

John 2:12-17

The Text of John 2:12-17

John 2:12 - *“After this he went down to Capernaum, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and his disciples: and they continued there not many days.”*

- A. Capernaum did not rank high on our Lord’s scale of faithfulness (**Matthew 11:20-24**).
 - 1. We cannot miss that efforts to teach in Capernaum were made (**Matthew 4:12-17**).
 - 2. Capernaum was not always a waste of time (**Mark 1:21-28**).
 - 3. Capernaum had memorable departures from the faith (**John 6:59-71**).
- B. The relationship with Jesus, His family, and His disciples (**Matthew 12:46-50**).
 - 1. Jesus taught that one’s physical family could not come first in anyone’s life (**Luke 14:25-27**).
 - 2. The family Jesus was raised with certainly didn’t lead others to conclude He is the King of kings (**Matthew 13:53-58**; cf. **Isaiah 9:6-7** and **I Timothy 6:14-15**).
 - 3. After the ascension of Christ, His mother and brothers continued with the disciples at least for a short period of time (**Acts 1:4-14**).

John 2:13-16 - *“(13) And the Jews’ passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, (14) And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: (15) And when he had made a scourge [a whip] of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers’ money, and overthrew the tables; (16) And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father’s house an house of merchandise.”*

- A. Jesus headed to Jerusalem for the Passover, which was a common reason for Jews to make a trip to Jerusalem (**II Kings 23:23**, **Luke 2:41**, and **John 11:55**).
 - 1. The Institution of the Passover (**Exodus 12:1-30**).
 - 2. The end of the Passover (**I Corinthians 5:7** and **Colossians 2:10-17**).
 - 3. The church is now the spiritual Jerusalem (**Hebrews 12:22-23**).
- B. Jesus was obviously upset, enough to use a whip, that the place for worship had become a place of carnal business (**Luke 19:45-46**).
 - 1. Shamefully, many have lost the righteous indignation Jesus displays here (cf. **Jeremiah 15:16-17**).
 - 2. If people are in a spiritual setting, but focused on carnal things, they will not be ready to learn (cf. **Romans 8:6-7** and **I Corinthians 3:1-3**).
 - 3. People looking to make the Lord’s house one of merchandise was not a new issue (**Isaiah 56:9-11** and **Jeremiah 7:8-11**).
 - 4. Gain is not godliness (**I Timothy 6:5**).

C. Some applications for us since the church [the people, not a building – **Matthew 18:17, Acts 8:1; 3, Acts 5:11, and I Corinthians 12:27**] is now the temple [house] of God (**I Corinthians 3:16-17** and **I Timothy 3:15**).

1. The church is not supposed to be involved in business as such is an indicator of falsehood (**II Peter 2:1-3**).
2. The church is not supposed to be involved in social entertainment (**Romans 14:17**).

John 2:17 - *“And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.”*

A. The disciples recalled **Psalms 69:9**.

1. They understood why Jesus was angry (**Psalms 119:139**).
2. They had to remember these lessons about zeal, for the remnant had to rise up zealously (**Isaiah 37:32**).

B. The fact that the disciples recalled what was written is a good thing (**Psalms 103:17-18**).

1. The Lord has seen His people forget His word too often (**Isaiah 17:10-11, Jeremiah 18:15, Hosea 4:6, Hosea 8:14, and Hosea 13:6**).
2. We have to be like the disciples in this case and commit to memory the things the Lord hath said (**Proverbs 3:1, Proverbs 4:13, I Corinthians 15:1-2, and Hebrews 2:1**).