

SERIES: Gospel of John
Jesus Cleanses the Temple
John 2:13-25

Jesus Cleanses the Temple and Proves His Deity (2:13-25)

Divine Passion for Reverence – Only God exercises the right to regulate worship. (13-17)

- When Jesus shows up to the temple, it doesn't look like a place of worship, but a place of **business**.
 - It was not flowing from the love of God.
 - It was flowing from the love of **money**.
- When Jesus sees the desecration of his Father's house, he gets **angry**.
 - It is right to get angry about the things that make God angry.
 - The ultimate source of Jesus' anger was his **love**.
- Jesus would not tolerate irreverence towards his Father.
 - How you worship reveals what you think about **God**.
 - Question: If Jesus were to come into the temple of your life, what area would he need to cleanse?

Divine Power of Resurrection – Only God has power over death. (18-22)

- The Jews seek for a sign from Jesus to prove his authority.
 - They don't need more signs to prove what is true.
 - They need hearts that **love** what they know is true.
- Jesus declares that the temple will be destroyed... What did he mean?
 - Level 1- Jesus was talking about the **building**.
 - Level 2- Jesus was talking about his **body**.
- Jesus promises he will raise the temple in three days. What did he mean?
 - Level 1- He will **raise** up his body in the resurrection. (John 10:17-18)
 - Level 2- He will **replace** the building as the new temple. (Matt. 12:6)
 - Jesus is the place where God meets man.
 - Jesus is the one who made the final sacrifice for sin.

Divine Perception of Reality – Only God truly knows the hearts of men. (23-25)

- Many believed in Jesus because of his signs, but Jesus did not commit himself to them.
 - Jesus knows the hearts of all men, and he knew these people did not possess true faith.
 - Jesus is looking for genuine **conversion** rather than enthusiasm for the spectacular.
 - Those who only look for signs will be easily led astray. (Matt. 24:24; 2 Thess. 2:9-10)
 - The scary truth: Not all belief is **saving** faith. Not all that looks like faith is really faith.
 - There is a huge difference between religious sign-seeking and true saving faith.
 - Believing in Jesus is more than intellectual assent to the truth.
 - Believing in Jesus calls for a whole-hearted **commitment** on one's life as Jesus' disciple.
 - As the next story teaches, true saving faith is only possible if we are **born again**.

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