Encounters

A LENT DEVOTIONAL FOR KIDMIN

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ENCOUNTERS: IN THE TEMPLE

LUKE 19:41-46

“As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. *The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. *They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God’s coming to you.”

“When Jesus entered the temple courts, he began to drive out those who were selling. “”It is written,” he said to them, ‘’My house will be a house of prayer’[c]; but you have made it ‘a den of robbers.’[d]”

MARK 11:11,15-19

“*And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

*And they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. *And he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. *And he was teaching them and saying to them, “Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations’? But you have made it a den of robbers.” *And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, because they feared him, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching. *And when evening came they went out of the city.

PSALM 139:23-24

Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts!*

*And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!”
REFLECTIONS

What did you notice about the LORD in these passages? Where do you see Jesus?

What did you notice about the crowd’s responses to Jesus? What do they express?
As you reflect on these Scriptures, the encounter with Jesus in the temple, how does His response to the moneychangers and sellers strike you? What questions does it raise?

Reflect honestly on your communion with Him this week. Are you harboring any “chametz” in your life? Take a moment to look around your life, and confess what might be there today.