

Jesus Cleanses the Temple

John 2:13-25

November 1, 2015

1) What and why do I believe?

Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did. But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.

John 2:23-25

See and believe

vs.

See, believe, trust and follow- not only what He did, but who He was and is.

Have you personally experienced Jesus or just heard about Him, read about Him and know facts about Him? The difference is eternally life changing.

2) What or who is my day to day motivation?

The Priests and Pharisees were at the Temple (technically the “**right** move”) but for their own purposes and pursuits (“**wrong** motivation”).

“Their religion (priests and Pharisees- Jews) was a dull routine, presided over by worldly minded men whose main desire was to exercise authority and get rich. The glory had departed from the temple.” ~ *John Piper*

The issue wasn't that the Priests were selling animals in the temple courts, rather it was the **reason** they were doing so had changed.

Jesus tries to get the religious leaders to grasp that He is the “temple,” that will be destroyed and raised in three days. Jesus also wants us to understand that our temple is where the Holy Spirit dwells.

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

We are God's Temple; therefore, everything we do with our bodies (physical, emotional, spiritual, etc.) should be with God's mind and direction.

Paul says, “*Christ's love compels me.*”

For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; ¹⁵ and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. **2 Corinthians 5:14-15**

What is my motivation...

As a **spouse?**

As a **parent?**

As a son/ daughter?

As an employee?

As a **friend?**

As a **member** of God's Church (worship and being connected)?

As a **servant** in God's Church?

Was my motivation once right and over time has changed?

3) What do I have zeal for?

Zeal for Your house has eaten me up.

Psalm 69:9a, John 2:17

When Jesus cleared the temple he was in essence getting at the hearts and minds of the hypocritical religious leaders, this ultimately led to His death.

Jesus had zeal for the Father's purposes and desires.

Is my zeal for Jesus and the things of Jesus or is it elsewhere? If my zeal is elsewhere my life will be off kilter and eventually unfulfilled no matter what the zeal may be for.

4) Does my heart need changing on my belief, motivation and zeal?

There are no "easy steps," no 1,2,3 or ABC. It's simply crying out to God, walking and talking with Him asking Him for a heart change!

"These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men." **Matthew 15:8-9**

May our prayer this morning be:

God may my heart be in the right place for the right reasons so that my light may shine to believers and non believers so I may point them to you.