

The Temple Cleanser

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I. Introduction. Text: John 2:12-25.

II. Where Jesus was.

- A. Malachi prophesies the purification at the Temple.
- B. This Temple cleansing features different elements than the other Temple cleansings on Matthew, Mark and Luke, so it is likely a different event.
- C. The Lord was angry at the extortion and racketeering going on.

III. What He did.

- A. Jesus drove people out with a whip.
- B. Everything He did was not permanent damage, but He made His point--do not make the Temple of God into a marketplace.

IV. What the disciples learned from watching Jesus.

- A. The disciples learned that God does not compromise with evil.
 - 1. Anyone can come to Christ no matter how evil he or she has been when he or she begins to realize that there is something wrong in his or her life.
 - 2. If a person comes, he must know that Jesus will not leave him unchanged.
- B. Bodies are the temples of God; therefore, God is to be glorified in them. (I Corinthians 6, John 4)
- C. The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom.
- D. Jesus sees through the facades and illusions of man.

Application questions:

1. What impact does it have on you knowing that God does not compromise with evil?

2. What does it mean to glorify God in the body?

3. How would you respond to someone who says he or she plans to lead a disobedient life up until the moment that he or she dies when he or she will ask God for forgiveness? Explain.
