - "...you are God's building. 10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ...Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 17 If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

- **We need a cleansing of GOD'S HOUSE - individually!**

- **2 Cor 6:14-18 NKJV** - "Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? 16 And what agreement has **the temple of God** with idols? For **you are the temple of the living God**. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people." 17 Therefore "Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you." 18 "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."
 - Your **Home**??
- - Your **Habits**??
 - Your **Heart**??

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

- Do you have "**ZEAL**" to honor GOD and eliminate irreverent behavior, or impure content? Are you "zealous" for Jesus' honor and holiness??

II. The **PREDICTION** of His Resurrection. (v.18-22)

"So the Jews answered and said to Him, "What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple,

and in three days I will raise it up.” Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?”

- This confrontation is about **AUTHORITY**..
- Jesus clearly claims to be **Messiah** and the **LORD incarnate**..

- **Temple of Stone** - 46 years...64AD completed... 70AD destroyed.

“But He was speaking of the temple of His body.” 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.**”

- **Temple of the Savior** - 3 days... His **RESURRECTION** predicted!!
- Years later, His disciples finally remembered, understood, and **believed!!**
 - Proves the **Deity** and **Messiahship** of Jesus...
 - **Bedrock of Christianity** - 1 Cor 15
 - Do **YOU** believe in the Resurrection of Christ??
 - Do **YOU** understand it's significance??

III. **PRONOUNCEMENT** of His Followers. (v.23-25)

“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. But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.”

- Many followed because of the miracles & signs....**not sincerely!**
- Jesus didn't commit Himself to them...He knew their hearts!
 - What does He see when he looks at **your** heart??
 - Amazingly, He **has** committed Himself to us... by **GRACE & LOVE!**