

Welcome to Plymouth First Baptist Church

The Lord's Day, September 5, 2021

But now Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you. Psalm 39:7

9:45 AM Sunday School

10:50 AM Church Family Announcements

11 AM Morning Worship

Prelude		B.J. Lyle
Welcome		Pastor Paul
Prayer		Pastor Paul
*Praise Songs	<i>“Christ Be All Around Me”, “I Love You, Lord”</i>	
Scripture Reading	Psalm 84:1-4	Pastor Paul
Ministry in Music	<i>“Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)”</i>	
Scripture Reading	James 2:1-10	Ronnie Thompson
Hymn #56	<i>“To God Be the Glory”</i>	
Pastoral Prayer		
Communion		
Sermon	Jesus and the Temple	Pastor Paul
*Hymn # 654	<i>“Change My Heart, O God”</i>	

“*” indicates the congregation should stand.

You are welcome to use the church wi-fi! The password is— psqvcvk4xr3cf5

Sermon: Jesus and the Temple

Scriptures: *John 2:13-25; John 1:1-2, 26-47; 2:4; John 14:22-24; Deut. 16:16-17; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Heb. 10:24-25; 1 Cor. 3:16-17, 6:18-20; Matt. 21:12-13; Matt. 7: 24-27.*

A big question that is asked in many contexts is, “Who’s in Charge?” In our sermon today Jesus is asked a similar kind of question. “What sign can you show to prove your authority to do all this?” This morning we will see that Jesus has authority over the temple and what this means to you and me today.

Authority: the power or right to give orders, make decisions and enforce obedience. The right to act in a specified way, delegated from one person or organization to another. Official permission or sanction. (*Miriam Webster*)

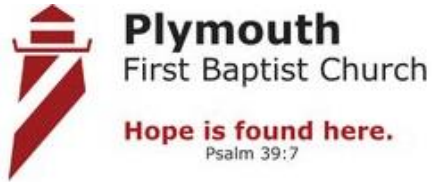
Submission to the authority of Jesus Christ and His teachings is the sign of true faith in Him! Elementary to that submission is witnessed in our commitment to worship Him with our brothers and sisters in Christ. (*Deut. 16:16-17; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Heb. 10:24-25*)

Jesus overturned the tables in the temple courts because it was set up in the only place a gentile could worship and they were overcharging worshippers for the things they needed to faithfully serve God. Jesus’ zeal for his father’s house consumed Him and in fact his blood for it would be completely spent (Ps. 69:9)

What should be sobering to us all that according to the New Testament, we as believers are the temple of God. And Jesus expects the temple of our lives to be holy unto Him. Sadly, at times Christians desecrate God temple by using it for unholy practices and harboring displeasing attitudes.

Outward destruction is the result of inward desecration.

Let us remember this truth in the context of our individual lives, our home, and our nation.



Jesus Clears the Temple

Capernaum, a town in Galilee, was the home base of Jesus for much of His Galilean ministry Matt. 4:13, and John 2:12 tells us that Jesus went to Capernaum after performing His first miracle in Cana. But He was not in Capernaum long before it was time for Passover, and being a faithful

Jew, Jesus went up to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast according to the law's prescriptions

(John 2:13; see Deut. 16:1–8). Upon arriving and visiting the temple, our Lord found merchants selling animals and exchanging currency in the temple courts, and He drove them out (John 2:14–16).

Of course, this story of the cleansing of the temple is well known, and similar accounts occur in the Synoptic Gospels not at the beginning of Jesus' ministry but toward its end (Matt. 21:12–13; Mark 11:15–17; Luke 19:45–46). Because of this, many commentators argue that John has moved the event, which took place at the end of Jesus' ministry, to the beginning of Jesus' ministry for theological purposes—to show how Jesus opposed the religious authorities in Jerusalem from the very start. While it is possible that John moved the record, it is more likely that Jesus cleansed the Jerusalem temple twice. Given the fallenness of human nature, it is easy to believe that the people would readily resume their sacrilege once Jesus was gone from the city, and John's chronology is so tight in these opening chapters that it is difficult to conceive of His placing this event out of historical sequence.

But why did Jesus cleanse the temple? The animal sellers provided a service to worshipers, enabling them to travel the long journey to Jerusalem without having to haul the sacrificial animals with them. The moneychangers likewise served the people by enabling them to trade their currency for shekels, the only money in which the temple tax could be paid. These activities in themselves were not wrong; the problem was the locale in which they were conducted. They made worship impossible in the temple courts, for the ruckus of animals and commerce certainly is not conducive to a reverent atmosphere. The scene prompted the disciples to recall Psalm 69: "Zeal for your house will consume me" (v. 9). In that psalm, David was opposed by those who disdained his respect for true worship and for the temple. The parallels with Jesus are clear, for He encountered opposition for His cleansing the temple (John 2:18–22). Like David, Jesus was opposed for being zealous for God and His worship. www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/jesus-clears-the-temple

PLYMOUTH FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Senior Pastor – Rev. Paul T. Harrington

Choir Director – Scott Bradshaw

Organist – B.J. Lyle

Office Administrator- Danita Davis

Deacon of the Month- Brenda Bullock

September 5, 2021

First Baptist Church OF Plymouth NORTH CAROLINA

