I. WHAT WAS THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE OF THE TEMPLE?
   
   A. Solomon tells us why he wanted to build the first Temple—1 Kings 5:5a; 1 Kings 6:12-13. 
   
   B. The Temple in Jesus’ day was considered the “Third Temple”. 
   
   C. The Temple was built on the top of Mount Zion and comprised 35 acres. It was divided into four courtyards. 
      
      1. The first or outermost courtyard was for Gentiles. 
      2. The second was the courtyard for women. 
      3. The third was the courtyard for Israelites, meaning men. 
      4. The fourth courtyard was for the priests. 
      5. The courtyard comprised 6 acres and is the place our stor. 

II. JESUS’ CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE WAS ACTUALLY IT’S CONDEMNATION. 
   
   A. How many times did Jesus do this? 
   
   B. Who is right? 
   
   C. What did Jesus do and why?—Mark 11:5-16. 
      
      1. The greedy Jewish religious leaders had turned the Gentile courtyard into a market place. 
      2. Money changers exchanged foreign currency into a special coin minted by the Temple. 
      3. If people brought their own animal for sacrifice they were often rejected. 
      4. This courtyard had become a “shortcut” through the Temple area. 
   
   D. This evil commerce prompted Jesus to say two things—11:17. 

III. DOES THIS CLEANSING HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY TO US? 
   
   A. What does it say to us as a church? 
   
   B. What does it say to us as a Christian?—1 Cor. 3:16 and 2 Cor. 6:16.