

A Clean Sweep
Matthew 21:1-14

Review:

1. Jesus not only has the ability to bring justice and healing to this world, but also the absolute authority to do so.
2. But Jesus doesn't promise to change all the outward circumstances of our lives
3. Instead, Jesus is more interested in cleansing us from our sin, in our spiritual purity

Reflect:

1. What material or physical blessings are you expecting Jesus to give you? Which of these has He promised in His Word?
2. What spiritual progress would you like to see in yourself in this new year?
3. What steps can you take to help your community follow Jesus more closely in this new year?

Go further: Read Psalm 119:9-16

1. In verse 9, how does the Psalmist say a young man can keep his way pure?
2. In verse 10, how does the Psalmist describe his desire for God?
3. What does he ask God to keep him from doing?
4. In verse 11, what does the Psalmist say he has hidden in his heart? Why does he say he has done this?
5. What does the Psalmist ask God to do in verse 12?
6. In verse 13, what does the Psalmist say he talks about all the time?
7. In verse 14, what does the Psalmist say gives him as much joy as worldly riches?
8. What two things does the Psalmist promise to think about in verse 15?
9. In verse 16, what does the Psalmist say gives him pleasure?
10. What does the Psalmist promise not to forget in verse 16?

Summary and Application:

1. Compare your desire to know and to do God's law with the Psalmist's words. Do you need to ask God to change the way you feel?
2. How much of God's Word have you committed to memory? Think of some verses that you would like to memorize.
3. Meditating on something involves rehearsing or repeating it. What parts of God's Word do you never get tired of reading or thinking about?