

Episode #1-11 - The Whip in the Temple

I. The purpose of the gospel of John is to produce believers in the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the One anointed by God to be the Savior of the world, and that Jesus is the Son of God, God represented in human form.

II. In John 2:1-11, we saw the first of the signs of John's gospel which he presents to prove his premise. The sign of the water turned to wine proves the Lord's power over nature as the Son of God.

III. John 2:12-25. Casting out the moneychangers in the temple.

- A. V. 12. The Lord often in Capernaum. Seems to own a house there. Disciples and family with Him. His "brothers" proves Mary was not an eternal virgin.
- B. V.13. Not long in Capernaum. Passover corrupted from "LORD's" (Ex. 12:11) to "Jews'." Jerusalem always "up" in Scripture. Elevation, and symbolic.
- C. Verse 14. Buying sacrifices rather than bringing them. Not bad, but not the proper place for it. Overcharged. Unfair exchange rate for temple coin.
- D. Verse 15. Lord deliberately makes a whip string by string. Not a fit of temper! No one able to stop Him, one Man alone. Was He big? Also God, of course!
- E. Did not let the doves go. Was not causing property loss, or sinning in anger. Psalm 4:4. "My Father's House" the temple (twice, John 14:2.) Complaint is merchandise in temple. 3 years later (Matt. 21:13) a "den of thieves."
- F. V.17. Psalm 69:9. Witnesses to the fact that He was the Christ. John's purpose!
- G. Verse 18. Jews (religious leaders) were profiting from market, indignant at its shutting down. Want sign to prove authority.
- H. Verse 19. The "sign" will be His resurrection. Referred to His body as "this temple." Jews later twist His words! (Matt. 26:61, Mark 14:58, Acts 6:14.)
- I. Verse 20. Ezra's temple, renovated by Herod (20BC). Not as great as Solomon's (Ezra 3:12-13). "Beauty of holiness" (Ps. 29:2, II Chron. 20:21). Future temple will be even greater (Ezekiel 40-48).
- J. V.21 John explains for us, so we do not mistake His meaning like the Jews did
- K. Verse 22. John time travels! Caused them to believe after His resurrection. Remember, that is John's purpose for us as well! Word=*logos*, spoken word.
- L. Verse 23. Many believe after seeing miracles. Signs not specified, so point is example of belief. Name=true reputation based on character.
- M. V.24. "Commit" = Greek same as "believe." Why did He not believe in them? Jumping on bandwagon! No depth in belief. Often true of young believers.
- N. Verse 25. Creator knew His creation. Realistic view of these people: no depth.

IV. Conclusion. The Lord's zeal for the temple proves He was the promised Messiah (Christ.) His statement about the resurrection before it happened proved his foreknowledge. Many believed because of these things. Do we believe? If so, are we really committed?