

John 2:13 The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. **14** In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. **15** 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. **16** And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." **17** His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

JESUS WENT UP TO JERUSALEM

Jesus is coming from the region of Galilee
He has just been in City of Cana

- This should read – went down to Jerusalem
- But, you will always read UP TO JERUSALEM
- Jerusalem is on Mt Zion and since Mount Zion is the highest place that you can go spiritually, whenever you go to Jerusalem, you always "go up" to Jerusalem.
- Mt. Zion is where the Temple is located

CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE

All 3 of the SYNOPTIC GOSPELS put the cleansing of the Temple at the end of Jesus life – in the last week before the Crucifixion

Are there 2 cleansing?

Or is there just one and John is using his editorial privilege to move it here? John is a writing his gospel with a THEOLOGICAL emphasis not a chronological

There are two cleansings **They are 3 years apart**

PASSOVER OF THE JEWS

This is THE KEY to this passage

PROBLEM

The Temple Market had spilled over into the Court of the Gentiles.
Huge plaza - probably 200 x 400 yards

Doves & Pigeons

- They were abusing the POOR
- Recognized offering of the poor (majority of the people were poor)
- Nothing wrong with buying a lamb or exchanging money - EVERYTHING WRONG WITH ATTITUDE

THE PRIESTS HAD A RACKET GOING

- Every family offered one lamb

COURT OF GENTILES

- A complete Greek inscription to this effect was discovered in 1870:

No foreigner shall enter within the barrier of the temple, or within the precinct, and whosoever shall be caught shall be responsible for (his) death that will follow in consequence (of his trespassing).

This is found in a museum in Istanbul

JESUS ACTS AS A REFORMER

WHY DOES JESUS CLEANSE THE TEMPLE NOW – @ PASSOVER?

The house is purged/cleaned of leaven

Exodus 12 & 13 instructs the Jews to clean the house of all leaven or leavened things

Exodus 13:7 Unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days, no leavened bread shall be seen with you, and no leaven shall be seen with you in all your territory.

- All leaven is to be removed from the house before the first day of the feast begins. Jewish observance carries out this commandment by conducting a thorough sweeping and cleaning of the home
- Even the smallest breadcrumbs are carefully purged from the house.

Typically, leaven is used in the Scriptures as symbol for sin and corruption.

- How appropriate that Jesus cleanses His father's house during the days of preparation for the festival of Passover.
- Just as the leaven (symbolizing sin and corruption) was being searched out and cast from Jewish homes all over Jerusalem, Jesus searched out and cast from the Temple the blatant corruption of the profiteers.

Jesus is fulfilling Malachi 3:1-6

Malachi 3:1 "Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. 2 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. 3 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.

DO NOT MAKE MY FATHER'S HOUSE A HOUSE OF TRADE."

- In Jesus' day people would say: God's house or The House or even Our Father's House
- But, Jesus uses My Father's house

Jesus makes a KESHER or connection

Mark 11:17 And he was teaching them and saying to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer FOR ALL THE NATIONS'? But you have made it a den of robbers."

For the nations

Isaiah 56:7 these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer FOR ALL PEOPLES."

17 His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

This is from Psalm 69:9

Psalm 69:9 For zeal for your house has consumed me, and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me.

APPLICATION

THEY TOOK THE WORSHIP CONNECTED TO THE TEMPLE LIGHTLY

COME TO WORSHIP PREPARED

COURT OF THE GENTILES

Those running the Temple precincts had forgotten that they were to serve as priests for the nations

We are now the Temple where God resides

Exodus 19:6 and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation . . .

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 Do you not know that you are God's TEMPLE and that God's Spirit dwells in you? . . . For God's TEMPLE is holy, and you are that TEMPLE. (The Church)

1 Corinthians 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a TEMPLE of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? (The person)

CREDIBILITY

AVAILABILITY

ACCESSIBILITY

18 So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." 20 The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" 21 But he was speaking about the temple of his body. 22 When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

18 So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?"

BY WHAT AUTHORITY DO YOU DO THESE THINGS?

Sign - that shows His authority

APPLICATION

THE SIGN - Resurrection cannot be reproduced or explained away

RESURRECTION moves Christianity from being just a MORAL code to something far more POWERFUL - MIRACULOUS

Jesus is giving notice that worship is changing from a location to something far more personal

Jesus' body, offered up in sacrifice and raised up in

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

23 Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many BELIEVED in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. 24 But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people 25 and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

APPLICATION

What kind of **BELIEVED** is this?

Jesus did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people

THEME – SO THAT YOU MIGHT BELIEVE

John 20:31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

BELIEVE WHAT – Jesus is the CHRIST, the son of God

WHY – Believing you may have life in His name

BELIEVE will be a regular theme for in this Gospel

Used over 80 times in the Gospel of John

John 6 and 8 – BELIEVED

Intellectual belief - Impressed belief

Vs.

Entrust Belief – I entrust myself fully and completely to you

Belief shows itself in Fruit

Time will tell

What kind of belief do you have?

How do you know?

My concern for many of us is we have a INTELLECTUAL BELIEF, but not a belief that says I entrust myself to you, Jesus.

Check your fruit