

The Gospel of John Part 34: Jesus's Answer to the Confused (Part 1-3)

John 7:11-29



John 7:11-29 So the Jews were seeking Him at the feast and saying, "Where is He?" 12 And there was much grumbling among the crowds concerning Him; some were saying, "He is a good man"; others were saying, "No, on the contrary, He leads the crowd astray." 13 Yet no one was

speaking openly about Him for fear of the Jews. 14 But when it was now the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and began to teach. 15 The Jews then were marveling, saying, "How has this man become learned, not having been educated?" 16 So Jesus answered them and said, "My teaching is not Mine, but from Him who sent Me. 17 If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know about the teaching, whether it is of God or I speak from Myself. 18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who is seeking the glory of the One who sent Him, He is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him. 19 "Did not Moses give you the Law? And yet none of you does the Law. Why do you seek to kill Me?" 20 The crowd answered, "You have a demon! Who seeks to kill You?" 21 Jesus answered them, "I did one work, and you all marvel. 22 For this reason Moses has given you circumcision (not because it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and on the Sabbath you circumcise a man. 23 If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath so that the Law of Moses will not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made an entire man well on the Sabbath? 24 Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment." 25 So some of the people of Jerusalem were saying, "Is this not the man whom they are seeking to kill? 26 And look, He is speaking openly, and they are saying nothing to Him. Do the rulers truly know that this is the Christ? 27 However, we know where this man is from; but whenever the Christ comes, no one knows where He is from." 28 Then Jesus cried out in the temple, teaching and saying, "You both know Me and know where I am from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know. 29 I know Him, because I am from Him, and He sent Me."

Jesus's sermon at the Feast of Booths both opens and closes with a crowd that is confused and they don't know what to believe concerning Jesus. Some say He is a "good man" or "a prophet" or "the Christ", while others say He is a deceiver who "leads the people astray" and He is not the Christ. This very same confusion concerning Jesus remains in our day today. It is among this confusion that Jesus offers three ways we can know that He truly is the Christ, the anointed One of God.

1) You Can Know Jesus is the Christ By What He Says. Jesus tells the crowd that His very word, the things that He teaches, reveal the truth concerning His identity. Everything Jesus taught, everything that Jesus said during His earthly ministry was not His words, but the very words of God the Father. It is the one who seeks God, who desires to do the will of God that will hear and know Jesus is the Christ by what He says. We can trust in Jesus as Lord today because in all His words He glorifies the Father who sent Him.

2) You Can Know Jesus is the Christ By What He Does. Jesus confronts His accusers by showing them that His works among the people do not trespass against the Law of God, rather, they honor the Law of God in every way. The signs that Jesus performed were indeed marvelous. There is no other explanation for the things Jesus did other than only God can do that. Jesus challenges the crowd and His critics to not judge His works by worldly standards, but to evaluate them against God's standard for righteousness. We can trust in Jesus as Lord today because in all His ways He fulfilled the righteousness of the Father who sent Him.

3) You Can Know Jesus is the Christ By Where He Is From. Jesus tells the crowd that His origins, the very place from which He has now come to them, is not from some town in Israel but is from the very presence of God the Father. No other man who has come in the name of God, who has come claiming to be the Christ has an origin from heaven. Jesus did not become the Christ when He was born, Jesus has always existed as God before the world came to be. Though Jesus reveals Himself to humanity in the form of a man, His origins are eternal and He came into the world out of the presence of God the Father. We can trust in Jesus as Lord today because He is the eternal and divine Son of God sent by the Father to save the lost.