

Reformation Before Transformation
Restoration Before Revival

John 2:13-17
August 2, 2015

As Jesus begins His public ministry, we find Him going to the temple area and causing a stir!

He ushers in the "New" by giving a **clear reminder of the significance of the "Old"**.

But why trouble Himself about an institution that was to pass away? (John 4:24). The answer is that Jesus did wish to erect the new on the ruins of the old, but since so much depended on the old, this, when reformed, should attach itself to that. We should be like Christ in this, not to destroy but to reform and build up. (Friedrich Schleiermacher.)

As He "cleans house", He "drives home" four pillars of Christianity,

1. **RESPECT for the FATHER.**
The actions are really about,
 - **WORSHIP** not whips.

¹³ "It is written," he said to them, "My house will be called a house of prayer, ¹⁴ but you are making it 'a den of robbers.' ¹⁵"
Matthew 21:13

- **PURITY not our profits.**

²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." John 4

True worship is spiritual, in the **head** and **heart** even more than in a sacred location.

2. **RESPECT for SIN.**
The sacrifices were about,

- Remembering **GUILT** not reselling goats.
- **REPENTANCE** not receipts.

³⁶ Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made the same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

³⁸ Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Acts 2

³⁰ And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Acts 17

3. **RESPECT** for the **LAW**.

- **PENALTIES** not price tags.
- **PENANCE** not pounds of flesh.

Prayer Thoughts

Help me Father,

- To honor you as my Holy Father in heaven.
- To be honest about my sin and the need for addressing it.

(Pillar # 4 will be next week☺)