

Theme: CLEANSING THE TEMPLE

Memory Verse: *Isaiah 56:7* “Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people”.

Texts: Mathew 21:12-16; Mark 11.15-17; Luke 19:45-46

The disorder and profanity Jesus saw in the temple at Jerusalem filled Him with righteous indignation. Animal sacrifice formed part of Jewish worship. Therefore, there was an ever increasing need of animals like sheep and doves to be offered as sacrifice in the temple. The sellers, out of greed might have brought these animals into the temple, thereby desecrating the place of worship. The Lord moved in to set things right.

Jesus very act of cleansing the temple emphasizes the fact that God wants our body, which is His temple to be holy and clean at all times (1 Corinthians 3:16-17). Our bodies must not be defiled with self-destructive habits such as smoking, drinking and drug addictions. We must avoid like a plague any allurements from Satan to involve us in immorality. This sin (immorality) will not only defile God’s temple but damn the soul in eternity. We also need to know that the place of worship is to be revered and kept holy. Many worshippers desecrate the Church building and premises. Some throw spittle, food wastes, food wrappers etc. on the floor.

All disorderly conduct in the house of God dishonours Him. We are to avoid anything that makes us to appear to take God for granted. We are to keep God’s house holy and clean. After cleansing of the temple, Jesus performed miracles of healing. The children appreciated this by praising Him, much to the displeasing of the Chief priests and scribes. Christ reminded the priests that the children’s action was in line with the scriptures. Everything in Christ’s life or about His life was in fulfilment of the scriptures.

DAILY BIBLE READING			
MORNING		EVENING.	
MON.	Lev. 10	Rom. 11	
TUS.	Lev. 11	Rom 12.	
WED.	Lv. 12	Rom. 13.	
THUR.	Lv. 13	Rom. 14	
FRI.	Lv. 14	Rom. 15	
SAT.	Lev. 15	Rom. 16	
SUN.	Lev. 16	1 Cor.. 1	