

“The Desires of Your Heart”

What do your actions tell about your values?

Luke 19:45-20:8

Do you yearn to :

I. Lean - “den of thieves”(verses 45-46)

We trade prayerful dependence for :

- A. Cash** – “*sold therein*”
- B. Convenience** – “*them that bought*”

II. Learn - “the mighty works”(verses 47-48)

We should love learning because it involves:

- A. Communication** – “*taught daily*”
- B. Construction** – “*destroy Him*”
- C. Correction** – “*could not find*”

III. Liberate - “came upon Him” (verses 1-8)

We are imprisoned by passions of :

- A. Power** – “*by what authority*”

- B. Pretense** – “*if we shall say*”

or insincere attempt to attain a certain condition or quality
4 : professed rather than real intention or purpose

an inadequate

- C. Popularity** – “*people will stone us*”

Protection

To Liberate – You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free. If the Son shall set you free, you shall be free indeed
John 8: 32, 36

Jesus turns the table on the money changers and the pharisees. Their stinkin thinking is exposed for what it is.

Money changing was done because only certain coinage was then accepted in the temple from those who bought animals for sacrifices. The religious leaders made money off the system of buying and selling animals for sacrifice (thus making the temple a **den of robbers**). Also they led the people into mere formalism. A pilgrim traveling to Jerusalem could go to the temple, buy an animal, and offer it as a sacrifice without ever having anything to do with the animal. This led to an impersonalization of the sacrificial system. The commercial system was apparently set up in the area of the temple which had been designated for devout Gentiles to pray and so was disrupting Israel’s witness to the surrounding world.

v. 45 – Jesus cast out those who bought and sold

This is the Second time – First time was in John 2:13-22

- Both times were at Passover – cleansing the house
- One at the beginning of His ministry
 - My Father’s House
 - Was careful to disclose His identity (v. 24-25)
- One at the End of His earthly ministry
 - My House
 - Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem, proclaimed Messiah and King
- Jesus is the Messiah, High Priest – ceremonially cleansed before and after ministry
- A linking between Judaism and Christianity

v. 46 – Den of Thieves – Truly robbing from God

- Fleecing = High exchange rates and prices
- Formalizing = Commercializing worship
 - Impersonal
 - Ritualistic
 - No real relationship between the animal sacrificed and the owner
- Failing = Interrupting what God wanted to take place
 - Prayer
 - Witness to the nations