



I. Common Misunderstandings About Jesus

Some imagine “Jesus Is a Killjoy.”

- Religion is often blamed for draining joy from life

Question: *Is Jesus against joy – or against false sources of joy?*

II. Joy Without Compromise (John 2:1-11)

A. Jesus Enters Ordinary Human Life

- Jesus does not avoid joy; He enters it.
- He cares about embarrassment and shame

B. Mary’s Concern and Jesus’ Response

- Why is Mary anxious? Social shame, Family honor
- Jesus’ words are a **reminder of divine timing and mission**

Question: *Do I come to Jesus mainly to solve my problems – or to trust His purpose?*

C. The Stone Jars: Why the Details Matter (John 2:6)

- Jewish purification jars: Ritual cleansing - External religion

Key insight: Jesus fills the old jars to show that something greater has arrived.

D. Obedience Before Understanding

- Servants fill the jars completely - Full obedience

Personal reflection: *Am I willing to obey even when I don’t yet understand what God is doing?*

E. “You Have Saved the Best Until Now”

Truth: Jesus transforms emptiness into abundance – His way, in His time.

III. From Cana to the Future Feast (Looking Forward)

- A glimpse of the coming kingdom

Hope-filled promise: God’s story ends not in shortage, but in fullness.

IV. The Temple Cleansing: Authority and Truth (John 2:13–22)

A. Why the Money Changers Were There

- Convenience turned corruption
- Worship turned into business

B. Did Jesus Lose Control?

- Prophetic authority; Holy zeal

Key truth: Jesus is not attacking worship – He is restoring its meaning.

C. “Destroy This Temple...”

- They hear buildings - He means His body

Central claim: Jesus does not reform the Temple – He replaces it.

V. Belief That Falls Short (John 2:23–25)

Sobering insight: Jesus knows what is in the human heart.

VI. Believing for the Right Reasons

A. False Faith based on benefits

B. True Faith based on Submission to His authority

Personal question: *Why do I believe in Jesus?*

Reflection & the Bottom Line:

Jesus is the giver of true joy. But He **refuses** to be reduced to a miracle-worker, a tradition-keeper, or a **problem-solver on our terms**. The question John 2 leaves us with is not “*What can Jesus do for me?*” but “*Who is Jesus – and will I trust Him?*”

Questions for the Heart

1. What does this chapter teach us about joy and holiness?
2. Why does Jesus confront religious systems so early?
3. What kind of belief does Jesus accept – and what kind does He reject?
4. *When Jesus disrupts my expectations, do I resist Him – or follow Him?*