

"Our Loving Savior Becomes the Righteous Judge"
John 2:12-25
February 22, 2015

Question: Why does John include verse 12 in his gospel?

Answer #1: Capernaum will become our Lord's headquarters for ministry.

Answer #2: John wants us to see the events of chapters 1 & 2 as solely following one upon the other.

The Jewish Passover celebration commemorates the deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt.

The Passover was linked with the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

It is estimated that there could have been as many as 2.5 million people in Jerusalem during Passover.

The temple consisted of two parts:

1. The Temple Building itself.
2. The Temple Courtyards.

Four Courtyards:

1. The Court of Priests.
2. The Court of Israelites.
3. The Court of Women.
4. The Court of Gentiles.

Two important facts about the Court of the Gentiles:

1. It was the courtyard farthest removed from the Holy of Holies.
2. A high wall separated the Court of the Gentiles from the other courts.

The Court of the Gentiles was where Jesus found those who were selling oxen, sheep and pigeons; and the moneychangers were sitting there. (v.14a)

Two requirements at Passover:

1. The money changers were there because every Jewish male over 19 had to pay a temple tax to cover temple expenses.
2. You had to make an animal sacrifice in the temple.

What did Jesus do? He made a scouring whip and cleansed the temple. (v.15)

While Jesus was cleansing the temple, he was totally in control. (v.16)

Question: What does this story have to do with us?