

Preparation for Passion

Dr. John Carmichael

[Mat 21:12-14 NASB95] 12 And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all those who were buying and selling in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves. 13 And He said to them, "It is written, 'MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER'; but you are making it a ROBBERS' DEN." 14 And [the] blind and [the] lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them.

- Jesus cleansed the temple twice (John 2:13-19 and Matthew 21:12-14)
- The second cleansing was during what is known as the start of passion week, Palm Sunday.
- God wants us to prepare our hearts for living out His passion, seeing His house filled with His Presence, power, peace, and people.

What does preparing for passion week entail from Matthew 21?

There are four areas of preparation from Matthew 21.

I. Jesus prepared His house by turning it into a place of purity.

- a. Jesus runs out the people who have corrupted the temple.
- b. Purity of motive. Purity of mission.
- c. They turned the house into a place of profit. They were pursuing the wrong things.
- d. ENC: We seek to be a multi-ethnic, multi-generational, charismatic church that is reaching this region with the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of God.
- e. We want to be like Jesus in His:
 - i. Perspective
 - ii. Purity
 - iii. Power
- f. Ask the Holy Spirit to renew our mission.

II. Jesus prepared His house by turning it into a place of preaching.

- a. Jesus begins to preach/teach them the word of God. (Is. 56:7; Jer. 7:11)
- b. [Mar 11:17 NASB95] 17 And He [began] to teach and say to them, "Is it not written, 'MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL THE NATIONS'? But you have made it a ROBBERS' DEN."
- c. We must get back to the Word of God, the Bible. [2Ti 4:3-4 NASB95] 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but [wanting] to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, 4 and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.
- d. How? Read it. Study it. Live it.

III. Jesus prepared His house by turning it into a place of prayer.

- a. His verse was that the temple should be a place of prayer.
- b. [Act 2:42 NASB95] 42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer.
- c. Decide to make private and corporate prayer part of your walk with God.

IV. Jesus prepared His house by turning it into a place of power.

- a. Jesus began to heal people.
- b. [Act 2:43 NASB95] 43 Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.
- c. Seek God for His power to be released. [Act 4:30-31 NASB95] 30 while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy

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servant Jesus." 31 And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and [began] to speak the word of God with boldness.

- **At the start of passion week, Jesus prepared His house by calling it to a place of purity, preaching, prayer, and power.**