

Jesus Clearing the Temple Jack Crawford

Scripture

And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a den of robbers." Matthew 21:12-13

Devotion

God said that the temple should be "a house of prayer" and commanded his people to bring certain animals there for the priests to sacrifice on the altar because of their sins. However, from the four Gospels, we learn that some bad people were selling oxen, sheep, and pigeons in the temple and others had set up tables there to exchange money. These people were using God's house to make money and cheat people. We also learn that others in Jerusalem were using the temple as a shortcut and were carrying their supplies through the temple.

Because these people were using the temple as a "house of trade" and not showing respect to his "Father's house," this made Jesus very angry. Therefore, Jesus made a whip of cords and drove out the money-changers and their animals. He poured out the money-changers' coins and overturned their tables. And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." He also would not let anybody carry anything through the temple.

And then do you know what Jesus did? He let the blind and the lame come to him in the temple, and he healed them. And the children were crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!"





Questions

3-5-yr-olds

Why was Jesus angry?

1st-3rd graders

What were the money-changers and others doing that made Jesus angry?

4th-6th graders

What does this story about Jesus tell us about what we should and should not do in the Lord's house?

Prayer

Jesus, we thank you so much for your Word and the way that you love us. Thank you for teaching us about how to honor You in the Lord's house. We pray for forgiveness of our sins. We pray that you will use this virus to cause many people to accept you into their hearts and, if it be your will, that you would take it away from us soon. We pray these things in your Son's holy name. Amen.

