

Three Lessons From Jesus On “Manic Monday” of Passion Week

Matthew 21:12–19

12 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.

13 He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you make it a den of robbers.”

14 And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them.

15 But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were indignant,

16 and they said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” And Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read, “‘Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise’?”

17 And leaving them, he went out of the city to Bethany and lodged there.

18 In the morning, as he was returning to the city, she became hungry.

19 And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, “May no fruit ever come from you again!” And the fig tree withered at once.

1. Jesus intends us to have _____! Matthew 21:18, 19

2. Jesus intends us to have _____ worship! Matthew 21:12, 13

3. Jesus intends to be recognized as _____! Matthew 21:14-16

Dan Eckley 3/7/2021

Holy Week

2021 LENT SERMON SERIES

Three Lessons from Jesus' "Manic Monday"

March 7, 2021

Holy Week

Open: What's your typical response to Monday mornings?

Read: Matthew 21:12-19

Discuss:

1. Many things happened in the temple. Why might Jesus choose to identify the temple primarily as a "house of *prayer*" (v. 13)? What does Jesus' response in verse 12 reveal about Him? Would such a response have been appropriate coming from any follower of Christ, or would it have only been appropriate for Jesus to do such things? Why or why not?
2. What are some other ways in which we (or our culture) may have distorted the purposes of God for our lives? What would be an appropriate response from us to such distortions of the will and purpose of God?
3. Why did many people rejoice in Jesus, even though many religious leaders of the time oppose Him (vv. 14-16)? Are there ways we might love Jesus for the wrong reasons, as some people in Jesus' day may have done? Are there ways we might resist the work of God around us, as some religious leaders did?
4. If the fig tree is meant to be an illustration, what is intended to be conveyed by the fact that the tree had leaves but no fruit (v. 19)? How might Jesus' cursing of the fig tree relate to His clearing of the temple in verses 12-13?
5. As you consider your own life or our church as a whole, what are some potential areas where we might have a superficial appearance of godliness, but not fruit to show that we're actually living as God intended? How might we work to change this?
6. As Jesus' last week before His crucifixion continues, what seems to be the goal of the people? The goal of the religious leaders? The goal of Jesus? What should be our goal as we go through our study on this last week of Jesus?

Apply: If Jesus were to speak directly to issues in your own life, where tables need to be turned over or where fruit needs to be born, what might He say?

Pray: Thank Jesus for His faithful pursuit of our salvation. Pray that God will reveal areas of our lives that are outside of His will and that need to be changed.

Matthew 21:12-19

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