

Jan. 27th 2003

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9, 10, 11, midnight, still not finished. On the train home, still not finished. Arrive home, still not finished.

Sometimes it's hard to stop working, isn't it? Some jobs are, by definition, never-ending so the only way to manage them is to put the stops in yourself. For people who work from home the boundaries can be even more blurred than for those who commute. If you enjoy your work, are good at it and committed to it it's even harder. In fact, you may even be getting addicted to it - a workaholic.

There is a fascinating incident in the life of Jesus Christ, when He arrives in Jerusalem and goes to the Temple courts to look around. Events are hotting up, He is under pressure, His notoriety has spread, He has much to do and say. But, because it was getting late, He went home.

The next day He would clear out the moneylenders with a whip. In the moments that He looked around the temple, He knew what He must do tomorrow but He also knew that today was finished.

He knew it was time to stop. The next day He would commit acts which would lead to His execution, but that was tomorrow, now He had to stop, the day was over.

It takes great skill to know when the day's work is done. Many think that they are in overtime when they are merely past the sell by date for the day. Jesus Christ achieved in His life what He wanted to achieve. To start a revolution you will need to stop for the day. No-one on their deathbed says *I wish I'd spent less time with those I love..*

WORK WELL

Geoff Shattock, National Director

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Here is some biblical background to this week's wake up call.

Mark 11: 8-19

⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. ⁹Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

"Hosanna! "

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

¹⁰"Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!"

"Hosanna in the highest!"

¹¹Jesus entered Jerusalem and went to the temple. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

¹²The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry.

¹³Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. ¹⁴Then he said to the tree, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard him say it.

¹⁵On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple area and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, ¹⁶and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. ¹⁷And as he taught them, he said, "Is it not written: " 'My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations' ? But you have made it 'a den of robbers.' "

¹⁸The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.

¹⁹When evening came, they went out of the city.

WAKE UP NEWS

New resource for 2003. Have a look [here](#)

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