

John 2: 13-22 The Cleansing of the Temple

One Temple Cleansing or Two?

- Three possibilities. None of them call into question biblical inerrancy.
- One Temple clearing (early)
- One Temple clearing (late)
- Two Temple clearings (early and late)

The Request for a Sign

- He veils the announcement. Why?

The meaning of the Temple in the history of God's people

- A theme that binds together Israel's long, diverse history is the presence of God in their midst
- Israel's sin led to the destruction of the Temple by the Babylonians
- However, the true meaning of the Temple is the presence of God among his people.

Jesus's relationship to the Temple understood against this background

- The Word became flesh and "tabernacled" (Gk. σκηνη) among us.
- Echos of Ex 33-34
- A longing for a greater fulfillment throughout Israel's history.
 - Is 66:18
 - Zech 2:10
 - Rev 21:10ff
- The end of animal sacrifice in the Temple.
- One of many unmistakable assertions of Jesus's divinity.

A Messianic cleansing

- Not just the reforming cry of a prophet, but the end of animal sacrifice.
- A fulfillment of Mal 3:1-3
- And Zech 14:21

Replacement/fulfillment themes in John

- Jacob's Ladder
- Empty legalism ==> Messianic abundance
- The Temple
- More to come