



John 2:12-25 Discussion Questions

1. The overturning of the money changers' tables shows us that anger is an appropriate response in some situations. This is important for many contemporary Western Christians to understand as many of us are prone to complacency out of fear of imposing our ideas on others. We live in a culture that constantly encourages us to seek peace over truth.

However, in Galatians 5:20 Paul warns against outbursts of anger or rage.

What is an example of Christians being complacent and passionless toward something that should deeply disturb us? What is an example of inappropriate or sinful expressions of anger?

2. In view of the money changers who sought to turn God's house into a marketplace, one of the most egregious perversions of Christianity in the contemporary world is the prosperity gospel so common among televangelists and in some (not all) charismatic or Pentecostal churches. Other than the perversion of using the Gospel to get wealthy, what are some other examples of ways people use Christianity as a means to some other end?
3. Have you had the experience of talking with someone who asked a lot of questions without wanting real answers? Or maybe someone who asks the right questions for the wrong reasons?
4. It is made clear throughout the New Testament that the life, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus makes obsolete the temple that was so central to Jewish worship. (See Matt. 12:3-8 and Heb. 10). How, specifically, does this impact your life?
5. Have you ever had to do something you were confident was right in the eyes of God which also caused other people to think negatively of you? What was most difficult about this? Why do (most of us, at least) feel such a powerful pressure to seek others' approval?

