

2026 Lent Bible Study

Week 3: The Temple (Zeal & Cleansing)

- **The Landscape:** Jerusalem—bustling, religious, chaotic, and commercial.
- **The Scripture:** John 2:13-22 (Jesus Cleanses the Temple).
- **The Wesleyan Connection:** The General Rules of the Methodist Church: *Do no harm, Do good, Stay in love with God*. A violation of these rules drove Jesus' anger in the temple—the religious system was doing harm (exploiting the poor) and preventing people from staying in love with God.
- **Reflection:** Jesus wasn't just angry at commerce; he was angry that the "House of Prayer for all nations" had become a place of exclusion and barrier-building. Lent is a time for internal house-cleaning. We must ask what tables need overturning in our own hearts—what clutter prevents us from being a welcoming home for the Holy Spirit?