

THE FORGOTTEN JESUS PODCAST

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Season 5, Episode 8

The Cleansing of the Temple

John 2:12-25

Discussion

1. Why do you think John includes the detail about Jesus traveling with His mother, brothers, and disciples in John 2:12?
2. How does the historical context of the temple's construction and purpose deepen our understanding of Jesus' actions?
3. What does the phrase "zeal for Your house will consume me" (John 2:17) reveal about Jesus' motivation?
4. Why do you think Jesus used a whip to drive out the merchants and money changers?
5. How do the corrupt practices in the temple reflect deeper spiritual issues?
6. Compare Jesus' first cleansing of the temple in John 2 with the later cleansing in the Synoptic Gospels. What do these events teach us?
7. What is the significance of Jesus referring to His body as the temple in John 2:19-21?
8. Why do you think some people believed in Jesus after seeing His signs, but He did not entrust Himself to them (John 2:23-25)?
9. How does the prophecy in Malachi 3:1-4 connect to Jesus' actions in the temple?
10. What does this passage teach us about the relationship between worship and justice?

Application

1. How do we sometimes allow worldly concerns to distract us from worshiping God?
2. In what ways might our modern church practices unintentionally resemble the corruption in the temple?

3. How can we ensure that our worship remains focused on God's glory rather than personal gain?
4. What does it mean for your body to be a temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20), and how should this truth affect your daily life?
5. How can you cultivate a zeal for God and His kingdom in your personal life?
6. Are there areas in your life where Jesus needs to "clean house"? What steps can you take to address them?
7. How can we balance grace and truth when addressing sin within our community?
8. What can we learn from Jesus' boldness in confronting corruption? How can we apply this in standing up for righteousness today?
9. How does understanding the temple as the meeting place of heaven and earth influence your view of worship?
10. What changes can you make this week to ensure your worship, both personal and corporate, honors God?

Prayer

"Lord, thank You for revealing the heart of worship through Jesus' actions in the temple. Help us to live with zeal for Your name and a commitment to purity in our worship and lives. Lead us to honor You as Your Spirit dwells within us. Amen."

Additional Resources

- **Commentary on John 2:12-25:** Look for resources like *The Gospel According to John* by D.A. Carson or *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*.
- **Historical Context:** Research Josephus' writings about the temple and its practices.
- **Temple Significance:** Study *The Temple: Its Ministry and Services* by Alfred Edersheim.
- **Malachi 3 Study:** Look into sermons or commentaries on Malachi 3, such as those by Charles Spurgeon or John MacArthur.

Podcast Resource: Revisit other episodes of *The Forgotten Jesus Podcast* for broader context.

Video Resource: Look for teaching videos about the Temple in Jerusalem from trusted biblical historians.

Devotional Application: Read *My Utmost for His Highest* by Oswald Chambers, especially focusing on themes of zeal and devotion.

