

(5) First Stay in Capernaum (John 2:12)

(6) First Cleansing of the Temple (John 2:13-22)

1. Following the Cana wedding, Jesus spent a few days in Capernaum (Jn. 2:12).
 - a. He apparently established a place of residence for His earthly family (Mt. 4:13).
 - b. Capernaum will become His base of operations throughout His Galilean ministry (Mt. 9:1).
 - c. Capernaum means “village of Nahum” but its relationship to the OT writing Prophet by that name is unknown.
2. The Passovers recorded in the Gospel of John help us to establish a timeline for the ministry of Jesus Christ (Jn. 2:13; 6:4; 12:1 & probably 5:1).
3. This early cleansing of the Temple preceded the arrest of John the Baptist, and the Lord’s Galilean ministry. It is therefore not to be confused with the cleansing of the Temple He accomplished during His passion week (Matt. 21:12-16; Mk. 11:15-18; Lk. 19:45-47).
4. Jesus undoubtedly attended Passover every year, and did not stop doing so at the age of 12. This Passover however was His first as the Holy Spirit anointed Christ.
 - a. Before Jesus could ever reach a priest or a Levite, the Lord encountered merchants and bankers.
 - b. Jesus as the Christ forcibly evicted the profiteers from the earthly place of God the Father’s personal residence. “My Father’s house.”
 - c. Stop making my Father’s house a house of merchandise. μὴ ποιεῖτε τὸν οἶκον τοῦ πατρὸς μου οἶκον ἐμπορίου *mē poieite ton oikon tou patros mou oikon emporiou*.
 - 1) ἐμπόριον *emporion* ^{#1712}_{Hap.}: *a place where trade is carried on*, esp. a seaport (Jn. 2:16).
 - 2) ἔμπορος *emporos* ^{#1713}_{5x}: *one on a journey esp. for trade; a merchant* (wholesaler as opposed to retailer or tradesman) (Mt. 13:45; Rev. 18:3,11,15,23).
 - 3) ἐμπορεύομαι *emporeuomai* ^{#1710}_{2x}: *to travel for business, to traffic, to trade* (Jas. 4:13; 2nd Pet. 2:3).
 - 4) ἐμπορία *emporía* ^{#1711}_{Hap.}: *merchandise* (Mt. 22:5).
5. The marketing of religion was nothing new, nor even of human origin (Ezek. 28:16,18).
6. The Spirit Anointed Christ was consumed by zeal for God the Father (Jn. 2:17; Ps. 69:9).
 - a. κατασθίω *katesthiō* ^{#2719}_{14x}: *to devour, utterly consume*.
 - b. אָכַל *’akal* ^{#398}_{789x}: *to eat*.
 - c. This event and message was a Scriptural witness to His disciples 3 years later (Jn. 2:22).
7. The unbelievers demand for a sign, but what they need is salvation (Jn. 2:18-21).