

Cleansing of the Temple

Mark 11: 12-33

Dr. Clint Ayers March 8, 2009

On Monday Jesus was revealed as the true King.

On Tuesday, King Jesus pronounced His divine ruling on the heart of sinful people.

I. The Cleansing of the Temple

Mark 11: 15 – 18

Jesus declared that the hearts of men were corrupt, and that even their worship was ruined by sin. 11:17

People from all over the world came to the Temple at Jerusalem to find God, to find hope, but found neither. Jesus came to the Temple as the Messiah, but was rejected. Jesus condemned the corrupted worship in the Temple, and the sinful hearts it represents.

II. The Cursing of the Fig Tree

Mark 11: 12-14, 20

There should have been “Pre-season fruit” on the tree, but anyone who came to it for life-sustaining food would go hungry. The tree was a symbol of the Nation of Israel, and of all humankind. Jesus cursed the tree as a symbol of the sin of “spiritual fruitlessness” which fails to give help to the lost and refuses to give worship to the Lord.