

JESUS CLEARS THE TEMPLE

John 2:12-25

Key Verse: 2:16b

Lesson #6

* HOW DARE YOU TURN MY FATHER'S HOUSE INTO A MARKET!

1. What is the time and place? What persons were present? What was going on in the temple that angered Jesus?
2. Why would selling animals in the temple courts at Passover time be mutually beneficial both to the travelers coming for the Passover and the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem?
3. What did Jesus do? What did he say? Why do you think he was so angry? What do his words and actions reveal about his own identity?
4. What was the unique place of the temple in the life of the Jewish people? (2Ch 7:12-16) How does this further explain Jesus' anger?

* JESUS AND THE JEWISH LEADERS (17-21)

5. What did the Jewish leaders demand of Jesus when they saw his actions? Why? What does this show about them?
6. How did Jesus answer? What did he mean? How would Jesus take the place of the temple, making it obsolete? Where is our temple? (Jn 2:21; 1Co 6:19; Jn 14:23)
7. Did the Jewish leaders understand Jesus' answer? What did they think he meant? Why did he tell them something that they couldn't understand?

* JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES (17, 21-25)

8. Why might it have been hard for the disciples to accept Jesus' zeal to clear the temple? How did they try to understand his actions? (17) How were they different from the Jewish leaders?
9. Did the disciples understand what Jesus meant when he talked about building the temple in 3 days? What was their attitude toward Jesus' words? What can we learn here about the foundation of the disciples' faith?
10. What is the difference between faith that rests on seeing signs and miracles and faith that rests on the word of God?