January 19

Fierce Jesus

Let the fierceness of your anger overtake them…
For they persecute him whom you have wounded. – Psalm 69:24,26

[John 2:13-25] The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, and the changers of money sitting. He made a whip of cords, and threw all out of the temple, both the sheep and the oxen; and he poured out the changers' money, and overthrew their tables. To those who sold the doves, he said, "Take these things out of here! Don't make my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will eat me up." [Psalm 69:9]

The Jews therefore answered him, "What sign do you show us, seeing that you do these things?"

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

The Jews therefore said, "It took forty-six years to build this temple! Will you raise it up in three days?" But he spoke of the temple of his body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he said this, and they believed the Scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.

Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in his name, observing his signs which he did. But Jesus didn't trust himself to them, because he knew everyone, and because he didn't need for anyone to testify concerning man; for he himself knew what was in man.

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1. What kind of Jesus is found in this account? How do you imagine him when you pray?

2. Why didn't Jesus explicitly tell the disciples about his death until later in his ministry?

3. Jesus, you were fierce on earth and you're still fierce in heaven, today I trust you to…