Whose House Is It?

(John 2:16)

Introduction: 1. There are many great lessons in the Bible that are "hidden in plain sight."
2. I've been studying the Bible the majority of my life and I continue to find things that, though I have read the words, I have failed to see the point.
3. Today's lesson comes from one of those incidents in my life that occurred to me this week.
4. I want to share what I learned, and then make application from it.

I.   My Father's House
A. "My Father"
1. Have you noticed that whenever we speak of God, we say, "our Father."
2. However, when Jesus spoke of God, he used the expression, "My Father" at least 59 times in the gospel accounts.
3. Jesus never used the expression "our Father," expect when he was teaching his disciples how to pray.
4. This demonstrates that Jesus' "sonship" to the Father is different from ours.
5. Jesus was not just a good man or a prophet, he was in a class all his own and God was his Father in a unique sense.
B. "Father's House"
1. (John 2:16).
2. The temple was "God's House" and Jesus was zealous for that (John 2:17; Psalm 69:9).
3. But notice what Jesus said about the temple just before he was to be crucified…
a. "Your house is left to you desolate" (Matthew 23:38).
b. As much as he was zealous for his "Father's house," he has now acknowledged that it is now "your house."
4. God had "left the building."

II.   Whose House Is This?
A. Today, the church is the house of God (1 Timothy 3:15; 1 Cor. 3:9-12).
B. But, don't think for a minute that because the church here, or anywhere has been the house of God, means that it will always be the "house of God."
C. What could cause God to abandon his house and leave it to us?
1. Losing your love (Revelation 2:1-7).
2. Compromise (Revelation 2:12-17).
3. Moral failure (Revelation 2:18-29).
4. Hypocrisy (Revelation 3:1-6).
5. Lukewarmness (Revelation 3:14-22).

Conclusion: 1. It's time for introspection.
2. Whose house is this?
3. Be warned: God can and does "move."