

# The Cleansing of The Temple

MARK 11:12-19

1.

Intro. A. Jesus rode into the city of Jerusalem.

1. It was prophesied by Zechriah.
2. It was prophesied in the Psalms.
3. He was welcomed by some of the people.

B. Jesus went into the temple.

- Vs. 11.
1. He "looked round about at all things".
  2. He had every right to do so.
  3. It was His father's house.

C. Jesus went to Bethany.

- Vs. 12
1. It was late in the evening.
  2. He went to a hospitable home. *Mary, Martha Lazarus*
  3. He took the twelve with Him.

I. Jesus Returned To Jerusalem.

A. On the way to Jerusalem.

- Vs. 13
1. Jesus was hungry.
  2. He saw a fig tree in the distance.
  3. He found nothing but leaves.

Vs. 14

4. Jesus killed it.

XX (5) To be continued (Vs. 20-26)

B. Jesus went into the temple.

Vs. 15

1. He cast out the buyers and sellers. The first things they sold were those that pertained to sacrifices. Later they began to extend this to all kinds of merchandise. It gave rise to noise, confusion, contention and fraud. They did this in the court of Gentiles because it was not considered to defile the temple. "...if we do it in the kitchen and not the sanctuary."



## II. Does The Temple Need Cleansing Today? ②

A. The following articles or quotes from so-called Evangelicals. They are not written by me.

1. "Presbyterian Worship: Old and New", by Kevin Reed  
"Musical Instruments in the public worship of God" - Brian Schwently

2. "Where's Timothy? Viewpoint, Vol. 23 - No. 1  
Paul Kerr - 2000, Christian Research Journal

B. What principles may we draw from this occurrence?

1. There is a Regulative standard for worship. This is in the O.T. dispensation but is the N.T. worshipper left to his own wisdom and ways?

2. It is possible to pervert Holy things. God intended the temple to be a house of prayer for all <sup>98%</sup> nations, they had made it a den of thieves. What had <sup>corn</sup> they done? Nothing illegal or sinful in its self. They <sup>meal</sup> did it in God's house, thus the perversion. Sex with <sup>2%</sup> one's married partner is sanctioned by God but that does not mean there should be temple prostitutes. <sup>Poison</sup>

3. God is jealous over His house. Today His house is any true church. We must not make it a "house of merchandise". John 2:16 = ἐμπορίον  
(John 2:16 is as true as John 3:16) (Emporium)  
"belonging to commerce, esp. a factory, a mart"

Vs. 18 4. Those who identify temple trash will be objects of hate and attempts of destruction

5. Temple cleansing is temporary. It must be a continual and unpleasant task.

6. We, as a church, will never yield to the facts produced by an outward generation of self-lovers.

7. The temple does need cleansing. I Peter 4:17 - "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God...".

*The Church cannot become simply another customer center that offers designer religion and catalog spirituality to the hoppers and shoppers of the modern world. Followers of Christ are custodians of the faith passed on down the running centuries. Never must we allow anyone outside or inside the Church to become cannibals who devour the truth and meaning of this priceless heritage of faith. Letting the Church be the Church and the gospel be the gospel is integral to letting God be God.<sup>2</sup>*

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Subsequently, many have come to equate the Christian faith with sensate MTVesque activities and not with the profound substantive first things on which it is based, that is, the Trinity, the incarnation of Christ, the Atonement, and the Resurrection. Whether conscious or unconscious, this dumbing down of the Christian faith leaves little distinction between our God and all the other secular and religious gods proliferating in our pluralistic society.

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