

Sunday October 18, 2026

_____ and _____ are not conducive to worship.

The ultimate source of our Lord's anger was _____—the love of God.

We don't come to God's house on _____ terms; we come to God on _____.

You can learn more about a person by what he _____ than by what he _____.

How we approach God during corporate worship is _____.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

POP QUIZ

1. According to John 2:12, who accompanied Jesus to Capernaum?

- A. His mother, His brothers, and His disciples
- B. His disciples and the temple priests
- C. His mother and the religious leaders
- D. His brothers and the money changers

2. What did Passover celebrate?

- A. Israel's return from Babylonian captivity
- B. David's establishment as king of Israel
- C. The dedication of Solomon's temple
- D. God's deliverance of Israel from Egypt

3. What did Jesus find being sold within the temple grounds?

- A. Oxen, sheep, and doves
- B. Lambs, donkeys, and camels
- C. Camels, horses, and donkeys
- D. Fish, chickens, and goats

4. What service did the money changers provide for visiting pilgrims?

- A. They arranged lodging outside Jerusalem.
- B. They sold travel permits for entering Jerusalem.
- C. They exchanged currency for temple-tax payments.
- D. They inspected animals brought for sacrifice.

5. According to the second key point, what ultimately motivated the Lord's anger?

- A. His resentment toward visiting pilgrims
- B. His love for God the Father
- C. His frustration with Roman taxation
- D. His desire for public recognition

6. What principle does the sermon draw from God's instructions for worship and the examples of Nadab, Abihu, and Korah?

- A. Sincere intentions make every form of worship acceptable.
- B. Religious leaders may set aside God's instructions.
- C. Personal preference should determine corporate worship.
- D. We must approach God on His terms.

7. What did Jesus do to the money changers' coins and tables?

- A. He collected the coins and removed the tables.
- B. He counted the coins and inspected the tables.
- C. He distributed the coins and purchased the tables.
- D. He poured out the coins and overturned the tables.

8. What did Jesus command those selling doves to stop doing?

- A. Gathering together for public prayer
- B. Traveling to Jerusalem during Passover
- C. Reading the Scriptures in the temple
- D. Turning His Father's house into a marketplace

9. What passage did the disciples remember in connection with Jesus' zeal for God's house?

- A. Psalm 84:1–2
- B. Psalm 23:1
- C. Psalm 95:6–7
- D. Psalm 69:9

10. According to the sermon, what should govern our evaluation of corporate worship?

- A. The purity of worship offered according to God's will
- B. The size of the congregation and its budget
- C. The popularity and variety of church programs
- D. The intensity of the congregation's excitement

11. What was the purpose of the religious authorities' demand for a sign?

- A. To ask Jesus how to exchange their money
- B. To request instructions for rebuilding the temple
- C. To invite Jesus to lead the Passover celebration
- D. To challenge Jesus' authority to do these things

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

Monday — Preparing to Worship | John 2:12–14

1. How do you prepare your heart to worship the Lord when you gather with His people?
2. What distractions most often compete for your attention during worship, and what practical steps could help you address them?
3. When has attending church become a routine rather than an opportunity to honor the Lord? What needs to change?

Tuesday — Honoring God’s Holiness | John 2:14–15

1. What does the Lord’s response to the temple marketplace reveal about how seriously He takes worship?
2. Have you accepted old attitudes or habits that dishonor the Lord? How can you develop new attitudes and habits of worship?
3. How can your new attitude help others worship?

Wednesday — Approaching God on His Terms | John 2:15

1. Where are you tempted to let personal preferences determine how you approach the Lord?
2. How does the Lord’s love for His Father help you understand His righteous anger?
3. When you become angry, are you usually defending God’s honor or your own comfort? What does that reveal about your heart?

Thursday — Growing in Zeal for the Lord | John 2:16–17

1. What currently receives your greatest passion, attention, and energy? How does your devotion to the Lord compare?
2. What does the Lord’s zeal for His Father’s house teach you about the difference between outward religious activity and heartfelt worship?
3. What specific step could you take this week to grow in love for the Lord and commitment to His gathered people?

Friday — Submitting to the Lord's Authority | John 2:18–21

1. How do you respond when the Lord's Word challenges something you want to keep doing?
2. Have you ever made obedience conditional on the Lord first giving you an explanation or a sign?

Saturday — Remembering and Believing His Word | John 2:22

1. What biblical truth has the Lord helped you understand more clearly over time? How has that strengthened your faith?
2. When you encounter something in Scripture you do not yet understand, how can you continue seeking understanding with humility and trust?
3. As you prepare for Sunday, what truth from this passage will shape your prayer, your attitude, and your participation in worship?