Real Faith or Empty Faith?

John 2:12—25

Jesus reveals His divine authority and pure holiness as the true Temple, confronting empty religion and exposing the difference between superficial belief and genuine faith that flows from a transformed heart.

Sunday, May 17, 2026 – Pastor Patrick Ransom

SERMON OUTLINE

SEE HIS AUTHORITY THAT CONFRONTS EMPTY RELIGION

A. **The Setting:** Jesus goes up to Jerusalem and enters the temple courts (vv. 12–14)
B. **The Action:** He drives out merchants and overturns tables, cleansing what was meant for worship (vv. 15–16)
C. **The Meaning:** His zeal for God's house reveals a passion for pure, **God-centered** worship (v. 17)

SEE HIS AUTHORITY THAT REDEFINES TRUE WORSHIP

A. **The Challenge:** Religious leaders demand a sign to validate His actions (v. 18)
B. **The Declaration:** Jesus points to His body as the true Temple that will be destroyed and raised (vv. 19–21)
C. **The Realization:** The disciples later understand that true access to God is found in Christ **alone** (v. 22)

SEE HIS AUTHORITY THAT DISCERNS TRUE FAITH

A. **The Response:** Many believe because of His signs, yet their faith remains **shallow** (v. 23)
B. **The Restraint:** Jesus does not entrust Himself to them (v. 24)
C. **The Reason:** He knows the human heart and sees beyond outward profession (v. 25)

FOLLOW THE CHRIST WHO PURIFIES AND KNOWS YOUR HEART

Where has your faith become more about outward habit than inward devotion, and what would it look like this week to let Jesus cleanse your heart, so your worship is truly centered on Him?

SERMON NOTES

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CAMERON

NEXT WEEK:
The New Birth
John 3:1—17