

Jesus in the Temple Rap

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This can be presented in a number of ways:

- one soloist and a group of children as the chorus
- 4 different soloists, one for each solo section, with a separate group of children forming the chorus
- the four soloists join together to form the chorus.

It depends on how many children you have wanting to take part.

You can expand or contract the cast to fit your numbers.

Introduction: After Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the donkey, he went to the Temple to pray. But when he got there, he didn't like what he found. Let's hear the story from some of the traders who were there:

Solo: This morning seemed like just another day
I went off to work
to earn my pay.
I work at the temple, don't ya know,
selling goods
to make some dough.
Lotsa other people do it too,
it's a mighty fine business
through and through.

Chorus: *He does his job,
he earns his pay
selling doves and lambs
at the temple all day.*

Solo: So there I was, just doing my job
minding my business
just a part of the mob.
This guy appeared
at the temple door:
he stopped and stared,
surveyed the floor.
Then he came on in,
shoved and pushed,
rearranged my neighbourhood.

Chorus: *Jesus came in and
cleared the Temple
overturned tables,
cleaned it up.
Jesus came in, mighty angry
cleaned up the Temple,
threw them out.*

Solo: He called us thieves,
he called us crooks,
ripped up all the
money-men's books.
He yelled as he smashed up
all our chairs,
"My father's house
is a house of prayer!"

Chorus: *Jesus came in and saw the temple,
Jesus came in and he saw red.
"My father's house is a church,
not a market;
a house of prayer," is what he said.*

Solo: Now what do you do when you're
faced with a guy
with a whip in his hand
and a gleam in his eye?
What do you do when you
don't know why
you're out of a job
'cos of just one guy?
Who is this Jesus?
Who's his Dad?
Why did he smash up
the temple so bad?

Chorus: (soft)
*Who is this Jesus?
Where's he from?
What's his agenda?
What's he want?*

(start crescendo)
*Who is this Jesus?
Who's his Dad?
Why did he smash up
the temple so bad?*

(louder) *Jesus came in and
cleared the temple,
threw out the money-men,
the traders fled;*

(louder) *"My father's house is a church,
not a market;
a house of prayer," is what he said.*

(forte) *"My father's house is a church,
not a market;*

(shout) *a house of prayer," is what he said!*

Rewritten in its present form by Marnie Agnew, from an idea from David Bailey formerly of the Coromandel Valley (SA) UCA. First performed as above in the Blackwood (SA) UCA, Palm Sunday 1996.

You can dress the rappers in Biblical style clothes, or, for a more up-beat look, use sunnies and back-to-front baseball caps.