

April 7, 2020

A Week of Love - Part 4

Luke 19:45-46, “When Jesus entered the temple courts, He began to drive out those who were selling. “It is written,” He said to them, ““My house will be a house of prayer’; but you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’”

On the Tuesday before His death, Jesus came to Jerusalem and among many things, one stands clear and to the point. He goes to the Temple to show His followers that this was a significant time for worship to God. Instead of seeing this, He sees many who are there who have no desire to worship God, but instead are worshipping the money they could make from the worship of God.

This is a dangerous picture and a reminder to us all; worship is not about how well we sing or play an instrument. Worship is not about whether we are singing a hymn or a praise chorus. It is not about whether we are raising our hands or bowing our heads. What it is about is our hearts.

Many gathered in the courts there to make a profit on the selling of birds or other items for sacrifice. It was their business. It was their way to make a “buck”. It was not their way to worship. It is very revealing how Jesus responds on this very day. Many look at this picture and say, “Wow, did He lose His temper that day!” Let me tell you something. Jesus never loses His temper. He showed His disdain for taking for granted the opportunity to gather and worship the God of all Creation. Right now is a perfect time to realize the blessing of being able to gather together as the body of Christ and worship Him together. Whether you are able to do so physically or not, there is power in the “coming together” of God’s people. Mt. 18:20, “For where two or more gather in My name, there I Am with them. And again Heb. 10:23-25 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

God is more interested in our heart for worship than our method of worship. He is righteously angered when we pray out of habit or sing a song that we’ve sung hundreds of times and don’t even know what we are singing. God deserves better than that. Jesus says, this should be a place of prayer; being able to commune with God together. It is not about us! It is always about Him!

Father forgive us when we say we are here for You, but our hearts are far from You. Help us to realize what You have done for us. Jesus paid it all; all to Him I owe; sin had left a crimson stain; You washed it white as snow. In Jesus Name, Amen

[* As you know, because of the Covid 19 virus, we are not able to physically meet together right now, but we do come together through the technology that God has provided us.] Thanks to our Facebook page and now posting God’s message on YouTube, we can still gather right now. Let’s do this to honor Him!