

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for November 8-9, 2003

"The Cleansing of the Temple"

John 2:12-13

We learn that Jesus was committed to the Passover (John 2:12-13).

The brothers mentioned in John 2:12 are, technically speaking, His biological half-brothers, the offspring of Joseph and Mary.

The Passover of the Jews was instituted by God to celebrate their deliverance from Egyptian bondage (Exodus 12:1-28).

The Passover could not be properly celebrated without a very special lamb being sacrificed (Exodus 12:1-7).

In the time of Christ, the permanent site for the slaughtering of the Passover lambs was the temple in Jerusalem (2 Chronicles 35).

They needed to stay in Capernaum a few days to prepare for their trip to Jerusalem.

First of all, they needed to stay in Capernaum to get some rest so that they would be ready for the hard trip ahead of them.

They also very likely needed to stay in Capernaum a few days in order to secure a lamb suitable for the Passover.

Jesus and the group with Him would have wanted to purchase the lamb in Capernaum rather than in Jerusalem.

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Most Jews, if possible, would have wanted to avoid the fees charged by the moneychangers in the temple.

For Jesus, purchasing the lamb in Capernaum rather than in Jerusalem was a moral issue (John 2:13-16).

Jesus, our Passover lamb, was going to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover (1 Corinthians 5:7).

Is our life being shaped by our desires or by the commandments of God?