

Study Hints for Thinking Further
International Bible Lessons
Isaiah 56:6-8; Jeremiah 7:1-12; Mark 11:12-19
Sunday, April 6, 2014
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Five Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be the answers to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class.

Five Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. What foreigners did God welcome into His house of prayer? [Isaiah 56:6-8]

“The foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant” (Isaiah 56:6).

2. What are some people, places, or things that some people trust in today instead of trusting i God and expressing that trust by obedience? [Jeremiah 7:1-12]

Some trust in money or their wealth. Some trust in the fact that they are very important or know someone very important. Some trust in their ability to deceive anyone or that they are smarter than others. Some trust that because of what they believe about God, and because they do what their religious leaders say, they do not need to obey the Law of God.

3. What are some of the behaviors that God through Jeremiah told the people to stop doing? [Jeremiah 7:1-12]

Stop trusting in deceptive words. Stop treating others unjustly according to the Law of God. Stop oppressing the alien, the orphan, and the widow. Stop shedding innocent blood (stop child sacrifices). Stop following other gods. Stop stealing, murdering, committing adultery, lying, swearing falsely. Stop making sacrifices to Baal. Stop going to the temple and saying “We are safe!” when you are living disobedient to God. Stop doing all abominations. Stop making God’s house a den of robbers.

4. Why do you think the priests allowed the money changers and those who sold doves for sacrifices keep cheating the people, both before and after Jesus cleansed the temple? [Mark 11:12-19]

Because these robbers enriched the temple treasury and the priests.

5. Why do you think Jesus quoted from the Hebrew Scriptures (the Old Testament prophets) after He cleansed the temple? [Mark 11:12-19]

To teach the people and to tell the priests and robbers why He was cleansing the temple and that He wanted everyone, people and priests, to do what God's Word said. He wanted the temple leaders especially to enforce the Law of God, the Law of Love, so people would not be treated unjustly (especially when they came to God's house).

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