

CLEANING YOUR HOUSE

John 2:13-25

INTRODUCTION: As we mature both spiritually and physically hopefully we gain in the ability to be more transparent with other people about our own flaws. Everyone has their flaws. A couple of mine are impatience and a bad temper. It has been tamed somewhat over time but it can still be harmful. There are a lot of times in my life when I literally saw red! Our Lord Jesus also saw red on several occasions. It is not always wrong to be angry, in fact at times it is wrong not to see red! Perhaps the most shocking picture of Jesus in the New Testament is when He cleaned house literally. He cleansed the temple of His Father. In fact, He did it two times. What made Jesus see red? When people who knew God tried to keep people who did not know God away from God. People who claimed to be religious were the ones who made Jesus see red.

I. WE SHOULD CARE ABOUT THE TEMPLE, GOD'S HOUSE!

John 2:13-19: Once a year if you were Jewish no matter where you lived you were required to go to Jerusalem to the Temple of God for the Passover! You had to offer a sacrifice to God and you had to give an offering to God in the form of the Temple tax. As Jesus stands watching all that is going on He is a ticking time bomb: John 2:15. These religious rulers had made the Temple of God into their own money-making machine. Everyone, was a part of the action. Matthew 21:13: these religious people had turned the House of God into a den of robbers! We as God's children should always be concerned for the welfare of God's Temple especially what goes on inside God's Temple and also about what comes out of God's Temple!

II. WE SHOULD CARE ABOUT WORSHIP IN GOD'S TEMPLE, GOD'S HOUSE!

The first time Jesus cleansed the Temple this is what he said: John 2:16-17. The only thing that ought to be going on inside God's Temple is the worship of God! Even today there are those who make merchandize of God's House! These charlatans are more concerned with their prophet than they are the glory of God! These twisted servants of God are more concerned with their prophet that they are about anyone's salvation. Today, in God's church we have charlatans who will not tell God's truth because it might offend their listeners. Our Lord still sees red when preachers today hide the truth from their church family: John 4:19-24. When Jesus saw red, a whip was made and put into action! There are times when anger is not only commanded but is commended. We should care about worship in the House of God!

III. WE SHOULD BE CONCERNED WITH THE WITNESS OF THE TEMPLE, GOD'S HOUSE!

Keep in mind that not only does worship go on inside the Temple of God but there is a witness that is supposed to be coming out of God's Temple! Matthew 21:14-16. Matthew called what Jesus did wonderful. All this business was being done in the Temple courts which was the court of the Gentiles. The Gentiles were the outsiders. The only place they could come to worship God was in the court that belonged to them as they sought after the God of Israel. Yet this was the very place the Jewish leaders were making into a money-making scheme where they ripped people off. God wants those on the inside of His house to do everything they can to draw those outside of God's house into His house. God's Temple is no longer a building in Jerusalem. You my friend are God's Temple today: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; John 2:18-21. Do you care about the worship that goes on inside your body? Do you care about the witness that goes out of your body? Does your Temple, your body need a cleansing? You and I will never get our house in order unless Jesus cleans them out! Jesus will overturn the tables in our lives.