

Refocusing on God

Luke 19:45-48 (NASB)

⁴⁵ Jesus entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling, ⁴⁶ saying to them, "It is written, 'AND MY HOUSE SHALL BE A HOUSE OF PRAYER,' but you have made it a ROBBERS' DEN." ⁴⁷ And He was teaching daily in the temple; but the chief priests and the scribes and the leading men among the people were trying to destroy Him, ⁴⁸ and they could not find anything that they might do, for all the people were hanging on to every word He said.

The Temple was a place set aside for people to get in touch with God. Whether you were from Israel or any other nation of the world, God used this place to get your attention. Those gathered at the Temple would be constantly aware of the need of a Savior and a saving act in their life. However, in the days of Jesus, the Temple had become a place of commerce instead of a place of worship. Today we should be restoring the proper place of worship just as Jesus did as He cleansed the Temple.

1. The Temple had become a place of distraction.

Jeremiah 7:11, Matthew 21:12, Mark 11:16

2. Jesus refocused the attention on God by

A. Restoring it as a House of Prayer.

Isaiah 56:7

a. A place of Praise and Thanksgiving

Psalms 18:49, 35:18, 57:9, 100:4-5, Proverbs 15:8

b. A place of Confession and Repentance

Psalms 66:18, Jeremiah 14:7, 20, Nehemiah 1:5-9, Luke 18:13

c. A place of Petition and Supplication

1 Chronicles 16:11, 1 Samuel 1:17, Daniel 9:3

B. Restoring it as a place they could hear from God.

Luke 19:47

Numbers 6:25-26, The LORD bless you, and keep you; The LORD make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance on you, And give you peace.