



Sermon Title: "The All-Knowing Sovereign Messiah"

Scripture: John 2:13-25

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Introduction

Last week...

- Jesus is the Passionate Son Pursuing the Will of the Father!
- Jesus is the Powerful Rescuer Purifying the Filthy!
- Jesus is the Perfect Groom Abundantly Providing without any Possibility of Failure!

Two Questions...

- 1) *What should we expect from the religious leaders? How will they respond to Jesus?*
- 2) *What should we expect from Jesus in this trip to Jerusalem?*

John 1:11, 14 -

I. Jesus, the Messiah: Presiding Over the Temple & Perceiving Every Heart

A. Chaos in the Temple Marketplace

- 1) The Scandalous Business of the Jewish Leaders: Blasphemy of God's Name
- 2) The Sanctified Boldness of the Messiah: Zeal for God's Name and Glory

Psalm 84:10 - "For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness."

Isaiah 56:7b - "...My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."

Luke 20:46 -

How could gentle Jesus make a whip and overturn tables and kick people out of the temple?

Note: Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and possesses all rights to His Father's House.

Note: Jesus is God and thus possesses all the attributes of God including wrath against sin.

Mark 3:5; Mark 10:13-14; Matthew 23:13, 34; Nahum 1:6 -

- 3) The Scriptural Basis for this Event: The Fulfillment of Prophecy

Psalm 69:9 - "For zeal for Your house has consumed me, and the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me."

B. Confusion Concerning the Temple Itself

1) The hard - hearted response.

2) The hard to understand (but very profound!) answer.

Note: Throughout this book, we are continually being pointed towards, reminded of, the cross.

John 1:29; 2:4; 2:19; 10:17-18 -

Note: The Jewish leaders would misquote (and misuse) this statement against Jesus.

Mark 14:57-58; Matthew 27:39-40 -

Incredible Irony: The religious leaders thought that Jesus was talking about the physical/literal destruction of the temple built by Herod, but Jesus was actually referring to the destruction of His body. However, by killing Jesus, the religious leaders made the physical/literal temple obsolete in the sense that the temple sacrifice was/is no longer necessary/needed, since the entire sacrificial system pointed to Christ anyway! So by destroying Jesus' body/temple, they were actually "destroying" (making obsolete) the physical temple that they thought Jesus was talking about to begin with!

Note: We should rejoice that we no longer go to a temple but are the temple of God.

Ezekiel 36:27; 1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Corinthians 6:16 -

C. Clarity about Christ and the Temple Worshippers

1) The superficial transient belief of the "many".

2) The superior and thorough knowledge of the Messiah.

Take Home Questions for Further Study & Reflection & Application...

1) What was God's purpose for the Temple? How was the Temple being used by the Jewish leaders?

2) Why is Jesus so angry over what He finds happening in the temple? Why does He make a whip and drive everyone out? Was this a loving and gracious thing to do? Why or why not?

3) Why do the religious leaders respond to Jesus by questioning His authority, by asking for His credentials? What does this reveal about the sinful heart of man?

4) What can we learn from Jesus' answer ("**Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**") to the religious leaders? What are some things that this answer teaches us about Jesus and about the Temple?

5) Why wouldn't Jesus "entrust Himself" (verse 24) to the crowds who "believed" (verse 23) in Him?

6) Jesus did what He did because He was "zealous" (verse 17) for God's house and God's glory. Are you zealous for God's glory? What things/practices/habits/attitudes in your life demonstrate that you are (or are not) passionate for God to be glorified?

7) How should John 2 inform our thinking and motivate us to complete confidence and trust in Jesus?