

051720 Growth Group Study

This is Personal!

John 2:13-25



Background: This week we see Jesus go from one celebration (a wedding) to another (Passover). But while He was willing to remain a guest at the wedding, Jesus is not willing to remain a 'guest' at the temple. It is, as Jesus says, "My Father's house". So what happens when God, in the person of Jesus Christ, shows up to His house of worship to find it has been turned into a house of business? Come and see!

Sermon Text (ESV):

John 2:13-25

13 The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. 15 And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. 16 And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." 17 His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

18 So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." 20 The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" 21 But he was speaking about the temple of his body. 22 When therefore

he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

23 Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. 24 But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people 25 and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

Discussion Questions:

- Preparation
 - As you reflect on the sermon, what stands out to you most?
 - What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?
- Sermon Questions
 - In the past, has this been an uncomfortable or challenging passage for you? Why? Were there any points or takeaways from Joel's sermon that help you with these concerns?
 - As a church in the Cupertino/South Bay community, how can we as a PBC community glorify God and His house through these challenging times?
 - Joel said that a genuine love of God will bring anger towards those things that are not of God; however, Joel asked, are you and I able to act righteously out of that anger?
 - Can you think of a time when you've been able to control vs. not able to control what you believed to be "righteous anger"? What did you learn from those experiences?
 - Lastly, Joel had a few implications for us:
 - In what area(s) of your life do you need Jesus to "clear out the temple", to come and cleanse your heart and drive out distractions, and overturn the priorities that don't belong?
 - How might you have let the *business of God* get in the way of your *relationship with God*? All God wants is you, and Jesus openly invites you to His Father's house because for Him, it's not business, it's personal