

SERMON-BASED STUDY: JESUS DON'T PLAY

John 2:13-25, ESV – 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.

Notes:

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- 5.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This week we learned that Jesus is against anything that inhibits the worship of God and anything that cheapens the name of God. What are some ways that people today inhibit worship of God or cheapen the name of God?
- 2 As a disciple of Jesus, how can you follow His example and stand against those things that inhibit worship of God or cheapen the name of God?
- 3 We also learned that Jesus will cleanse His church and our lives just as He cleansed the temple. What are some things that you think Jesus would cleanse in the current Church? Explain.

DIGGING DEEPER

A **Genesis 4:3-7, ESV** – ³ In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, ⁴ and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, ⁵ but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. ⁶ The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen?” ⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”

Luke 4:8, ESV – ⁸ And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.’”

Romans 12:1, ESV – I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

- 4 Looking at Genesis 4:3-7, Why was Abel’s gift of worship acceptable to God while Cain’s was not? How was this more of a heart issue than a gift issue?
- 5 What does Paul mean when he says, “present your bodies as a living sacrifice”? Why is being “holy and acceptable to God” so important in our worship?

6 What does this type of worship look like on a daily basis? What changes do you need to make in your life to be the type of worshiper God will accept?

B **1 Chronicles 28:9, ESV** – ⁹“And you, Solomon my son, know the God of your father and serve him with a whole heart and with a willing mind, for the LORD searches all hearts and understands every plan and thought. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will cast you off forever.”

Proverb 21:2-3, ESV – ²Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the heart. ³To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

Jeremiah 17:10, ESV – ¹⁰“I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.”

7 Looking at 1 Chronicles 28:9, what is the promise given to Solomon? How does seeking after God make us able to serve Him with our whole heart and with a willing mind?

8 Why is it important to have a “right” heart with God? How can we have a “right” heart with God?

9 Looking at Proverbs 21:2-3, we see that God wants us to do righteousness and justice. What does it mean to “do” righteousness and justice?

TAKING IT HOME

Jesus wants us to remove all the things that inhibit us from fully worshipping God. While these things may be outward in appearance, ultimately, they are matters of the heart. What is currently inhibiting you from fully worshipping God? What is in your heart that needs to be cleansed? Share with your group or accountability partner what God has been showing you. Pray for one another as you seek to allow God to cleanse your heart and to worship Him fully.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

1 Samuel 16:7

Psalm 69:9, 139:2-23

Malachi 3:1-4

Matthew 21:12-13

Mark 11:15-17

Luke 19:45-46

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Ephesians 4:26-27

Hebrews 12:28