

"And when He had made a scourge of small cords, He drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; and said unto them that sold doves, 'Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise.'" John 2:15-16 KJV



Jesus cleansed the Temple once, and He is coming back to do it again! We see pictures painted by men trying to depict the Saviour as He may have appeared in the flesh. Most depict a figure that inspires nothing but disgust. He was not a fair-skinned effeminate pathetic teary-eyed longhaired European as all the paintings depict. Our Lord, while in the flesh, was a Hebrew carpenter's son before sawmills and power tools. In those days, all woodworking was by hand. Trees hewn, boards sawn, furniture formed, and finishing all done by hand. His hands were probably rough and calloused. His strength had to be enormous, and His stamina was strong enough to survive a forty day fast. He was Hebrew with olive brown skin and black short curly hair. (Think middle-eastern) We know He had a beard because they plucked it out. He walked everywhere He went. Some distances required weeks of travel and where does it say He wore white robes? His stature and presence commanded the respect of other men, and even the powerful Pharisees would only attempt to attack Him in groups. Imagine if you will, sitting inside, not outside, Herod's Temple in Jerusalem while you and others like you convert foreign monies into Jewish currency needed by the Temple. A lone figure walks in and starts throwing over tables, scattering your gold, and driving sheep, oxen, and men from the Temple with a handmade whip. There were quite a few men present, I'm sure, yet none dared oppose Him! Many against one and yet they ran! His presence alone commanded respect, and His anger was feared. What about the Temple guards? Maybe, now, we're starting to get the picture of Our Lord as He really was. I have never seen a manmade likeness that even comes close to what I have just described and that was just His appearance before He was crucified! Remember, they thought they needed a whole band of men to capture Him in the garden! On another thought, is your "temple" cluttered with oxen sheep, and money-changers? The Apostle Paul wrote to the believers at Corinth, "*Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.*" If you are a believer this applies to you. Maybe you have troubles, because God is cleansing His Temple? "*Be not deceived, God is not mocked; whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*" What are you sowing? Obedience or disobedience?

He stood alone, a man among men,
He came alone to die for our sin
He cleanses His House, e'en now as then
It is no place for a merchant's den! ~CGP

How does the glorified Jesus Christ look now? The last book of the Bible gives us a clue. John writes of what he witnessed firsthand. "*His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and His eyes were as a flame of fire; And His feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and His voice as the sound of many waters. His countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.*" Men feared Jesus the first time He was here in human form and this time He is coming back as Very God!

"In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:2-3 KJV