**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr February 4, 2024**

**The Day Jesus Got Angry!!**

Matthew 21:12-22

**Key Truth:** Jesus demands love, holiness, and reverence be displayed in His church.

**Jesus Does Some House Cleaning In The Temple:**

1. Israel had turned the Temple into a place of commerce.

2. Jesus cleanses the temple of its corrupt religious practices.

3. Jesus wanted to restore the Temple as a place of worship,

 prayer, and healing.

4. Jesus cleared the way so that those who were hurting, could

 have access to God’s presence and power. Matthew 21:14-17

**Jesus Curses The Fig Tree:**

1. The fig tree gave the false appearance of being a fig bearing

 tree.

2. From a distance, it looked like a healthy fig tree.

3. Cursing the fig tree was Jesus' figuratively demonstrating that

 Israel had become spiritually barren. Jeremiah 8:13

**What We Learn:**

1. Judgement starts first in the house of God, not with His

 enemies. 1 Peter 4:17

2. Calling yourself a Christian doesn’t make you Christian.

 James 2:14-17

3. Jesus expects His disciples to bear fruit. John 15:2, 8

4. Faith is not a tool we use to get what we want, it’s a pathway

 to achieving the will of God. 1 John 5:14-15

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Make sure your worship and life reflect the character and holiness that Jesus Christ demands.

**Connection Group Homework:**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Read Isaiah 56:6-8 and Jeremiah 7:11-15. How did Isaiah and Jeremiah describe the temple’s purpose and its potential problems? How had the temple been corrupted?

What do we see in our Churches today that may reflect corrupt and exploitive practices?

What did the temple and the fig tree have in common?

What did Jesus expect when He approached the fig tree? Were Jesus’ expectations fair? Why or why not?

What do you think went through the minds of the disciples when Jesus cursed the tree? Why would Jesus use His authority in this way?

John 15:1-8: Is a reasonable expectation of Jesus that His disciples bear fruit? Why or Why Not?

Galatians 5:22-23: What is the purpose of a disciple bearing fruit?

Read Matthew 21:20-22: How might one misuse Jesus’ words about prayer in v. 22?