

“Polluted”

John 2: 13-22

VIDEO: “Making Disciples”

Intro: That little video says so much & explains the true intentions of the...

“Messiah’s Mission”

...the **Christian Church**...

...and **our Sermon Series.**

1. BE-Come-ing
2. **H2O - “Living Water”**

Matthew 28:16-20 = “*Why, Who, What, Where, How, (when - NOW)*”

Acts 1:8 = “*Who, What, How, Where, (when - ALWAYS)*”

T/S: So with Christ’s clear, concise, Commission & Command...

WHAT’S WRONG WITH THE CHURCH IN OUR CULTURE...

Why all the COUGHING... and CANCER in the church today?

ANSWER:

The “Sickness” is SIN...

The “Symptoms” are seen in the “POLLUTANTS”

TEXT for today... John 2: 13-22 (N.L.T. today)

VIDEO: John 2: 13-22 (Movie Clip: Gospel of John)

Matthew Henry: "Jesus never used force to drive anyone into the temple... but only to drive those out who profaned it."

*** NOTE: 3 years later He would need to do it again... **"religious weeds are amongst the worst & fastest growing enemies of the Church."** - JDP

"Reason for conviction should accompany force for correction."

"The sinner's conscience is the reformers best friend."

ALSO...

"Notice how the words of God AND the works of God harmonize to explain & illustrate each other."

"Religious weeds are amongst the worst & fastest growing enemies of the Church." – JDP

Malachi 3:1-3 foretells of Jesus coming to the temple suddenly where & when He clears it out...

- O.T. example **2 Chron 30:14ff**

- O.T. example **2 Kings 23:4**

CONTEXT: (PROSPERITY PREACHING)

13 *It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover celebration, so Jesus went to Jerusalem. 14 In the Temple area he saw merchants selling cattle, sheep, and doves for sacrifices; he also saw dealers at tables exchanging foreign money.*

A. **"In"** - not "near" but "in" = DIS-RESPECT God's house

B. **"Temple area"** - section set aside to serve Gentiles...

c. **"selling sacrifices" & "exchanging money"**

- * All "goods" – no God!
- 1. Both are **"good" things... but NOT God things...**
- 2. Like always... **HEART measures MOTIVES**
 - * Church **gives people what they "want"** vs. leading them in "worship"
 - * Creates a self-absorbed spirit... and feeds it!

REMEMBER:

"Where your treasure is... there your heart also..."

Don't forget about the Rich Young Ruler...

***** PROSPERITY POLLUTANTS:**

- a. **Money** (and purchasing-power)
- b. **Cars...** (and houses)
- c. **"Bling"** (rings)
- d. **Good health** (vitamin / muscle rub)
- e. **"Goo-Gone"** – takes-away problems

CONSEQUENCES: (PLAYFUL PACIFISTS)

15 Jesus made a whip from some ropes and chased them all out of the Temple. He drove out the sheep and cattle, scattered the money changers' coins over the floor, and turned over their tables. 16 Then, going over to the people who sold doves, he told them, "Get these things out of here. Stop turning my Father's house into a marketplace!"

- A. "Jesus MADE a whip"
- B. "chased/drove them all out of the Temple"
- C. "scattered the money... turned over tables"
- D. "Stop turning MY Father's house into a marketplace"

SERMON "SLIDE" = "Co-exist"

***** PLAYFUL PACIFIST POLLUTANTS:**

- a. ***Pom-poms & Feathers***
- b. ***Bubbles***
- c. ***Silly String***
- d. ***"SLEEP-Fast" medicine...***

Rules can pollute relationships... AND relationships without rules can become equally polluted.
- JDP

NOTE: "Some rules define love...
while others defy love."
(ie. Jesus vs Pharisees in
temple...)

Note... It was not Jesus' person that authorized his righteous anger (or fueled His zeal), but rather, it was the pollution that drove Him to purge & purify HIS (vs "our") Father's house... Thus we are emplaced & empowered to act in the same way when under similar conditions.

CONNECTION: (PERSECUTING POINT)

17 Then his disciples remembered this prophecy from the Scriptures: "Passion/Zeal for God's house will consume me."

- A. This is yet another example of God's Word confirming Christ as King & Messiah...
- B. Calling Jesus King/God... Connecting Christ with His rightful & righteous throne in heaven... is exactly why so many of our brothers and sisters have-been AND are-currently BEING martyred all over the world...
- C. "Connecting Conviction" for Christ also brings the subtle and subversive persecution from the universalist crowd...
- D. **SIDE-BAR:** Does a Christ-like ZEAL for God's house consume you the way it did/does Christ???

*** Jesus told of the "Owner vs. Hireling"

*** Whose light are you investing in/shining?

***** PERSECUTING POINT POLLUTANTS:**

- a. ***Tacks***
- b.
- c. ***Push-pins***

- c. ***Laxatives...***

CHALLENGED: (PESSIMISTIC PROOF-Doubters)

18 But the Jewish leaders demanded, "What are you doing? If God gave you authority to do this, show us a miraculous sign to prove it."

A. Pessimists come in many packages... including "Pantheists"

***** PESSIMISTIC PROOF-Doubting POLLUTANTS:**

- a. Vinegar (sour & make excuses vs truth)
- b. Dirt / Worms (doubt heaven & hell)

CONTROLLING: (PERFORMING PHARISEES)

19 Jesus replied. "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

***** PERFORMING PHARISEES POLLUTANTS:**

- a. ***Monster "energy" drink***
- b.**
- c. ***Prune juice***
- d.**
- e. ***Sardines***

- d. ***Hand Sanitizer***

VIDEO: "H2O - Polluted clip"

"Woe to you, you hypocrites... blind... whitewashed tombs..."

CONFUSION:

(POPULAR POTPOURRI)

20 "What!" they exclaimed. "It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple, and you can rebuild it in three days?"

21 But when Jesus said "this temple," he meant his own body.

***** POPULAR POTPOURRI POLLUTANTS:**

- a. *Potpourri*
- b. *Money*
- c. *Pom-poms*
- d. *Bubbles*

- e. *Silly String*
- f. *Monster Drink*
- g. *Prune Juice*
- h. *Sardines*
- i. *Hand Sanitizer (multi-pack)*
- j. *Vitamins*
- k. *"Goo-Gone"*

COMMENTARY: (PURE... & PASSIONATE)

22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered he had said this, and they believed both the Scriptures and what Jesus had said.

"Body of Christ" passages:

Romans 12:5

Ephesians 4:11-12 & 5:23

1 Cor. 10:17 & 12:12-28

Hebrews 13:3

Colossians 1:24

- A. Believing God's Word means loving, trusting, & "drinking"
- B. DISCERN the difference... true/fake disciples

SERMON SLIDE: god, gods, God

0 = No God... or ALL is god

1 = One god... (wrong god)

111111 = Many gods... (no gods)

t - = Jesus "lite"

t + = Jesus "plus"

- t + = Jesus customized / changed

?t? = Jesus "WHO?"

t = True Christ/true Christianity/true

Church

- C. Biblical "believing" means "BE-ing" His Church...
- D. When the true Church is "BE-ing" in obedience (faithful obedience):
 - God is glorified!
 - The "lost" get "found"
 - The "found" grow in God's grace - truth in love

Re-Cap Christ's GREAT Commandments, Commission, & Calling (ALL Christians):

1. Love the Lord your God with ALL... heart, soul, mind, strength
2. Love your neighbor as yourself...
3. Go make disciples... ALL nations... teaching them to OBEY ALL...
4. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes... You will be MY WITNESSES... locally, regionally, globally

Unpack these just a bit...

- a. To love Me is to obey My commandments...
- b. Why do you call Me Lord but do not obey?

- c. To love your neighbor as yourself is to serve them with truth in love...
- d. "I did not come to be served but to serve..."
- e. 1 John 2:6... "you must WALK as Jesus walked..."
- f. You can't make disciples unless you are a disciple...
- g. "If you are not willing to pick up your cross daily and follow Me, you are not worthy to be my disciple."
- h. "Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord... but I will say..."
- i. What about those who insist the biblical call to "obey ALL" that Jesus commanded is "over the top?"
 - 2 Timothy 3:16
 - "...you will know them by their fruit..."
 - Jude 3-5... "contend/fight for the faith"
 - 1 John 2: "
 - Beware the wolves in sheep's clothing - ravenous within
 - Be as shrewd as a serpent & as gentle as a dove...
 - Titus 1:11
 - Galatians 1:6-9
- j. How does that mesh with "being Christ's witnesses?"
 - Ephesians 4:15
 - Remember... Jesus called the true Church... His BRIDE!
 - John 17:21...
 - 1 Corinthians 13... "without love I am nothing..."
 - Rev. 2-3: 7 churches.... "he who has ears..."

VIDEO: "Real-Church-Growth"

T/S: Okay... So what's the take-away today?

REMEMBER: What's the answer to Pollutants? PURIFICATION!

Three (3) things to NEVER Forget...

1. ***Faith is measured by your heart & LIFE... (vs. head/lips)***
2. ***Faith-Fraud (holy-hypocrisy)... cannot be ignored...***
3. ***Forever & For-everyone... is the gospel's truth in love!***

Let's PRAY!

3 Videos by Jason Gray:

1. More Like Falling in Love
2. I Am New
3. Remind Me Who I Am