



- He was / is greatly angered by anything / any practice in God's house which interferes with worship (Isaiah 56:7 Malachi 3:1-3).  
A spirit of bitterness, of argument, of strife in the church makes worship impossible  
**What causes such a spirit in a church? Discuss**
- His anger only affected those with guilty consciences and they left, but those in need stayed (Matthew 21:14) as Love with its healing power remained.  
**What makes people leave the church / move from church to church? Discuss**

By quoting from Isaiah and Psalm 8:2 Jesus affirmed that He is God and as such has specific requirements of His House (church)

- Evidence of our dependence upon God and faith in His Word  
**How is this manifested? Discuss (1 Timothy 2:1-2 + 8)**
- The needy should feel welcome and find the help they require  
**How is this manifested? Discuss (Hebrews 10:24 Matthew 21:14)**
- God's power at work  
**How is this manifested? Discuss (Hebrews 10:23-25 1 Timothy 2:1-8)**
- Sincere and childlike praise  
**How is this manifested? Discuss (Psalm 84:4 + 12 Matthew 21:15-16)**

### **In Closing**

Fellowship with Christ / God unites us with God and each other. As our spirit's understanding (our formation as Christians) moves from mind to heart, the fruits of Faith, Hope and Love can be seen in our lives and ultimately in the life of the faith community / church.

### **PRAYER YOU MIGHT LIKE TO READ**

Blessed Lord, you gave us the Scriptures to point the way to salvation.  
Teach us to hear them, read them, and study them with love and prayer.  
Save us from our self-satisfaction, rigidity and corruption.  
Help us to see your presence among us so that we walk in the way of peace,  
and serve in your name, with your love, compassion, justice and mercy.  
Amen

### **SOURCES CONSULTED IN PREPARING THESE NOTES**

Barclay, William: The Daily Study Bible, revised edition, The Gospel of Matthew, volume 2  
Barclay, William: The Daily Study Bible, revised edition, The Letter to the Hebrews  
Gibson, John C.L. (ed): The Daily Study Bible, (Old Testament), Genesis, volume 2  
Wiersbe, Warren W.: The Bible Expository Commentary, volumes 1 and 2  
Life Application Bible (NIV)  
Spirit Filled Life Bible (New King James)