

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for November 22-23, 2003

"The Cleansing of the Temple"

John 2:18-25

What do we learn about Christ in John 2:12-25?

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

We have learned that Jesus possessed a zeal for the sanctity of God's house (John 2:15-17).

We learn that He possessed knowledge of what was in the heart of man (2:18-25).

We see Christ's knowledge of what was in the heart of man first of all demonstrated in His interaction with the "Jews" (2:18-22).

The "Jews" who confront Jesus after He cleansed the temple are most likely the temple police.

Jesus, after performing miracles and cleansing the temple, could not be ignored by the temple police.

They chose, perhaps out of fear, to simply ask Him a question.

Jesus' response to the temple police was brilliant (John 2:19).

The first reason why Jesus' response was brilliant was because it satisfied, from the perspective of the Jewish authorities, their specific demand.

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Though Jesus had met their demand, the authorities found themselves unable to test the veracity of His offer, so they simply expressed their disbelief (John 2:20).

The total amount of time required to complete the construction of Herod's temple, which was completed in 63 AD, was 82 years.

The second reason why His response was brilliant was because it meant that His disciples, in the future, would be able to see that He had predicted His resurrection.

The reason why Jesus provided the sign that He did, rather than a sign similar to what He had been doing, was because He knew their heart was evil (Matthew 12:38-40).

If people reject the miracle of the resurrection, they will reject every other miracle as well.

We see Christ's knowledge of what was in the heart of man again demonstrated when He chose not to entrust Himself to those who professed faith in John 2:23-25.

Jesus was not going to entrust Himself to those who had made spurious professions of faith.

May God, by His grace, help us to see and remove anything from our life that is inconsistent with worship.