

HOME CHURCH SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

MATTHEW 21:12-22

rejected

God's Passion and Provision for All People

1. When was the last time you were really angry? What was the cause of your anger?
2. When you see something, wrong are you more likely to act without thinking or think without acting? Why do we often get this wrong?
3. Discuss this saying: You can tell a lot about a person by what makes them angry. From your general knowledge of the Bible and the incident in today's message, what would you say makes Jesus really angry? Talk together about what that reveals about your Master's passion. By contrast what made the religious leaders angry?
4. Jesus went on the offensive toward the merchandisers, turning over tables and benches and physically driving them all out of the Temple. How do you know from Jesus' first temple cleansing (John 2:14-15) and His visit to the temple the day before this cleansing (Mark 11:11) that He was being deliberate, instead of being rash or passive?
5. If the wrath of God is not a divine bad temper, how would you explain it to others? Read Romans 1:18 and Psalms 7:11. How is Jesus' anger in the temple perfectly in line with God's wrath when He physically threw out the merchandisers who were blocking people's way to God? Consider the types of people Jesus ministered to and healed. What kind of welcome would they have received from sellers looking for targets of overpriced religious goods?

These I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations. Isaiah 56:7
6. How is the goodness of God's wrath seen in how Jesus used the temple after He cleansed it? What would it be like if God were not a God of anger as well as love?
7. What in this text makes you want to give thanks and worship the Lord? Take some time to pray and give praise to the Lord.
8. If Jesus were to come and observed the activities in your heart and home, where might he start to turn over tables? Plead with Him for help to bring them in line with His holy beauty.



THINKING OF OTHERS IN A CRISIS

Read this Prayer in the time of a Pandemic

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

May we who are merely inconvenienced
remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors
remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working
from home remember those who must
choose between preserving their health
or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care
for our children when their schools close
remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips
remember those that have no place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money
in the tumult of the economic market
remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country,
let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot
physically wrap our arms around each other,
let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace
of God to our neighbors.

Amen.

God's Protection (Pray that God would
stop the virus through vaccines, or
miraculous intervention.)

God's Provision (Financial Institutions,
Job Shut Down, Hourly Wage Earners,
Fixed Income, Food Supply, Stores.)

Those in Authority (Wisdom and Unity
for Police, Fire, Gov -Local, State,
National, International Leaders)

Medical Personnel (Protection over Rx,
Drs, Nurses, & Hospital Staff; Wisdom for
Researchers, etc.)

Hearts of the People (They would turn to
Christ during this crisis; People would
come to faith in Christ, the nominal would
be awakened, and believers would go
deeper in their faith.)

Those at Greatest Risk (Healing for the
Sick, Compromised Immune Systems,
Elderly, Homeless.)

Our Schools (Wisdom for Leaders,
Teachers, Staff and Support Personnel;
Food for Kids, etc.)

The Church & Nonprofits (Members and
Elders, Pastors and Staff, Compassion
Care and Witness, etc.)

Family / Friends (They Feel Supported &
Loved, Enriching Family Time, Health,
Specific Needs and Opportunity for
Ministry and Witness, etc.)

Yourself (Ask the Holy Spirit to
specifically lead you as to how you can
be a light for Christ during this time in
your three circles: Family/Friends,
Neighborhood and Community.)