

“Authenticity”

John 2:12-25

Offering authentic worship to an authenticated Savior as authentic followers of Christ...

I. Passionate _____.

A. The _____ with what they were doing. Matthew 21:12-17, 23:38

1. They were conducting business in the court of the Gentiles where they should have been introducing them to the One true God.
- It would've been incredibly distracting as well for any Gentiles praying.
2. It may have begun as a convenience, but turned into a lucrative business instead of a ministry.

B. Worship that is _____ to the Lord. Psalm 51, Is. 1:10-20

1. Their worship was a reflection of their hearts. Many were merely carrying out a ritual, and the priests presided over it all with greedy and selfish hearts.
- The presence of sin and hypocrisy made their worship worthless.
2. John 4:24- For worship is the submission of all our nature to God. It is the quickening of conscience by His holiness; the nourishment of mind with His truth; the purifying of imagination by His beauty; the opening of the heart to His love; the surrender of will to His purpose -- and all of this gathered up in adoration, the most selfless emotion of which our nature is capable and therefore the chief remedy for that self-centeredness which is our original sin and the source of all actual sin. - WT

C. The _____ of the temple today. I Cor. 6:19-20

1. We are the temple today! When we are committed to a life of worship, sanctification will be the natural result.

II. Powerful _____.

A. He fulfilled more _____ concerning the Messiah. Mal. 3:1-4, Psalm 69:9

1. The Messiah appeared suddenly in His first coming and made his refining presence felt just as he will do when he comes again.
2. His zeal for His Father's house reminded the disciples of Psalm 69.

B. He proclaimed His own _____ and authority. I Cor. 1:22

1. He reaffirmed His position as the Son with His words and action.
2. The disciples worried about what might happen Jesus as a result. Ps. 69:9- David was persecuted for his zeal for the house of the Lord,

C. He _____ an incredible sign that would ultimately validate every claim.

1. Though he was speaking concerning his body, His resurrection would bring an end to the sacrificial and ceremonial practices in the temple with the torn veil.
- This statement would be used against him in his trial. Matt. 26:59-61
2. They were stuck on the material terms and missed the spiritual truth, Jn 3:4, 4:11, 6:52.

III. _____ followers.

A. We see miraculous _____ as he reads their hearts.

1. He knows those that are truly His, and never turns away a genuine seeker.
2. Many followed him merely for a free meal and to see signs.

B. Authentic Faith in Christ alone _____ salvation and genuine worship.

1. John 8:30-31- They had a superficial faith that believed in miracles, but did not fully entrust themselves to Jesus. Faith in Christ involves more than simply what is seen or it would not be faith.
2. When we embrace true salvation we understand that all glory goes to God. Franz

C. The disciples would _____ themselves as a living sacrifice. Rom. 12:1-2

1. Once the disciples fully embraced the person and work of Christ they presented themselves to Him.

Small Group Questions:

1. What distractions hinder your worship?
2. Do we recognize idols that have become priorities for us like money did for the priests of the temple?
3. How does our body being His temple convict you?

4. How does God view outward rituals?

5. Do you think our culture needs to see authenticity?