



## desert breeze community church

**Teaching Notes:** Ray Davis  
December 06, 2009  
**Jesusology**

Mark 11:1-25

### “The Final Temple”

The Temple was a place where people could meet God face to face. The 1<sup>st</sup> temple was the Garden of Eden where God walked with man in the cool of the day (Gen. 2:8-9, 3:8-9). Man sinned and was expelled from the garden. Later God began to dwell with his chosen people in a portable tabernacle (Ex. 25:22, 26) with the promise of an eventual permanent temple in Jerusalem (1 Kings 8:41-43). This permanent temple in Jerusalem was replaced by the final temple the Lord Jesus Christ dwelling with his people through His Holy Spirit. Followers of Jesus Christ are the temple of God both individually and corporately. (1 Cor. 3:16, 6:19; 1 Pet. 2:4-10; Heb. 4:14-16)

Mark 11:1-25

**Jesus' Character:** vv1-11 (The Triumphal Entry)  
(Zach. 9:9; Rev. 5:5-6 Lion & Lamb) The paradoxical character of Jesus, the combining of traits that ordinarily you would never see combined in any one person. This is a juxtaposing of Transcendence (Deity, Great) and Imminence (Humanity, Good).

- He is powerful enough to trust and personal enough to touch.
- He is Creator of galaxies and comforter in all my maladies.
- He is the Commander and Chief of the Universe and is concerned with every aspect of my life.
- He is Heaven touching earth so we earthlings can experience heaven.

“The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion, and man’s spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God.” – A. W. Tozer

**Jesus' Cleansing:** vv15-19; Matt. 15:8; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; 1 Tim. 4:7-8 (Jesus Cleanses the Temple) There is a lot of activity happening in the temple courts with very little if any spirituality. It is hollow religiosity, meaningless ritual, form and no substance, activity without authenticity.

- Spiritual transformation is not a matter of trying harder but training wisely.
- Spiritual disciplines are not an indicator of closeness with God & maturity.
- Spiritual disciplines don't have to be arduous and boring.
- Spiritual disciplines are not a way to earn favor with God.
- Spiritual disciplines are those things we do to increase our capacity to experience the presence of God.

**Jesus' Cleansing Produces His Character in Me:** vv12-14, 20-25; 1 Tim. 1:15-16; Gal. 5:22-23 (Lessons from the Cursed Fig Tree) The temple worship of the day was a perfect example of “leaves without fruit” or form with no substance, hollow religiosity with no transformation.

If I am saved by Grace through Faith: I am more sinful than I dared to think (Humble), but, at the same time I am more loved than I ever dared to dream (Confidence).

A Humble confident person is...

- Loving but not deceiving.
- Joyful but not denying reality.
- Peaceful but not uncaring.
- Patient but not apathetic.
- Kind but not a people pleaser.
- Goodness (transparency) but not abrasive.
- Faithful but not enabling.
- Gentle but not inferior.
- Self-control but not through pride or fear but love of God.

December 13 “Who’s the Boss?”

Mark 11:27-12:12

December 20 “Jesus & Politics”

Mark 12:13-17

**December 24 Christmas Eve Services: 4 & 5:30 PM @ OHS**



# Growing

December 06, 2009

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1) What is your understanding of the purpose of the Old Testament Temple (Heb. 9:1-14)? What is the final temple (1 Cor. 3:16, 6:19; 1 Pet. 2:4-10; Heb.4:14-16)?

2) Read Mark 11:1-11. How does this Triumphal Entry of King Jesus riding a donkey juxtapose His Excellencies of Deity (Transcendence) and Humanity (Imminence)? Why is Jesus' transcendence (Wow!) and imminence (MMM!) an important balance to maintain? What are the personal implications?

3) Read Mark 11:12-25. Spiritual disciplines (prayer, Bible study, church, etc.) like the temple are meant to be a place we come face to face with God. How did Jesus respond to the hollow religiosity He found in the Temple (v17)? Spiritual disciplines (SD) are about training. What is the difference between trying and training when it comes to spiritual transformation?

4) Why are SD not an indicator of closeness with God and spiritual growth? Why would people consider SD arduous & boring? How are SD not a way to earn God's favor but to increase our capacity to experience the presence of God?

5) How does the Gospel produce in us a unique kind of balanced character of humble confidence? Work through the list of fruit of the Spirit and identify strengths & growth areas. What are some things you can do to make your SD more meaningful?