



Cleansing the Temple
P James • January 21, 2018

- I. Where can we find God?
 - A. In all kinds of odd places before the Exodus...
 - B. In the tabernacle with Moses after the Exodus?
 - C. In Solomon's Temple (destroyed about 596 BC)?
 - D. In Zerubbabel's Temple (Ezra 3; destroyed in 70 AD)?
- II. Psalm 27:1-4 speaks of Solomon's Temple and raises a new question: What do we want to find when we find God?
 - A. The Lord is my light and my salvation (verse 1).
 - B. God is the source of my confidence (verse 3).
 - C. To dwell in the presence of God, to gaze at God's beauty (verse 4).
 - D. How can this passionate desire be met in any building?
- III. The Cleansing of the Temple has a sharp focus in John 2:19: Jesus is going to take the place of the Temple!
 - A. John looks right past the significance of cleansing the Temple as found in Mark 11:15-17.
 - B. They ask Jesus: "By what authority are you doing this?"
 - C. All of Israel's hopes, dreams, and expectations are being transferred from the physical building, to his physical body, and finally to the community that will represent him to the world.
 - D. The sacrifices in the Temple will become pointless after the sacrifice of his body (Hebrews 9:11-28).
 - E. Our salvation will come only through his life, death and resurrection! (John 14:6).
- IV. Where are you looking for Consolation and Salvation?
- V. What is your authority in Representing Jesus today?