

Jesus Gets Angry

John 2:13-22 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." 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.

❖ Introduction

➤ Remember John's Purpose

- He writes so people will come to believe in Jesus...
- John 20:30–31: "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 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."

➤ Consider John's Point of View

- Post – Resurrection – Jesus was a live and reigning at this point
- John is writing with the absolute knowledge that Jesus has already come back from death
- Conquered it
- Is in Heaven reigning and preparing to return...

❖ Last Week

➤ The 1st of His Miracles (Water into Wine)

- Why He did the Miracles
 - ¹¹This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

➤ Recap

- 1) Jesus Doesn't pick favorites
- 2) Jesus Purifies
- 3) Jesus Provides
- 4) Jesus is Truly Miraculous

➤ You Make the Applications

❖ The Setting –

➤ Jerusalem

➤ @Passover

➤ Chronologically

- Hard to tellCould be an early story.... 1st year of his ministry
- Could be close to the end...

➤ 1 or 2 Temple Cleansings?

- There is much debate back and forth on this...
- Did He do this once or twice...
- It is mentioned in the other 3 gospels...
 - But their stories are very similar, and this one is a little different...
- They do not contradict each other...
- **Ultimately it doesn't matter...**
 - The point of the cleansing is the same....
 - Why Jesus has become angry over this is clear either way...
 - So, we will not get hung up on that...

❖ Today

- **Scene at the Temple**
- **The Importance of the Passover**
- **What We see in this Event**
 - 1) Lazy Worshippers
 - 2) Religious Hypocrisy
 - 3) Angry God
 - 4) Sign Seekers
 - 5) And Inward Focused People

14 In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there.

❖ The Scene in the Temple

- **Buying and Selling Sacrificial Animals**
 - Oxen, and sheep and pigeons....
 - These were animals for sacrifice
- **Changing out money**
 - There would be people set up to change money from one currency to another...
 - The men had to pay a temple tax... like a tithe when they came...
 - Exodus 30:13 Each one who is numbered in the census shall give this: half a shekel according to the shekel of the sanctuary (the shekel is twenty gerahs), half a shekel as an offering to the Lord.
 - ◆ These were the men 20 years and older...
 - But they would not accept Roman money or money with people claiming to be God on the coins...
 - So they had to change it out..
- **Where they were**
 - **Court of the Gentiles...**
 - Holy of Holies – High Priest
 - Holy Place – Priests
 - Court of Israel (Israelite Men)
 - Court of the Women
 - Court of the gentiles...

- **Gentiles – Would come here to hear of God...**
 - Many would seek out the God they had heard so many mighty and wonderful things about....
 - We will come back to this...

➤ **A Marketplace...**

- It was a big chaotic jumble....
- Pigeons were cooing and dropping their stuff everywhere...
- Sheep were bleating loudly
- And the oxen or cows were mooing....
- Then you got all these money changing tables
 - Where money is being counted out....
- Probably got a lot of people talking and visiting with each other....
- **Kinda like the New Orleans French Market times 20 meets a sale barn meets a foreign money exchange**
 - Kinda crazy I would think...

❖ **Passover (Why were they all there)**

- **If you do not understand this... you will fail to see the importance of what Jesus does**

➤ **What was the History behind Passover**

- In Egypt...
- As Slaves under a harsh dictator with a Hard Heart...
 - Who failed to listen to God
 - Whom God used to show off His own glory and might
- Last Plague... Death Angel...
- Take a lamb without blemish and kill it and eat it....
- Take the blood from the lamb and put it on their door posts...
- When they awoke... there was terror across the land of Egypt as they found their 1st born dead
- The Israelites children were saved from this tragedy...

➤ **What was the Purpose of Passover**

- **In Its first Occurance we see:**
 - Exodus 12:1-7 The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, 2 “This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. 3 Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers’ houses, a lamb for a household. 4 And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, 6 and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight. 7 “Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.
 - ♦ recap

- Exodus 12:13 ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

- ◆ Recap

- Exodus 12:24-27 ²⁴ You shall observe this rite as a statute for you and for your sons forever. ²⁵ And when you come to the land that the LORD will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this service. ²⁶ And when your children say to you, ‘What do you mean by this service?’ ²⁷ you shall say, ‘It is the sacrifice of the LORD’s Passover, for he passed over the houses of the people of Israel in Egypt, when he struck the Egyptians but spared our houses.’ ” And the people bowed their heads and worshiped.

- ◆ Recap

- Exodus 12:46-48 ⁴⁶ It shall be eaten in one house; you shall not take any of the flesh outside the house, and you shall not break any of its bones. ⁴⁷ All the congregation of Israel shall keep it. ⁴⁸ If a stranger shall sojourn with you and would keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised. Then he may come near and keep it; he shall be as a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person shall eat of it.

- ◆ Expound a little...

- Deuteronomy 16:1-2 ¹ “Observe the month of Abib and keep the Passover to the LORD your God, for in the month of Abib the LORD your God brought you out of Egypt by night. ² And you shall offer the Passover sacrifice to the LORD your God, from the flock or the herd, at the place that the LORD will choose, to make his name dwell there.

- ◆ This is why they did this in Jerusalem

- Deuteronomy 16:4-6 ⁴ No leaven shall be seen with you in all your territory for seven days, nor shall any of the flesh that you sacrifice on the evening of the first day remain all night until morning. ⁵ You may not offer the Passover sacrifice within any of your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, ⁶ but at the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name dwell in it, there you shall offer the Passover sacrifice, in the evening at sunset, at the time you came out of Egypt.

- ◆ Jerusalem was God’s earthly dwelling place

- **These Sacrifices were for the people’s atonement**

- These were to cover over their sins...
- If a person did not have a sacrifice... if they failed to sacrifice...

- ◆ Their sin remained on them...

- ◆ Numbers 9:13 “... That man shall bear his sin.”

- **Sheep** were for sin offerings to cover peoples sins
- **Pigeons** were for the poorer people who did not have enough money for a lamb
- **Oxen** were mentioned with Burnt offerings...

- **From God’s perspective it was to :**

- To point to Jesus...
- To be a living PARABLE of the coming of the Savior...
- It was like foreshadowing in a book.... Except this was in real life...

- **This had to be done year in and year out....**
 - Every year... an animal had to die for each family...

➤ **Jesus and Passover**

- **John the Baptist's declaration that Jesus was the Lamb of God**
 - John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"
- **Paul's writing that Jesus was our Passover Lamb....**
 - 1 Corinthians 5:7 Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.

➤ **Jesus Wanted People's Attention to Be on God**

- So lets look even closer at the scene... What do we see?

❖ **1) Lazy Worshippers**

➤ **The Lambs initially come from your own flock**

- The people had to raise it...
- Then it had to be carried to the place of sacrifice...

➤ **This "market like" atmosphere arose from people traveling great distances...**

- And it was a little hard for many to bring an animal from a far place in Israel...
- And even harder for those Dispersed throughout the World
 - The Dispersion...

➤ **So, God allowed for them to buy one if the needed to...**

- Deuteronomy 14:24-25 ²⁴ And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the LORD your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the LORD your God chooses, to set his name there, ²⁵ then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the LORD your God chooses

➤ **Many were looking for EASY ATONEMENT....**

- Let me just take a little money and get it done and over with...
- To many there had been no sacrifice with the sacrifice...

➤ **Provision of Ministry.....Some Would Suggest...**

- The Laziness and lack of devotion by the Men of Israel led to this Market Atmosphere and Cunning
- **The Men of Israel were supposed to provide for the work of Ministry...**
 - They were supposed to pay the tithes and the temple taxes...
 - ◆ And it was about 25% of what they made in a year...
 - To be fair, some would just be considered a tax today
 - So the women, children, poor, widowed, orphaned and gentiles...
 - Could be ministered to...
 - That through their giving the work by the Priests could continue...
- **When it didn't occur...**
 - There arose a sneaky way by integrity lacking priests to get the money...
 - Leading to an uptick in prices...
 - And unfair exchange rates...

❖ 2) Religious Hypocrisy

- **The Religious Leaders acted like they were providing a helpful Service...**
 - The only problem is they jacked up the prices...
- **Same thing with the moneychangers...**
 - You give them 10 dollars... you may get the equivalent of 5 dollars back...
- **The Religious Leaders**
 - Hid their Covetousness with Religious Helpfulness
 - Hid their greed with Religion
 - Godliness was a cover for Gain...
- **Jesus said of them:**
 - **Matthew 23:23** ²³ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.
 - **Matthew 23:25** ²⁵ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence.
 - **Matthew 23:27** ²⁷ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people’s bones and all uncleanness.
 - **Matthew 23:29, 34** ²⁹ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the monuments of the righteous,..... ³⁴ Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from town to town,

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.”

❖ 3) Angry God

- **Jesus Got Very Upset**
 - Made A Whip
 - Started using it on the people there
 - Started using it on the sheep and oxen...
 - Told them to get out of here....
 - You got people running every which a way...
 - Sheep freaking out and running scared... baa...what is going on...
 - And big ‘ol oxen running free...
 - Then He grabs some bags of coins and just starts pouring them out...
 - And picks up there tables and turns them over
- **Jesus was straightening up His House...**
 - Imagine if someone caught this on their iphone... with video...
 - Revelation – the whole world will see things that happen across the globe
 - **Fox News and CNN would show this clip over and over...**

- Um... yeah... some religious teacher just started whipping people and animals...
- There would be an outcry...
- Oh... you can not do that... it is not socially acceptable...
- Peta would be called...
- O Reilly would be asking if He were a pinhead or a Patriot....

- **The World ALWAYS fails to understand Gos**

- **WHY was He so mad....**

- **A Place of Trade**

- **do not make my Father's house a house of trade.**
- They turned the place where God said He would come and show himself into a Marketplace...
- God's amazing presence had long ago left... because of the nation's disobedience...
- But, people could still come to worship and meet God there...

- **A Place of Prayer**

- **Mark 11:17 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."**

- **4) (An Inward Focused People)**

- **The Court of the Gentiles was for outsiders to come to know God...**
 - This was their place... where they could worship,
 - Where they could come to learn about Yahweh...
 - Where they could pray and be prayed for...
- **House of prayer for all nations**
 - The nations of the earth could be prayed for here...
 - Israel was inward focused... Unconcerned with outsiders....
 - Calling them unclean and wanting nothing to do with them...
 - They were supposed to be a light for all nations...

- **Jesus was not worried about the physical temple...**

- He was not zealous for the temple because of the building
- But because of what it signified – Was to point people to God
- And because people could fellowship with God there...

- **He would weep over this city at one point...**

- Longing for them to come to repentance...
- But He could tell here.. they were not even listening...
- And they couldn't... their minds and hearts were distracted
- BY RELIGION

- **Where is the parallel today?**

- Jesus is the temple... there is no earthly temple...
- **All who come to God will worship Him in Spirit and truth....**
 - The Woman at the well... concerned about the real place of worship...
 - In Samaria or Jerusalem...

- **Jesus said... a day would come**
 - ◆ John 4:23 ²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.
- **And our bodies are the dwelling place of Jesus...**
 - 1 Corinthians 6:18-20 ¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

➤ **God Gets Angry**

- God cares about the poor and needy and those who want to know Him...
- **God Cares about the Glory of His own Name**
 - You start messing with either...
 - You are going to be in a tough spot...
 - You do not want to be on the wrong side of this
 - ◆ Psalm 7:11 ¹¹ God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry *with the wicked every day.*
- **God almost consumed the whole nation because of their sin**
 - Exodus 32:9-10 ⁹ And the LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. ¹⁰ Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you."
- **God even gets angry with His own**
 - 1 Kings 11:9 ⁹ And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned away from the LORD, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice

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.

❖ **5) Sign Seekers**

- **Wanted to know by what Authority He had to do this....**
 - Show us a sign.... Always up to this... it was never enough for them
- **Jesus was not going to be a circus act...**
 - Doing miracles at their beck and call...
 - He is a lion... but not a tame circus lion...
- **Ok... I will show you a sign...**
 - Destroy this temple... and in three days I will raise it up...
 - Again... they thought physically...
 - Same sign He promised the Pharisees when they wanted more proof of His miracles..
 - Matthew 16:4 ⁴ An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah." So he left them and departed.
- **Jesus was speaking Spiritually....**

- Speaking on two levels...
- They thought of the temple around them...
- He spoke of His own body and death and resurrection...
 - Jesus was foretelling His death...
 - And His disciples did not figure it out until later as well...
- **Jesus Death and Resurrection...**
 - Brought an end to the need for that temple...
 - So, in a sense He raised His body... the dwelling place of God...
 - **Colossians 1:19¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,**
 - And He raised up a better substitute to replace the physical temple...

❖ Invitation

- Do you need a sign?
- Do you need to allow Jesus to run through your life
 - And throw out what is not needed?
- Do you need to repent and come to God?