

THE ZEAL OF THINE HOUSE HATH EATEN ME UP JOHN 2

Text: John 2:17

(John 2:17) "And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up."

Introduction:

Jesus on two occasions did what we call cleansing the temple. I believe that we should ask "Is the temple clean?"

(1 Corinthians 3:17) "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."

(1 Corinthians 6:19) "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"

We have sometimes a misconception as to where the temple is. Yes I do believe that this building should be a holy setting to worship the Lord in, but I also know that it is more important to keep the temple clean that the Holy Spirit resides in.

We should ask is the temple:

1. CLEAN ENOUGH FOR THE LORDS PRESENCE? (VSS 13-14)

(John 2:13-14) "And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, {14} And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting:"

A. The expectation of His presence. (vss 13)

(John 2:13) "And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem,"

1. It was the Passover
2. Remember the origin of the Passover.
3. Remember the objective of the Passover.

B. The exchange of His presence (vss 14)

(John 2:14) "And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting:"

1. Exchanged for business

2. Exchanged for brotherhood

a. Don't say anything that might make someone mad.

b. This is not WV this is the city and 1998.

C. The excitement of His presence. (vss. 15)

(John 2:15) "And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables;"

1. Excitement that embarrassed some.

2. Excitement that edited their program.

Illustration:

One Christmas Eve a call to see if President Roosevelt would be attending the service.

Response: "I can't promise I'm not sure what the president's plans are for this evening. But we fully expect God to be in church tonight and we feel quite certain that His attendance will be exciting.

Is the temple clean enough for God's presence?

2. CLEAN ENOUGH FOR THE LORD'S PURPOSE? (VSS 16-17)

(John 2:16-17) "And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise. {17} And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up."

A. His purpose is not the formality of our worship. (vs 16)

(John 2:16) "And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise."

1. Worship is not formalities
2. Worship is not finances

B. His purpose is not fervor of our worship (vs 17)

(John 2:17) "And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up."

1. We need to remember.
2. We need to repent.

a. We live in an "I feel good craze"

b. How long has it been since your worship made you feel miserable?

C. His purpose is not frivolous

1. Frivolity is more concern for self than the Saviour.

Is the temple clean enough for the Lord's purpose?

3. CLEAN ENOUGH FOR THE LORD'S PRESENTATION (VSS 18-21)

(John 2:18-21) "Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What sign showest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things? {19} Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. {20} Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? {21} But he spake of the temple of his body."

A. The presentation of His sign.

1. The resurrection sign

B. The presentation of His Self

Illustration:

Plastic eggs at Easter. Put something inside that would teach about the resurrection. Some put flowers in them. One boy put a stone in his which reminded him of the stone.

Finally a little boy who most made fun of open his egg which was empty. When ask why he said it reminded him of the empty tomb.

Is the temple clean enough for the Lord's presentation?

Close: Is the temple clean?