

## Summary sheet 4 for John 2 vs 1-25 – (part B - vs 13-25)

**GOAL** of these 1-2-1 studies

**Realise that Jesus has arrived to bring in God's new creation (messianic) age – this is both wonderful and uncomfortable...**

### Context – how does this passage fit in?

The big build-up in ch 1 told us that Jesus is God and the Ruler/Messiah promised long ago in the OT. Now we see him in action... as both the wonderful Messiah who displays His glory by proving He is the one to usher in the promised messianic banquet and also that he is zealous for God's name as the promised Judge.

Remember John's purpose in writing this Gospel (20vs31) – we now see what it means for Jesus to be the Christ and also begin to see something of what it means to 'believe in his name' - responding rightly to his words not just being impressed by the miracles.

### Impact on us

John wants us, like the disciples, to believe that Jesus is the promised glorious Messiah, and that his new creation kingdom is wonderful, one of celebration and rich satisfaction. But his rule will also prove unsettling – because he has come to deal with sin.

### How John writes to make his point

Turning water into wine is the first of the major 'signs' Jesus does. These signs are more than just displays of miraculous power to impress people. They point to deeper realities, revealing who Jesus is and why he has come. The first two signs John records, in 2vs1-11 and 4vs46-54 (the healing of the official's son), act as bookends of this section. So, as we read the section we should be on the look-out for the major themes that will be introduced by the first sign and summed up by the second. We can expect the material in the middle to provide the explanation of these signs.

#### Structure

2vs1-12: God's Ruler is here. He is powerful and generous, able to bring in the longed for wonderful new creation in the future – Glory!

2vs13-25: God's Ruler is here to bring revolution and a new temple – Judgment!

### John's references to the Old Testament and why they matter – vs 13-25

#### The Temple/Judgment

The purpose of the Temple was to symbolize God's dwelling with his people. For years this had been turned into a hypocritical sham by the priests who served at the Temple. The OT prophets looked forward to a day when the 'messenger of the covenant' would come to His Temple and clear it, in an act of judgment that would restore real worship (see Malachi 3vs1-5). When Jesus announces his body as the new temple in vs20-21, he is making a remarkable claim: the place where God now resides among His people is Jesus!

### Some questions to consider – vs 13-25

**Opener:** How would most people expect Jesus to behave in a place full of devout/religious people?

**Considering the text1:** From what we see in the text, what are Jesus' reasons for acting like he does in the Temple? How particularly do v17, Jeremiah 7vs8-11, Malachi 3vs1-5 and Psalm 69v9 help us understand why Jesus is angry and what he will do about it? What will he also do about it through his resurrection?

**Considering the text2:** In vs18-25 Jesus clashes with the senior Jews. What do we begin to discover about what Jesus knows about people? What do the positive and negative examples in this passage begin to teach us about the kind of response Jesus is looking for?

**One to keep chewing on:** What do you think are the pros and cons of having Jesus as your ruler? What questions does this passage leave us with about how a person becomes part of Jesus' kingdom?