

I. Read Luke 19:45-48

A. Read Mark 11:15-18 and discuss Jesus' response to those profaning the temple. Consider in particular these questions:

- * Wasn't Jesus a *nice* person? If so, why would He act in such a manner?

- * How does *goodness* affect a person's behavior?

- * How does *niceness* affect a person's behavior?

- * If Jesus was angry in the temple, did He commit sin? (Read Hebrews 4:15; Ephesians 4:26.)

- * Is anger ever sinful?

B. What are some circumstances in the contemporary church that are analogous to the temple incident?

Apply the aphorism "*the corruption of the best is the worst*" to what is happening in pulpits all across America.

- C. In verse 47, we read that Jesus continued “teaching daily in the temple.” Why?
- D. In verse 48, we read that the people were hanging on Jesus’ words. How might we reflect this same hunger today?
- E. Consider the following:
- * Bill is a new Christian. He has been told that Christians are happy all the time. This creates a lot of pressure on him. Is this true?

 - * Does anger present the same temptation equally to all men?

 - * Is anger contagious? (See Proverbs 22:24.)