**John 2: 12-25 Jesus’ First Cleansing The Temple 7/26/2020**

**Intro:** Verses to know:

**Malachi 3: 1 “ Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me. ( John The Baptist ) And the Lord whom you seek, will come suddenly to His temple;,,,”**

**Psalms 69: 9 “Zeal for Your house will consume Me.”**

**Psalms 56:1-8** A great promise to Gentiles to share in the blessings of believing Israel.

**Psalms 56: 7b** **“For My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples”**

**Picture 1**: Temple complex ( Hieran) **Picture 2**: Football field- The Holy Place inside the temple complex ( Naos)

**READ:** “The Temple Of Herod” paper

It was in the **“Court of the Gentiles”** that the perversions took place. They made it oh so convenient to exchange money for the temple tax and to buy an approved animal. But in making it convenient they also cheapened the meaning of it all! The heart of worship was missing. The animals were now closer than before to the actual place of prayer. The rate of exchange was way out of line! And the high priest got rich from it. You are trying to worship and the whole time knowing your leaders were exploiting the people!

**Text: John 2: 12-25 \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**V. 12** - It is “down” in elevation from Cana to Capernaum ; not south. Cana is south west of Capernaum. Topographical map shows two ridges on both sides of the Sea of Galilee.

**V. 14** - **“temple”** – Hieren – The entire temple complex

**“Money changers”-** “to cut short” – extreme exchange rate. For the temple tax which only received one kind of currency.

 **Ex.** Sewing patterns: Butterick/Simplicity/ McCalls- “50 cents U.S.; 60 cents Canadian.”

 **Ex.** Canada- Spend all Canadian money while there because

 you lose if you exchange it back for U.S. currency.

**V. 15-16** - He had time to think about it while making a whip. This is not the milk-toast, cow-eyed , wimpy Jesus of old movies. He was mad; and this was violent; and it was pure; and it was right; and of a nature we can hardly contemplate because of our dullness and apathy, and the poor reasons we cough up for being angry ourselves. This is why we are never told to do things like this. Only God can do this!

**Ex.** Gift shop at The Alamo? Gift shop at Gettysburg? Really? Gift shop at Arlington Memorial?

**V. 16** **“MY”** father; not our Father or your Father.

**V. 17** - The disciples were shocked and then remembered.

**“Zeal for Your house will Consume Me!”** “consume” Kata pha ge tai – “eats me up!”

Almost all of our anger results from little fits because we were personally hurt by something. This , in contradistinction, is true righteous indignation over the disrespect for His Father.

**Much more is going on here than cleansing the temple;**

**Psalms 69:9 “ For zeal for Your house has consumed me, And the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me.” 1000 B.C.**

 Jesus knows the only way to permanently set this right is through His own death and resurrection. Then people will see the heart of the Father’s great love for sinful man! God can enter deep into each willing heart. Now long from this moment the physical temple will have no relevance at all! Something greater that the temple is here!

**READ V.18-21**

**V. 18 –** Jesus is “greater than” paper

**V. 19 - “temple” naos**  (the inner sanctuary)

**The heart of Christ is the holiest place.** When we ask Christ to come into our hearts what happens? You are changed! No changed life means Christ is not in you! Period!

**Ex. I Cor. 3: 16 “Do you not know that you are a temple (naos) of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.”**

**Ex. I Cor. 6:19 “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: (what redeemed means) therefore glorify God in your body.”**

You don’t belong to yourself! Figure out what is going on! Don’t be “Saint Elsewhere” drifting about with every mood!

Jesus was mis-quoted at his trial: They said, “He said He was going to destroy this temple!”

No, He said, **“Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up.”**

**The physical temple was destroyed in 70 A.D. by Titus and the Romans Legions never to be rebuilt. To attempt to rebuild it is a mockery to Christ and His finished work on the cross.**

**V. 22-25** The disciples had real belief and trust in Christ and they grew in strength in that belief over time. But there is no growth if you missed the identity of Jesus Christ completely at the start! John will show us what real belief in Jesus really is, through the book.