

5. Though the issue is relatively minor, one dogma of the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Church is “the perpetual virginity” Mary, teaching that she was a virgin before, during and after the birth of Jesus. How does John 2:12 along with Matthew 1:24-25 and Mark 6:3 contradict this teaching?

Think about it: In Deuteronomy 14:23-26 instruction is given about purchasing the appropriate offerings for temple sacrifice. According to Jesus’ words in 2:16, in what ways were the Jews likely abusing the practice?

6. What bearing would verse 17 have on John’s desire to prove that Jesus is the Messiah?
7. According to 2:22 what was the result of Jesus’ exchange with “the Jew” about destroying and raising up “this temple”?
8. Consistent with John 1:17 what result came from Jesus time in Jerusalem according to John 2:23?

9. Why was Jesus unwilling to accept people’s belief at face value?

10. Comparing 2:23 with 6:26 and 6:66, how might the “belief” of these people be described?

Personal Reflection

Revelation: The miracle at Cana and the clearing of the temple were used to reveal Jesus' divine authority, and also his close relationship with the Father. Why is this important?

Redemption: Jesus redeemed the honor of the wedding host in Cana, and revealed his authority and right to rule and reign in the temple. The host was grateful, the Jewish leaders, indignant. When Jesus works in our lives toward redemption and restoration, it is often a painful process. Are you more likely to respond like the host, or the Jewish leaders?