

The Gospel of John

Chapter 2, part 2

- I. Introduction
 - a. In our previous lesson, we saw Christ's first miracle
 - i. He turned water into wine
 - 1. We also took the time to explore the Bible teaching on the drinking of alcoholic beverages
- II. Commentary
 - a. **Verse 11**
 - i. It is pointed out that Jesus' first miracle was the one that we studied last week
 - 1. This was the beginning of "signs"
 - a. "Signs" is used to speak of significant displays of His power
 - i. In them, Jesus manifested His glory – His deity
 - ii. The disciples believed on Him
 - 1. The Spirit used these signs to bring the disciples to the realization that Jesus surely was the awaited Messiah
 - b. **Verse 12**
 - i. After the time spent in Cana, Jesus went to Capernaum
 - 1. His mother, His brothers and His disciples went with Him
 - a. However, they didn't stay there long
 - c. **Verses 13-17**
 - i. The time of the Passover was at hand
 - 1. As you will recall, this time was set aside by God for the Jews to remember their miraculous rescue from Egypt
 - a. Specifically, this points to the night that the death angel passed through all of Egypt and took the firstborn from every house that did not have blood sprinkled on the doorposts
 - 2. John will mention 2 other Jewish Passovers in this book
 - ii. Jesus went to Jerusalem
 - 1. As did every Jewish male over 12 years old
 - 2. He found people selling sacrificial animals in the Temple
 - a. They were taking advantage of a situation
 - i. Some were traveling great distances
 - 1. Therefore, they didn't have sacrificial animals needed for worship
 - a. They were exploiting these people for monetary gain
 - i. They were NOT being servants here

3. He found money changers in the Temple
 - a. These were exchanging money into local coinage so the people could pay the Temple tax
 - iii. He made a whip and drove them all out of the Temple
 1. He drove out the animals
 2. He poured out the money exchangers money
 3. He overturned the tables
 4. He told them not to make His “Father’s house a house of merchandise”
 - a. Are any doing that today?
 - b. Are we?
 - i. We need to make sure that we are here to worship – no other reason!
 1. We are not here to show off our clothes
 2. We are not here to necessarily build friendships even though fellowship is a major part of worship
 3. We are not necessarily here to go through the motions of a religious service even though some things are prescribed
 - a. “I desire mercy and not sacrifice”
 4. We are here to worship
 - iv. The disciples remembered a quote from **Psa. 69:9**
 1. In that passage, David was being persecuted for his zeal for God’s house
 2. Jesus was intolerant of irreverence towards God
 - a. As a church, we need to make sure that we are reverent
- d. **Verses 18-22**
 - i. The Jews sought after a sign from Jesus to show His authority for cleansing the Temple
 1. He told them that He would raise “this temple” in 3 days after it was destroyed
 - a. The Jews responded by saying it took 46 years to build the Temple
 - i. They wanted to know how He would build it back in 3 days if it were destroyed
 1. They were talking apples and oranges here
 - a. Jesus was talking about the temple of His body
 - i. When Jesus was resurrected on the 3rd day, the disciples remembered this
- e. **Verses 23-25**
 - i. As a result of the signs, many believed on his name
 1. Most would agree, however, that this was just temporary
 - a. They were not trusting in Him as the sacrifice for their sins
 - b. They merely believed He must be the Messiah, or at least some great prophet, since He performed these miracles
 - ii. Jesus did not commit Himself to them
 1. Because He knew their heart