

John 2: 13-22

Jesus Clears the Temple

¹³ It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover celebration, so Jesus went to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the Temple area he saw merchants selling cattle, sheep, and doves for sacrifices; he also saw dealers at tables exchanging foreign money. ¹⁵ Jesus made a whip from some ropes and chased them all out of the Temple. He drove out the sheep and cattle, scattered the money changers' coins over the floor, and turned over their tables. ¹⁶ Then, going over to the people who sold doves, he told them, "Get these things out of here. Stop turning my Father's house into a marketplace!"

¹⁷ Then his disciples remembered this prophecy from the Scriptures: "Passion for God's house will consume me."

¹⁸ But the Jewish leaders demanded, "What are you doing? If God gave you authority to do this, show us a miraculous sign to prove it."

¹⁹ "All right," Jesus replied. "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

²⁰ "What!" they exclaimed. "It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple, and you can rebuild it in three days?" ²¹ But when Jesus said "this temple," he meant his own body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered he had said this, and they believed both the Scriptures and what Jesus had said.

NLT



A group of people who pray privately
(and in strict confidence)
for specific situations.

If you, or anyone you know,
is in need of prayer for any reason,

please contact: **Co-ordinators**
Sheila Grabham—01409 231581
s.grabham@btconnect.com

Sue Brice—01409 231630 **bricesusan@yahoo.co.uk**

Prayer requests can also be sent to: Margaret Taylor and
Maureen Ellis and these will be forwarded to Sheila for distribution.
Maureen Ellis - 01409 231309 maureen@blacktorrington.com
Margaret Taylor - 01409 281327 goosemoormt@icloud.com

Ashwater with Black Torrington Benefice Sunday 7th March 2021 3rd Sunday of Lent

11.00 am ZOOM Service

WELCOME TO WORSHIP



THIRD SUNDAY
In Lent

Readings

1 Corinthians 1: 18 – 25
John 2: 13 – 22

Collect

Almighty God,

whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Interim Priest-in-Charge (part time)

Revd Stephen Skinner
sjmskinners@btinternet.com
07554 142264

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The Mission Community: for all who live and work in our Mission Community

Our relationships with God to grow stronger, that we would learn more about, and become more like Jesus.

Those who are ill or in any kind of need and those who are vulnerable due to underlying health conditions, including Bryan Hancock, Sue, Grace Spelman, Mavis Watson, Pat, Peter and Maureen Ellis

All who are mourning the death of a loved one, including the family and friends of James Hayday, Carolyn Tanner and Esther Colwill.

Rest in Peace James Hayday (Tetcott), Carolyn Tanner (Beaworthy) Esther Colwill (Black Torrington)

All those who are struggling with anxiety, that God's perfect love would free them from fear and bring them peace.

All those who have become unemployed during the pandemic, that God would provide stability and guide them into a new season of life.

All those who have been administering vaccinations for COVID-19, we thank God for their hard work and service.

Charities and their staff and volunteers, may God be with them as they continue to work through these uncertain times.

We pray for all young people in our communities as they return to school in the coming days

We pray for all who work in our Benefice Schools.



Dates for your diary

Tuesday 9th March	11.00 am	Lent Course
Wednesday 10th March	10.30 am	Beaworthy PCC Meeting
Thursday 11th March	8.00 pm	Zoom Compline
Sunday 14th March	11.00 am	Mothering Sunday Zoom Service

Meeting ID: 317 183 8102

Pass code: 848984



"THOUGHT" FOR SUNDAY 7th MARCH 2021"

"JESUS GETS ANGRY!"

Jesus is often portrayed as an idealised person who never showed emotion! This is always a problem for me when I look into stained glass windows or pre-enlightenment paintings by the "old masters". We don't of course have access very often to Jesus' 'inner life' in the Gospels, but we are occasionally told that Jesus got upset at injustice, hypocrisy, illness or death. Personally I think that Jesus was a person with strong emotions or feelings. I think that this draws me closer to him, because I can also have strong feeling about the kind of situations that upset him! By the way, my reading of Jesus' conversations leads me to regard him as also having a good sense of humour. I like to imagine Jesus laughing and joking with ordinary people whilst he enjoyed their hospitality!

It is of course obvious in our Gospel story that Jesus became very angry when he saw the traders who were not only profiteering by their money changing (doubtless at a poor rate of exchange), but defiling part of the Temple complex by selling animals for the sacrificial system. Jesus seems to have launched straight into the 'action' without giving warning of his intentions! No wonder everyone was shocked, and that this led to his first confrontation with the Jewish leadership. The disciples must have wondered what sort of journey lay ahead with such a fearless and passionate leader!!

One easily overlooked aspect of the Story is that the event took place in "The Court of the Gentiles". This was a special area reserved for the Gentiles to offer worship, as they were not permitted into the inner courtyards. Thus Jesus' action was prophetic – it fulfilled the original vision of Solomon when the temple was first built: "It will be a house of prayer for all the nations" (Isaiah 56:7, 1 Kings 8: 41). This is in addition to fulfilling the prophecy of Zechariah 14: 21 "At that final day there will be no more merchants in the House of the Lord." Jesus' zealous action (Psalm 69:9) was on our behalf – he was challenging the greed and corruption of the traders on our behalf. Let us be thankful!

I wonder what we get angry about? It is right to get angry in certain situations where people are being unfairly treated by those who misuse their power. This especially includes anger when there is abuse of vulnerable people in the churches. When we see situations of injustice I believe that we should not only complain, but also take action by lobbying those who are in a position to correct the injustices, obtain apologies and restitution, and provide opportunities for healing.

Stephen