



This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did. 1 John 2:5b-6

(Go to www.firstbaptistcourthouse.org to listen to previous messages)

GOD is A Mighty Warrior of WRATH

WRATH: God's intense anger, opposition and hatred of all sin and evil.

VENGEANCE: God's wrath in action; the actual just punishment for sin and evil

HOLY Wrath: God's Wrath is perfect and is the right & necessary response to sin & evil (Romans 1:18)

Bible Tour of God's WRATH

- Old Testament: Genesis 3:14-24, Genesis 6:7, Genesis 19: 24-29
- Exodus 7-11, Exodus 15:3-6, Psalm 7:11-13, Isaiah 13:9, Nahum 1:2-3
- New Testament: Jesus Christ—what's your image of Jesus?

Mark 11:1-33

4 Stories of Jesus in Action

1. The triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem (vs. 1-11—Palm Sunday)
2. Jesus curses a fig tree and provides a life lesson (vs. 12-14, 20-25)
3. Jesus clears the temple of vendors (vs. 15-19)
4. The authority of Jesus is questioned (vs. 27-33)

Mark 11:15-19: God's Wrath in Action

The Temple in Jerusalem at The Passover in the 1st Century

- Court of Gentiles: A secular marketplace for selling animals for sacrifice and currency changers for the temple tax (a stockyard).
- Sanhedrin (Scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees) the council of seventy-one Jewish sages who constituted the Supreme Court and legislative body during the Roman period. Profited from sales at The Passover
- The High Priest & Family: marketplace managers. MOTIVE: PROFIT

Mark 11:15 On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple area and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves

Mark 11:16 and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts.

Mark 11:17 And as he taught them, he said, “Is it not written: “‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations’? But you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’”

Is it not written: appeal to The Authoritative Word of God

- Isaiah 56:7: divine purpose for the Court of Gentiles (Isaiah 56 = God’s salvation extended to Gentiles)
- Jeremiah 7:11: human purpose for the Court of Gentiles—den=a safe haven, robbers = thieves

Mark 11:18 The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.

The authority, vested interest, & income of the Jewish Religious Leaders had come under attack right inside the temple

God’s Wrath Unleashed—WHY?

1. Exploitation of the poor pilgrims
2. Desecration of God’s Holy Temple (no longer sacred but secular)
3. Non-Jews had no place to worship the true God (discrimination & exclusion)

Action Step 12: Stand Up for the Truth

Common Objections

- It’s not my spiritual gift nor my personality
- It’ll ruin my witness and perception by people
- I’ll wait for God’s timing

A BIG Barrier: The Niceness Epidemic

Practical Suggestions

1. Make an accurate assessment—know the facts (Mark 11:11)
2. Take appropriate action based on biblical truth (Mark 11:15-17)
3. Speak the Truth in Love (Ephesians 4:15)
4. Be prepared for the consequences (Mark 11:18)

Is it time for YOU to take a stand for The Truth?