

# Lesson Audio #4

Lent: Becoming a Better Christian

# PASSIONS AND A PATH TO PEACE

- **But Jesus was angry!**
- **Anger's use:**  
The spearman of reason and  
the avenger of desire
- What is the vice of anger?
- What is patience? Does doing good works help?
- Avarice, or greed - what evil does it generate?
- Distinguish between material poverty and spiritual poverty.

**What Do you make of Jesus'  
Anger, you know, looking like  
a madman at the temple?**

**Read Mark 3**

**The man with the withered hand**

**Jesus healed him on the Sabbath**

# Spearman of reason, Avenger of desire

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- **Anger's use:** The spearman of reason and the avenger of desire (7DS 4.9)
  - Just as desire (concupiscence) is in us to help us survive, so is anger a kind of gift.
  - **Spearman of reason**—The vices of others are irrational, and so sometimes we may be justly angry, like when an innocent person is accused for evil reasons.
- **Avenger of desire**—Anger helps us to get what we need; sometimes, we have to confront difficult tasks.

**What is the Vice of Anger?**

- **The Virtue of Patience**
- **What is the virtue of patience,**
- ***makrothumia*, or *longanimity*?**
- **It is a long-suffering, a “greatness of spirit,” the endurance of evils.**
- **Still, you must know when to stand up for oneself . . .**

**In Lent we pray, give to the poor, and fast from something!**



**There is VIRTUE in not being money hungry!**

**“Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return;  
the LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away;  
blessed be the name of the LORD” (JOB 1:21).**

**Can you give up possessions?**