

Refrigerator Notes 08 March 2015
'Consumed by Zeal'
John 2:12-23 DPC

1. "Zeal for my house will consume me" – What did Jesus mean?
2. There were two words that needed to be defined in the text this morning, Zeal and Consumed
3. Zeal was not only defined by the word passion (to die for), but by jealousy which could have a negative or positive connotation
4. Good zeal must be founded on knowledge, if not, it could lead one to establish their own ways instead of God's ways (when traditions break down and no one knows why they were started)
5. In the church, people are zealous over many things, except for God i.e. Paul's zealousness blinded his truth which led him to persecuting the church
6. Consumed, according to the context that it is used in the scripture this morning, means to be fully engaged or engross – 'Jesus was fully engrossed over issues that plagued His Father's house' to the point of jealousy
7. Clearing the temple was the act of one who was very passionate and jealous about how His Father's house was being cared for (Jesus was angry over livestock being sold in the temple as well as the profiteering that was considered normal)
8. The temple is where God chose to meet His people, to dwell in, where the people receive forgiveness of their sins and restoration and transformation of God's children took place
9. But the temple was being used for those things that were not of God, but more importantly, that was how the temple was being maintained
10. Jesus expected the temple to have been maintained in a decent and orderly fashion and was not meant for selling animals of any type, feces droppings of any kind, or the laundry of money
11. These things were allowed to happen because the Jewish authorities promoted such bad behavior, although others had the same concerns as Jesus, they were afraid to stand up against the Jewish authorities
12. The text encourages us to be on guard about how we not only treat God's house but the things that we allow to happen in our Father's house that has nothing to do with the praise and worship of God
13. The church is not a refuse, dump, toxic waste fill or to be used other than for worship and praise!
14. We are to come and worship God and leave or check our attitudes at the church doors – it is difficult to praise God when other things are hindering or preventing one from concentrating on God!
15. Jesus was so consumed with His Father's house, the authorities questioned Him by what authority did Jesus have to clean the temple the way He did it
16. When the disciples saw Jesus destroying the market place in the temple, going against the authority, they understood the exceptional zeal that was important to have for God's house
17. Because of Jesus' zeal, it may have been one of the factors that led to Jesus' death on Calvary
18. My note to DPC is that, **if it was not there when you arrived, don't leave it or share it or bring it into the temple of God!**