

Jesus' First Cleansing of the Temple

John 2:12-25

Intro: Jesus' cleansing of the Temple revealed *His zeal for His Father's house* (Ps. 69:9), which was being profaned by the Jewish religious leaders (2:12-22). While He is rejected by the Jewish authorities, many, who saw His signs believed in His name (2:23-25).

I. Jesus Travels to Jerusalem for His First Passover 2:12-13

- A. The journey from Cana to Capernaum (v. 12)
- B. The journey from Capernaum to Jerusalem (v. 13)

QuickTime™ and a
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

II. Jesus Drives the Merchants Out of the Temple 2:14-17

- A. The priests were making God's Temple *a house of merchandise* (vv. 14-16)
 - 1. One cleansing or two?
 - 2. Fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies:
 - a. Malachi 3:1-2
 - b. Zechariah 14:20-21
 - 3. Jesus drives the merchants out of the Temple (vv. 15-16)
- B. Jesus' disciples' application of Psalm 69:9 (v. 17)

III. Jesus Responds to the Jewish Leadership 2:18-22

- A. The Jews demanded a sign to authenticate Christ's authority (v. 18)
- B. The sign of Jesus' death and resurrection (vv. 19-21)
- C. The disciples, following Jesus resurrection, remembered this and believed (v. 22)

IV. A Note On Jesus' First Followers 2: 23-25

Applications:

1. If Jesus were to come to you this morning what would He do? Would He drive you away because of sin, or would He praise you for faithful service?
2. Remember that outward ritualism is not the same as an inward trust. May God help us to truly lay hold of Jesus Christ by faith.
3. Would you ask God to cleanse the Temple of your body (1 Corinthians 3:16), and help you to become all that He wants you to be?