

CLEANING THE HOUSE OF GOD #1 WHAT HAPPENS WHEN JESUS COMES TO THE TEMPLE

Matt. 21 ¹² Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. ¹³ “It is written,” he said to them, “‘My house will be called a house of prayer,’ but you are making it a ‘den of robbers.’” ¹⁴ The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. ¹⁵ But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple area, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they were indignant. ¹⁶ “Do you hear what these children are saying?” they asked him. “Yes,” replied Jesus, “have you never read, “‘From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise’ ?” ¹⁷ And he left them and went out of the city to Bethany, where he spent the night. NIV

1. Jesus will come to the temple.

Whether it is the church or the body, he is visiting it again. Dead dry religion will not cut it anymore.

Divorce and abortion are at the same rate in the church as they are in the world.

The American church is almost unpastorable. People are not reading the word, praying, or evangelizing the lost. They have become shallow, petty, selfish, and constantly wanting. It is no longer about others but its all about me! We are time conscious when it comes to church but timeless when it comes to sports events or something we would rather be doing.

The pastor must be amusing, funny, dynamic, timely, flexible, forgiving, all knowing, and non-human. He must be a counselor, business man, fundraiser, and likeable.

We need pulpits that have a man of God that has heard from God!

- A. He is coming to inspect the **staff**
- B. **music**
- C. **congregation**
- D. **worship**

We must be open to change to whatever he wants to change.

When Jesus comes to the temple...

2. He comes in power to deliver.

A. There are **bondages** in his house

B. **He came in an offensive way**- overturning tables.

Don't get offended. We can get comfortable with bondage.

Old stuff out- doves, pigeons.

He will point stuff out that needs to go.

Ill. Jesus put spit on a man's eyes- That was offensive

He told a woman seeking healing for her daughter that it was "not meet to take the children's bread and give it the dogs"- That was offensive

Ill. David danced before the Lord and Michael made fun of him.

She was offended in her heart.

1. The Lord is going to do some things that will **offend your head or your heart.**

2. If it is your head you are okay you will get over it.

3. **If it offends your heart you are in trouble because you have a pride problem.**

Lord you can offend whoever you have to but just come!

Get ready for change. **Revival and harvest brings the worst of sinners.**

The religious become offended when Jesus moves the furniture.

When Jesus comes to the temple...

3. The Lord changes the practices and structure of the church.

¹² Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all who were buying and selling there.

When the Lord comes to the church let him give the orders.

There are some people are in church that do not need to be in the church. Their motive is not right.

They may have a Ahab or Jezebel spirit.

When Jesus comes to the temple...

4. He comes in passion of the Word.

V 13- It is written

He speaks with passion as he points people to the Word. The Word must be the center of what is happening in God's house.

When Jesus comes to the temple...

5. He speaks prophetically.

¹³“It is written,” he said to them, “My house will be called a house of prayer,”

Why does he speak to us prophetically? We are never where he is. He is out in front of us. He is moving on. He will say, “this way!”

He spoke to the church through the prophet. He is still speaking through the prophets.

When Jesus comes to the temple...

6. He brings in a spirit of prayer.

V 13.... “My house will be called a house of prayer”

Prayer and intercession will increase when Jesus visits the temple.

When we were in revival we did not have to ask for intercessors.

The room was filled with people going after God. Prayer is not a chore but rather a passion.

When Jesus comes to the temple..

7. He will put out whatever keeps his healing power from flowing and signs and wonders will immediately follow.

¹⁴The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them
He will point sin out. He will expose it.

Joshua was told to get and deal with sin in the camp or I will not be with you anymore. Joshua did not have a clue something was happening.

His church will be holy. The cleaner we keep our church the more of a move of God we will have.

Ill. My last trip to Ireland an elder going through emotional healing confessed to horrible sin. He was a sociopath. He had a horrible upbringing. He resigned, repented and sought help. He realized the hand of God and how God was reaching out to him in mercy.

Ill. Colorado Springs church – Ted Haggard had a dark side of drugs and homosexual activity.

When Jesus comes to the temple...

8. Not everybody is happy about the change Jesus brings.

¹⁵ But when the **chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things** he did and the children shouting in the temple area, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” **they were indignant.**

The religious are not happy when people are truly being healed and set free. We cannot please people.

When Jesus comes to the temple...

9. New worship and praise will break out.

¹⁵ But when the **chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things** he did and **the children shouting in the temple area,** “Hosanna to the Son of David,” **they were indignant.**

When Jesus comes to the temple “the children shout”.

Psa. 102 ¹⁶ For the Lord will rebuild Zion and appear in his glory.

¹⁷ He will respond to the prayer of the destitute; he will not despise their plea.

¹⁸ **Let this be written for a future generation, that a people not yet created may praise the Lord:**

NIV

This generation has been created to praise the Lord.

Matt. 21 ¹⁶ “Do you hear what these children are saying?” they asked him. “Yes,” replied Jesus, “have you never read, “‘From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise’ ?”

There is a generation that is not religious but passionate about Jesus. No religion but free.

All they know is “once I was blind but now I see”.