

Jesus Teaches at the Feast of Tabernacles

Part 1 - John 7:11-36

Jesus had been gone from Jerusalem for about _____ months but returned for the popular Feast of Tabernacles and taught in the Temple. In his Gospel, John the Apostle highlights both Jesus' _____ and the various _____ from the crowds.

The people who heard Jesus at the Feast of Tabernacles:

- “Jews” –
- “People” –
- “Some of them of Jerusalem” –

I. Background - The people's various opinions concerning Jesus' _____

“Then the Jews _____ him at the feast, and said, Where is he? ¹²And there was much murmuring (Lit. _____) among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a _____ man: others said, Nay; but he _____ the people. ¹³Howbeit no man spake openly of him for _____ of the Jews.” John 7:11-13

“Where is he” –

Two Opinions:

- “He is a good man” –
- “he deceiveth the people” –

“no man spake openly of him for fear of the Jews.” –

II. First Teachings and Debates – “Midst of the feast”

“Now about the _____ of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and taught. ¹⁵And the Jews _____, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned? ¹⁶Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine (Lit. _____) is not mine, but his that sent me. ¹⁷If any man will do his _____, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself. ¹⁸He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own _____: but he that seeketh his glory

that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him. ¹⁹ Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law? Why go ye about to _____ me?” John 7:14-19

A. Interaction with “Jews” –

“about the midst of the feast” –

The Jew’s Question:

“How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?” –

Jesus’ Answer:

1. Jesus’ Origin and Authority - “My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.” v. 16 –

2. Jesus Teaches about How to Identify Truth –

- Personal commitment to truth – v. 17 **The listener must be _____ to know and obey truth, regardless of how painful or counter-cultural it is to their soul!**

- Observe who the teacher highlights – v. 18 **The listener can _____ who the teacher will hold up, highlight, or, as our KJV says, “seek” the glory of!**

“Why go ye about to kill me? v. 19 –

“The _____ answered and said, Thou hast a devil: _____ goeth about to kill thee?

²¹Jesus answered and said unto them, I have done _____ work, and ye all marvel. ²²Moses therefore gave unto you circumcision; (not because it is of Moses, but of the fathers;) and ye on the _____ day circumcise a man. ²³If a man on the _____ day receive circumcision, that the law of Moses should not be broken; are ye angry at me, because I have made a man every whit whole on the _____ day? ²⁴Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.” John 7:20-24

B. Interaction with “people” –

The People’s Question:

“Thou hast a devil: who goeth about to kill thee?” –

Jesus’ Answer:

“I have done one work” –

“ye on the sabbath day circumcise a man” –

“are you angry at me, because I have made a man every whit whole on the sabbath day?” –

“Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.” –

“Then said some of them of _____, Is not this he, whom they seek to _____?
²⁶But, lo, he speaketh boldly, and they say nothing unto him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is the very Christ? ²⁷Howbeit we _____ this man whence he is: but when Christ cometh, no man knoweth whence he is. ²⁸Then cried Jesus in the temple as he taught, saying, Ye both know me, and ye know whence I am: and I am not come of myself, but he that _____ me is true, whom ye know not. ²⁹But I know him: for I am from him, and he hath _____ me.” John 7:25-29

C. Interaction with “them of Jerusalem” –

The “them of Jerusalem” Question:

“Is not this he, whom they seek to kill?” –

“Do the rulers know indeed that this is the very Christ?” –

It Can't Be:

“we know this man whence he is” –

“when Christ cometh, no man knoweth whence he is.” –

Jesus' Answer:

“Ye both know me and ye know whence I am: and I am not come of myself, but he that sent me is true, whom ye know not. But I know him: for I am from him, and he hath sent me. But I know him: for I am from him, and he hath sent me.” v. 28-29 –

- You think you know me:
- Continued Debate on Jesus' Origin and Authority – “God sent me”

“Then they _____ to take him: but no man laid hands on him, because his hour was not yet come. ³¹And many of the people _____ on him, and said, When Christ cometh, will he do more miracles than these which this man hath done?” John 7:30-31

D. Great Division in the Temple

“sought to take him” –

“many of the people believed on him” –

“The Pharisees heard that the people murmured (Lit. - _____) such things concerning him; and the Pharisees and the chief priests (Lit. - _____) sent officers to take him.

³³ Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that _____ me.

³⁴ Ye shall seek me, and shall not _____ me: and where I am, thither ye cannot _____.

³⁵ Then said the Jews among themselves, Whither will he go, that we shall not _____ him? will he

go unto the dispersed among the Gentiles, and teach the Gentiles? ³⁶What manner of saying is this that he said, Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come?” John 7:32-36

E. Religious Leaders Unite Against Jesus

Move to Officially Arrest Jesus:

Jesus’ Answer:

“Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me.” –

“Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come.” –

Religious Leaders’ Confusion:

“Whither will he go?” –

“What manner of saying is this that he said, Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come?” –

Believers’ Application:

1. Are you a vocal believer in Jesus? Everyone at the Feast of Tabernacles was talking about Jesus, the Religious Leadership, the pilgrims, and the locals. Some believed He was a good man (v. 12), others a deceiver (v. 12), or demon-possessed (v. 20), and a few thought He might be the Messiah (v. 26). Everyone was willing to talk about Him, but no one was willing to stand up for or with Him before the crowds. Opinions were very divided. The belief that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God, was not the popular position. But how about us? Do we only speak of Christ when it is comfortable and common, but are unwilling to side with and stand for Him amidst opposition? (v. 13) Let’s have courage, pray for opportunity, and be bold! Jesus gave this instruction to the disciples when sending them out on their first solo mission, as recorded in Matthew 10:24-33. “Fear them not” – our natural reaction is fear, but Jesus always tells us to “fear not.” Why?

1. You have an important _____ to tell! v. 26-27

2. You have an eternal _____ in heaven! v. 28

3. You are _____ to God! v. 29-31

2. We have been examining the confusion surrounding Jesus that existed after three years of His ministry. Many had limited knowledge of His works and words; some depended on the opinions and words of others; and others approached Jesus with a predetermined mindset. Please understand that this remains the same today – many people have limited knowledge of Jesus, depend on others' thoughts or teachings about Jesus, or hold a predetermined opinion of Him. But really, we all need to search out who Jesus is individually! Let's see who Jesus is according to the Bible!

Fill in the blanks with the correct word: WAY; ETERNAL; GOD; TRUSTWORTHY; SAVIOR

1. John 1:1-3; 14; 10:30-33 - Jesus is _____.

2. John 1:29; 3:17; 4:42; 1 John 4:14; Romans 6:23 - Jesus is _____.

3. John 3:16; 11:25-26; 14:6; Romans 10:9; 1 Timothy 2:5 - Jesus is the only _____ to God.

4. John 12:44-50; 14:1, 14; Philippians 4:19 - Jesus is _____.

5. John 1:1; 8:58; 16:27-28; 1John 5:20 - Jesus is _____.