

Jesus – Time To Cleanse What Belongs to Him

The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple He found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. And making a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen.

And He poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. And He told those who sold the pigeons, “Take these things away; do not make My Father's house a house of trade.” His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

Two events -

- . At the beginning of His ministry
- . At the end – last week of His ministry (Matt. 21:12-17)

Spiritual, personal
application to this story –

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that
God's Spirit dwells in you?

1 Cor. 3:16

Or do you not know that
your body is a temple
of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God?

1 Cor. 6:29

For we are the temple
of the living God.

2 Cor. 6:16

1. Convenience became a contradiction.

The Passover of the Jews was at hand and Jesus went up
to Jerusalem. Jn. 2:13

Passover -

- . Annual trip for all Jews
- . A week long event (Passover and
7 day Feast of Unleavened bread)
- . To bring animal or money for sacrifice

. To bring annual temple tax – ½ shekel from every male 20 yrs. of age or older

In the temple He found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons and the money changers sitting there.
(14)

2. Commerce became a conflict.

And He told those who sold pigeons, take these things away;

Do not make my Father's house a house of trade. Jn. 2:16

- "house of merchandise"

- "a den of robbers"

Lk. 19:46

- An ownership question –

"My Father's House!"

"My Father's house"

(16)

For zeal for Your house has consumed me. Psalm 69:9

And He said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in My Father's house?” Luke 2:49

Time to be -

- clear on truth
- unwavering on Biblical principles
- passionate about living for Jesus
- unpopular – standing firm in the face of opposition

. An overall purpose question –

“A House of Prayer”

... for My house shall be called
a house of prayer ... Isa. 56:7

And He was teaching them and saying to them, “Is it not written, My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations?” Mark 11:17

. An outreach question -

A House for all Nations

... for all nations.

Isa. 56:7

The Court of Gentiles – all nations were welcome to pray, worship and learn about the true and living God.

They were not welcome to come and do “their thing.”
They were welcome to come and humble themselves and bow before the true and living God.

3. Cleansing became consecration.

“... cleansing your house while your kids are still growing is like shoveling the driveway before it stops snowing.”
Phyllis Diller

Cleansing?

- . The Blood of Jesus! – 1 Jn. 1:7
- . The Holy Spirit! – Titus 3:5
- . The Word of God! – Eph. 5:26
- . Confession of sin! – James 4:8

And making a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, “with the sheep and oxen...”
Jn. 2:15

- Deliberate
- Forceful
- Clear

And He poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. Jn. 2:15

And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple ... Malachi 3:1

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 fullers soap.

Mal. 3:2

He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver and He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord

Mal. 3:3

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.

2 Cor. 7:1