



 we are passionate people b/c
 God is passionate and we are made in his image

what is God passionate about?

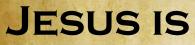
John 2:13-15 (New American Standard Bible)

First Passover--Cleansing the Temple

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus)went up to Jerusalem. And He found in the temple those who were selling oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. And He made a scourge of cords, and drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen; and He poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables;



- 2 Temple cleansings in Christ's ministry
- here- early and very public
- this is during Passover
- memorial feast of Exodus
- lots of sacrifices
- 1.5-2 million people
- an interesting time for Christ to show up at the Temple!





- animals were sold for use in
- sacrifices in the Court of the Gentiles
- unfair rates
- .05 doves selling for \$4 each
- 12.5% exchange rate on money
- the religious leaders didn't seem to care about the effect this had on worship
- Christ was angry about the mockery of worship
- are you using church for personal gain? business? profit?
- how can we best facilitate worship for all?

- v. 15- Christ is love but He is SO MUCH more
- He's passionate about reverence for and worship of God
- for His people and their passion for God!

John 2:16-18 (New American Standard Bible)

and to those who were selling the doves He said, "Take these things away; stop making (B)My Father's house a place of business." His disciples remembered that it was written, "ZEAL FOR YOUR HOUSE WILL CONSUME ME." The Jews then said to Him, "What sign do You show us as your authority for doing these things?"



- "my Father's house"= the purpose of the Temple was to show that the
- Father is supreme
- "a place of business"= you're using religion to camouflage your love of money
- Christ is about freeing us from the death that comes from loving money
- are you driven by the love of God or the love of money?

Psalm 69:9 (New American Standard Bible)

For zeal for Your house has consumed me, And the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me.

1 Corinthians 6:19 (New American Standard Bible)
Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

- 2 levels- the physical and the spiritual
- 1) the actual Temple
- 2) the body of Christ

He's accusing the Jews "You're destroying this place and are opening

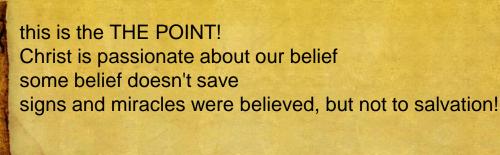
it up to God's wrath...

...and your greed and corruption will destroy me too."



John 2:22-25 (New American Standard Bible)

So when He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that He said this; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken. Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name, observing His signs which He was doing. But Jesus, on His part, was not entrusting Himself to them, for He knew all men, and because He did not need anyone to testify concerning man, for He Himself knew what was in man.



- Jesus knows everything about everyone
- He knows you perfectly! Know him!
- Christ is ready to love you, with perfect knowledge of you!
- What is the status of your belief?

- Are you passionate about worship?
- Are you a hypocrite?
- Are you a God wow-seeker?
- Salvation is in this text!
- God hates sin
- God can cleanse you through Christ's work
- God saves through belief
- Make us that church!

#### Hearts and Hammers

4/2 & 4/9

We will be working with Fort Bend Corps to repair homes for families in despair. Sign up at the resource center today!

#### Church Picnic

SAVE THE DATE - April 10<sup>TH</sup> @ 5PM At the Bonbrook Plantation Clubhouse.

(Clubhouse is located on Reading Road, 2 miles south of HWY59 in Rosenberg)

See you there!

#### Baptisms 4/24

Baptisms 4/24 - If you are interested in being baptized you must be at a mandatory meeting April 17th following the morning worship service.



No Sanctus this Wed. due to Spring Break

#### RGV Student Mission Trip 6/5—6/10

This is for students who are currently in 7th -12th grade. If your child is going we need an initial deposit of \$50.00 turned in by April 3rd. Another \$50.00 deposit will be due May 8th. All monies must be turned in by May 15th. If you sign up late there will be a late fee of 25.00 per child.