

**The Character of Jesus 5**  
**First Cleansing of the Temple**  
**John 2:13 – 25**

- Characteristic: Personal responsibility
  - (13) Jesus followed the Law, not considering Himself above it.
  - (15 – 16) He took action at the perversion of the Law.
  - No one was injured and no property was lost.
  - Jesus was passionate, not Stoic.
  - (17) His actions reminded His disciples of Psalm 69.
  - (19) He gave physical evidence as required of prophets.
  - (24) He did not entrust His mission to novice believers.
- Applications
  - Each has the responsibility to grow into Jesus' character. Especially considering the power and tasks of the indwelling Spirit, we are not above the demands of faith and love.
  - Who decides what is a perversion and what is deficient teaching?
  - Whatever we decide to do, we cannot justify property damage or personal injury.
  - Passion is appropriate if used well.
  - Our actions should remind people of the Scriptures.
  - We need to give evidence of the work of the Spirit.
  - Build up the faithful. Give others opportunity to grow. But don't let the system crash.