

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION (John 2:13-25)

1. Have you ever been so angry about something or towards someone that you had a physical response?

What was the situation and why did it make you so angry.

What was your response?

Did you feel justified in responding that way?

Were you truly justified in responding that way?

Do you believe you were under control or out of control in how you responded?

2. Read verses 13-16

As you look at Jesus' response to what He sees taking place, what is your knee-jerk reaction?

What is it about this situation that elicits such a physical response from Jesus?

How is His response (carried out in true anger, no doubt) justifiable and not sinful?

What does this tell us about anger (morally speaking?)

Jesus is angered here because of the abuses of power preventing people from worshipping God as He is to be worshipped.

How do we see these types of actions taken in our time - preventing people from worshipping God rightly?

Do those actions anger us as Christ's ambassadors?

If so, how do we respond? If not, should they rightly anger us?

3. Read verses 18-22

As the Jews (likely indignantly) ask Jesus for a sign for all that He's just done.

What would their response have been if their hearts had been right before the Lord?

*There would only have been one right response when confronted like this over their selfishness & abuse of power.

What sign did He give them and how did they receive it?

Have you ever asked the Lord for a sign in your life?

If so, what did you ask for and did the Lord provide a sign? If He did, what was it?

4. Read verses 23-25

How do these three verses further reveal the nature, character, and deity of Jesus?

How do these verses further reveal the nature and character of man (people)?

What do you think it means that people believed in Him, but that Jesus did not entrust Himself to them?

What does that reveal about the belief of those who are in this passage?

Since verse 25 says, "he himself knew what was in man."

Given that this is true, what should our response be to the sin in our lives/hearts?

(if it helps, it's the same answer to the first question in number 3) :)

5. What was the impact of these events on the disciples?

How does the Lord use the same event to have two opposite effects?

(Disciples vs. Jewish legalists)

How does the Lord use this specific narrative to increase your belief in Him and further display His faithfulness to you.

6. Below are the "So What?" statements from the end of the sermon.

Do any of these particularly encourage, convict, challenge, you, and if so, how?

1. We should be angered by sin & injustice!

(An affront to God, is an affront to us too)

2. Our God requires our worship on His terms!

(So we MUST worship Him in Spirit & Truth)

3. Looking for a sign? - Look to Jesus!!

4. Jesus knows us and what is in us!

(So there's no reason to try to hide our sin)