

JESUS AND THE MONEY CHANGERS

ONE DAY JESUS WENT INTO THE TEMPLE AND FOUND MEN DOING WRONG THINGS INSIDE THE TEMPLE. THESE MEN WERE SELLING ANIMALS TO BE USED IN THE SACRIFICES AND WERE CHANGING MONEY FOR THE PEOPLE WHO DID NOT HAVE THE RIGHT KIND OF MONEY FOR THE OFFERING, BUT THE MEN WERE CHEATING THE PEOPLE WHO CAME TO WORSHIP. THESE MEN WERE TRYING TO MAKE MONEY FOR THEMSELVES INSTEAD OF TRYING TO WORSHIP GOD.

JESUS WAS ANGRY THAT THESE MEN WERE NOT WORSHIPPING GOD. JESUS CHASED THESE MEN AND MADE THEM GO OUT OF THE TEMPLE AND STAY OUT OF THE TEMPLE. JESUS TOLD THEM, "MY HOUSE (THE TEMPLE) IS A PLACE FOR WORSHIP, AND YOU HAVE TRIED TO DO BAD THINGS HERE."

Jesus Cleanses The Temple (John 2:13-25)

I. Not long after miracle at wedding, Jesus went to temple in Jerusalem

- A. In the temple he found men selling oxen, sheep, & doves
- B. Also, he found money-changers in the temple.
- C. It was time for the Passover

II. People traveled from far away to observe the Passover in Jerusalem

- A. Bringing an animal to use in the sacrifice would have been difficult to do.
- B. Some men set up stalls near the Temple and sold the oxen, sheep, & doves
- C. Also, one certain type of coin was required for paying a tax, so the Jewish money had to be traded for the right coins.

D. The men who sold the animals for the sacrifices, and the men who traded or charged the coins were using the worship service as a chance to make money.

III. The Temple, the place of worship, was not being used as God planned for it to be used.

A. The only thing to happen at the Temple was supposed to be worship.

B. A time of serious, respectful worship was being changed because of all the selling.

C. God's plan was being set aside for something that man wanted to do instead.

IV. When Jesus saw this happening at the Temple, he made a whip from small cords and chased these men out of the Temple area.

A. Jesus chased the animals out, poured out the money, and turned over the tables.

B. Jesus said, "Take these things out, do not make my Father's house a house of merchandise!"

V. Some people today are surprised that Jesus got angry. They think Jesus was not supposed to get angry for any reason.

A. The Bible teaches us that it is right to be angry about things that are done against God.

1. Psalm 11:7 says "the righteous hind loveth righteousness."

2. Psalm 7:11 says "God is angry with the wicked every day."

3. Proverbs 10:2 says "Treasures of wickedness profit nothing."