

The Gospel According to John

The Most Important Thing About You Is?

October 22, 2023

John 2v13-25

13 The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. **14** In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. **15** Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. **16** He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' **17** His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' **18** The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' **19** Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' **20** The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' **21** But he was speaking of the temple of his body. **22** After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

23 When he was in Jerusalem during the Passover festival, many believed in his name because they saw the signs that he was doing. **24** But Jesus on his part would not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people **25** and needed no one to testify about anyone; for he himself knew what was in everyone.

"The most important thing about you is your mind and the most important thing about your mind is what it is fixed upon."
_Dallas Willard in *Life Without Lack*

Psalm 19v14
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Philippians 4v8
Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

A little about the Second Temple...

Why did John put Jesus' temple cleansing early in his Gospel?

Why did Jesus cleanse the temple?

What if Jesus' temple clearing has something to do with our minds, particularly how we utilize them?

v16

House: A God who wants to dwell with?

v17

A Triple Entendre?

John 14v2
In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?

The Resurrection as the Locus of God's presence with people!

v18-21

How might God be nudging you to better utilize your mind's AWESOME ability to dwell with God?

What if the temple was perfect in fulfilling its duties, was it still provisional?

Revelation 21v1-5a
Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 4 he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' 5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

Books: *Life Without Lack* by Dallas Willard

Songs: Come Alive, Oceans, Holy Spirit, Come to Us O Lord, Centuries, Great Are You Lord

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