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## John 7

### Jesus Teaches at the Feast

**1After these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Jewry, because the Jews sought to kill him.**

Galilee was a more diverse population not a heavy concentration of the Jews. There were of course Jews there but due to the distance from Jerusalem and the Temple the Sanhedrin and had less influence on the Jews of Galilee. Judaism was of course those who Jesus had come for as His priority, so He would continue to speak to the Jews. It didn't mean that gentiles did not hear and see Jesus, they did. The Canaanite woman in Matthew 15 was a gentile, let's see what action Jesus used with her.

*Matthew 15: 21Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon. 22And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil. 23But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. 24But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 25Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. 26But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. 27And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. 28Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O*

***woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt.  
And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.***

One might say it is almost begrudgingly that the Messiah blesses this gentile woman. In fact, it is what Jesus wanted all along, but He was sent first to the Jews and when they rejected Him, the gentiles were invited in. It is simply the progression of Salvation to the world.

### **2Now the Jews' feast of tabernacles was at hand.**

From Got Questions:

*“The Feast of Tabernacles begins and ends with a special Sabbath day of rest. During the days of the feast all native Israelites were “to dwell in booths” to remind them that God delivered them out of the “land of Egypt” and to look forward to the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ, who would deliver His people from the bondage of sin.”*

**3His brethren therefore said unto him, Depart hence, and go into Judaea, that thy disciples also may see the works that thou doest.**

His brethren can refer to His half-brothers or His disciples that were with Him. They apparently wanted Jesus to be known for what He was doing as to miracles.

**4For *there is no man that* doeth any thing in secret, and he himself seeketh to be known openly. If thou do these things, shew thyself to the world. 5For neither did his brethren believe in him.**

James and Jude, Jesus's half brothers were not believing that Jesus was the Messiah in the beginning of His ministry. Later that changed as they saw the power that God had given Him. Their refusal to believe in Jesus their half brother would be easy to understand as they were raised with Jesus. Jesus fully understood and addressed the issue of a prophet being not recognized or listened to in his own town.

***Matthew 13:57 And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.***

**6Then Jesus said unto them, My time is not yet come: but your time is alway ready.**

**Q.** What did Jesus just tell His disciples?

“Your time is always ready” their ability to share the Good News about the Messiah was available right then. Jesus had to be patient as to when He entered Jerusalem at the right time. That was the catalyst that would bring about His Crucifixion. It had to be done at the Passover to fulfill prophecy.

***1 Peter 1: 18Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: 20Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, 21Who by him do***

*believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.*

The Law required a specific sacrifice in Exodus 12:5

*Exodus 12:5 5Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: 6And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.*

Jesus knew the timing that God had set for His crucifixion so He worked to accomplish that as God designed.

**7The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil. 8Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up yet unto this feast; for my time is not yet full come. 9When he had said these words unto them, he abode *still* in Galilee.**

Jesus explained to His disciples and brothers that His arrival was to be at a set time according to prophecy.

**10But when his brethren were gone up, then went he also up unto the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret. 11Then the Jews sought him at the feast, and said, Where is he? 12And there was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; but he deceiveth the people. 13Howbeit no man spake openly of him for fear of the Jews.**

Jesus knew His timing but went up discretely to observe what was going on. He listened to what the people were saying. He learned

that the city was partly divided as to who Jesus was. He also learned that the anger from the Jewish Religious leaders had made it clear of their angst against Him and they were seeking Him. That made people afraid to speak openly about Jesus.

**14Now about the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and taught.**

Jesus revealed Himself in the temple itself, certain to be recognized by the ruling religious leaders.

**15And the Jews marvelled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?**

To be a teacher the Jews required that a person be trained extensively under the tutelage of a mature Rabbi. It was the depth of knowledge that Jesus had of the Scriptures that surprised them. Many knew He was the son of a carpenter and could not account for His knowledge.

**16Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.**

Jesus knew the doctrine of God as He and His Father and Holy Spirit had created it. When Jesus says it is not mine, His reference is that of He as a human setting aside His Power and Authority, instead relying on God and the Holy Spirit to lead Him as a man.

**17If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or *whether* I speak of myself.**

Our hindsight again along with studying the whole council of God gives us an insight into God's doctrine and how we see Jesus carrying it out.

**18He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.**

Our term today would be "self-aggrandizing". We have seen people do that and it is repugnant. When we see someone point to others as the source of accomplishment it is refreshing. In Jesus's case, He always pointed to the Father and the Holy Spirit as the source of all good and righteousness.

**19Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law? Why go ye about to kill me?**

This time in Jerusalem was tense and Jesus knew they wanted to take Him and kill Him. They knew the Law but did not know or understand the Spirit of the Law or who He really was.

**20The people answered and said, Thou hast a devil: who goeth about to kill thee?**

In this first century in Judea a means of discrediting someone was to say that had a demon. The Greek word for "demon" is

“daimonion,” which refers to evil spirits or those opposed to God. The last part of the verse the Jews (not religious leaders) at this time were questioning His saying “who goeth about to kill thee?” We know that the plot to kill Jesus was held by a relative few in the religious leadership. The folks Jesus was talking to at this point were not aware of the plot against Him.

## January 26, 2025

A brief conversation about God and Evil. God and Evil cannot coexist. We see the extent that Jesus went to, to show us this fact. Jesus showed us every dimension of God’s Love, Mercy and Grace through forgiveness, healings, compassion.

God has repeatedly warned Israel and the world through Israel about evil. Evil is never satisfied with coexistence, even if evil has the upper hand and becomes dominate over Righteousness. Evil will always demand the extinction of God and Righteousness. For example, when we read about what God told Israel to do when it went in to possess the promised land.

***Deuteronomy 7: 1When the LORD thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou; 2And when the LORD thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt***



*smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them: **3**Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. **4**For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly. **5**But thus shall ye deal with them; ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire. **6**For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth.*

***7**The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: **8**But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. **9**Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations; **10**And repayeth them that hate him to their face, **to destroy them**: he will not be slack to him that hateth him, he will repay him to his face. **11**Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which I command thee this day, to do them.*

It is why Hamas, and the people of Gaza should not be allowed to live. The world says, Evil says, to pacify them, to only destroy their military but let the rest live. Can you tell me at what point burning an infant in an oven, or kidnapping women and repeatedly raping them for over a year is a sign that this people



can be satisfied with coexistence? The quandary comes in many forms and often from what we call a civilized society, but it is really from Evil itself.

A Civilized Society would never carry out extermination of an entire people, because Evil, Satan would whisper in their ear; you can't do that, that would be uncivilized. It may not be the place for Israel or the US to do an extermination of a people, but God warned Israel of that very thing in Deuteronomy 7.

God again warns us of a little leaven and what it does to the whole loaf as an example of what a little sin, a little evil can do to an entire civilization. I do not expect Israel or the US to carry out what God says. No, we will as a civilized society watch our children and grandchildren succumb to the power of evil. Evil does not now or ever want to coexist; it demands the destruction of righteousness and of God.

In the next few verses Jesus will point out the religious leader's hypocrisy in that they say one thing and do another.

In the end God will exterminate millions of people, because He knows their hearts.

***Jeremiah 5: [26](#)For among my people are found wicked men: they lay wait, as he that setteth snares; they set a trap, they catch men.***

**27As a cage is full of birds, so are their houses full of deceit: therefore they are become great, and waxen rich.**

**28They are waxen fat, they shine: yea, they overpass the deeds of the wicked: they judge not the cause, the cause of the fatherless, yet they prosper; and the right of the needy do they not judge.**

**29Shall I not visit for these things? saith the LORD: shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?**

**30A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land;**

**31The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?**

**Matthew 23:27-28**

**Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and every kind of impurity. / In the same way, on the outside you appear to be righteous, but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.**

**Genesis 6: 1And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, 2That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. 3And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. 4There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.**

**5And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at**

*his heart. [7](#)And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.*

Don't think for a minute that God is not capable of total destruction of mankind. Evil will not cohabit with Righteousness. God is Righteousness and He WILL ANNIHILATE EVIL.

How could a loving God do such a thing? God gave us the rules, He does not destroy us, we destroy ourselves in spite of His Love, Mercy and Grace.

Now to our study.

[21](#)Jesus answered and said unto them, I have done one work, and ye all marvel. [22](#)Moses therefore gave unto you circumcision; (not because it is of Moses, but of the fathers;) and ye on the sabbath day circumcise a man. [23](#)If a man on the sabbath 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 sabbath day? [24](#)Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.

Jesus did a righteous, loving thing on the Sabbath by healing a man that had been that way for years. A man that none of the religious leaders had ever done anything personally to love or help. However, because the law tells them to circumcise a male child on the 8<sup>th</sup> day even if it falls on the Sabbath, they obey the

law that breaks another law. Jesus who is God and with God the Father created the Law understands that there is something greater than the Law even then. That was Love. We as humans even Believers can never fulfill the Law, except by one thing.

**Q.** Anyone know what the one thing a Believer can do to fulfill the law?

***Matthew 27:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.***

***Romans 13:10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.***

***Galatians 5:14***  
***The entire law is fulfilled in a single decree: "Love your neighbor as yourself."***

***James 2:8***  
***If you really fulfill the royal law stated in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well.***

***1 John 4:7-8***  
***Beloved, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. / Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.***

***1 Corinthians 13:4-7***  
***Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. / It is not rude, it is not self-seeking,***

***it is not easily angered, it keeps no account of wrongs. / Love takes no pleasure in evil, but rejoices in the truth. ...***

***John 13:34-35***

***A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also must love one another. / By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another.”***

***1 John 3:14***

***We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. The one who does not love remains in death.***

***1 John 4:20-21***

***If anyone says, “I love God,” but hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. / And we have this commandment from Him: Whoever loves God must love his brother as well.***

***Matthew 7:12***

***In everything, then, do to others as you would have them do to you. For this is the essence of the Law and the Prophets.***

***1 John 5:2-3***

***By this we know that we love the children of God: when we love God and keep His commandments. / For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome,***

***Leviticus 19:18***

***Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against any of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.***

***Deuteronomy 6:5***

***And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.***

**Proverbs 10:12**

***Hatred stirs up dissension, but love covers all transgressions.***

**Micah 6:8**

***He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you but to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?***

**Zechariah 7:9-10**

***“This is what the LORD of Hosts says: ‘Administer true justice. Show loving devotion and compassion to one another. / Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor. And do not plot evil in your hearts against one another.’***

**Is Jesus the Messiah?**

**25Then said some of them of Jerusalem, Is not this he, whom they seek to kill?**

What may have been a private plot against Jesus by the Jewish leaders has gotten out amongst the people. This group spoken of here is a smaller group within the larger group that was following to see and hear Jesus when He spoke. They had heard the rumors of the Jewish leadership seeking to arrest Jesus for healing a man on the Sabbath. Not seeing an attempt to arrest Jesus this group starts to speculate that the leadership may think this is the Messiah (Christ) the anointed one.

**26But, lo, he speaketh boldly, and they say nothing unto him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is the very**

**Christ? [27](#)Howbeit we know this man whence he is: but when Christ cometh, no man knoweth whence he is.**

**[28](#)Then 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 sent me is true, whom ye know not.**

Jesus speaks to the knowledge that many had of Him as to His family here on earth. He then goes on to say that even knowing that Jesus says He did not come of Himself but is from the One Who sent Him, and that very One that sent Him, Jesus declares they do not know. They would walk in the Law or at least appear to, but their hearts were far from God.

**[29](#)But I know him: for I am from him, and he hath sent me. [30](#)Then they sought to take him: but no man laid hands on him, because his hour was not yet come. [31](#)And many of the people believed on him, and said, When Christ cometh, will he do more miracles than these which this *man* hath done?**

Multiple things happened almost simultaneously; the leadership wanted to take Jesus right then, but no one made the move to do so. Secondly watching all of what was happening and what Jesus was saying, “many of the people believed on Him”. Part of what convinced these folks to Believe in Jesus was the miracles they saw Him do. In themselves they could not imagine that another



One, would come that would or could do more miracles than they had seen Jesus already do.

The Pharisees were in quite a quandary, they wanted to stop Jesus sooner rather than later, but they were faced with a growing number of supporters of Jesus among the people. In spite of that the Jewish Leadership sent officers of the Pharisees to take Jesus into custody. These officers are then confronted by Jesus who speaks openly with them, causing them to doubt their mission.

**32The Pharisees heard that the people murmured such things concerning him; and the Pharisees and the chief priests sent officers to take him. 33Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while am I with you, and *then* I go unto him that sent me. 34Ye shall seek me, and shall not find *me*: and where I am, *thither* ye cannot come.**

Jesus speaks directly to the officers sent to take Him, but obviously so the whole crowd could hear. Jesus declares that He will stay a little longer and then will return to the One who had sent Him. It was cryptic in that He was speaking of God the Father, but they were still wrestling with knowing that His mother was Mary and supposed father was Joseph. Jesus had told them that they did not know who had sent Him just prior to this comment. He was speaking of the Father.

Again, we have the benefit of the whole Bible, we can see how the Old Testament prophets spoke of things to come primarily of the Messiah. Jesus fulfilled many of those prophecies and will fulfill more. But as these people including the officers sent to arrest Him, they are living through those vary prophecies and don't have the view that we have.

When He tells them He will go to the One who sent Him, we know at once He is talking about God the Father. These folks had to figure that out based on what they had seen and what Jesus was saying. They knew the prophecies, but the leadership was rejecting that Jesus was the Messiah. That caused great confusion to most people including some of His disciples.

We also know that Jesus was to be crucified and be raised from the dead. Only being able to see the whole council of God are we able to put it all together and Believe. This was happening in real time for these folks.

**35Then said the Jews among themselves, Whither will he go, that we shall not find him? will he go unto the dispersed among the Gentiles, and teach the Gentiles?**

One concern that they had and figured at least this part out, if He was the Messiah and they the chosen people rejected Him, would He abandon them and go to the Gentiles. A fearful thought.

**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?**

Being cryptic was a hallmark of Jesus, He did this to force the people to consider what they knew of the prophets, what they were seeing and hearing and come to a conclusion based on those facts. He added to the mystery by telling them that they could not find Him where He was going to. We know that only Believers will be with Christ in His kingdom.

### **Living Water**

**37In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.**

The word “cry” in Greek from Strong’s Concordance

**Pronunciation:** krah'-zo

**Phonetic Spelling:** (krad'-zo)

**Definition:** To cry out, to shout

Christ was determined to be heard so He spoke loudly, “**If any man thirst let him come unto me and drink**”. We have seen this happen before with the woman at the well. The Spiritual reality is that Jesus was talking about the Holy Spirit. All of mankind thirst from one time to another, but Jesus was speaking of Soul and Spirit thirst. A thirst of the Spirit that cannot be quenched in any human manner. It can only be quenched by the

Holy Spirit. Jesus wants us to drink in if possible the Holy Spirit. In reality when we repent and ask Christ to save us He sends us the Holy Spirit. It is through that act of Salvation that we receive Spiritual water that lasts an eternity. The problem for those that heard Jesus was that the power of the Holy Spirit in the way Jesus spoke was not yet available as Christ had not been Glorified.

**38He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. 39(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet *given*; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)**

### **Division of People over Jesus**

**40Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, Of a truth this is the Prophet. 41Others said, This is the Christ. But some said, Shall Christ come out of Galilee?**

Aside from the Jewish leaders there were two opinions forming about Jesus and one dismissive notion. One that He was a prophet or secondly that He was the “Christ” Christos in Greek, meaning the “Anointed One” the Messiah in Hebrew.

There was a idea was of a negative nature in that Galilee was so poorly thought of nothing good would ever come out of Galilee. Even though there thinking was prejudiced they just did not know

the truth of where Jesus was born. He in fact fulfilled prophecy by being born in Bethlehem.

**42Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was? 43So there was a division among the people because of him. 44And some of them would have taken him; but no man laid hands on him.**

The prophecy of where the Messiah was to be born was from the Prophet Micah.

***Micah 5:2 But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come forth for Me One to be ruler over Israel—One whose origins are of old, from the days of eternity.***

The linkage of Bethlehem to David started in 1 Samuel 6.

***1 Samuel 6: 1Now the LORD said to Samuel, “How long are you going to mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have selected from his sons a king for Myself.”***

**45Then came the officers to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said unto them, Why have ye not brought him?**

The officers that were sent by the Pharisees to arrest Jesus came back empty handed and the leaders who sent them of course wanted to know why they did not bring Jesus as ordered.

**46The officers answered, Never man spake like this man.**

Most teachers in Judaism often quoted other well-known Prophets or Teachers. These officers that had heard Him said this Jesus spoke like none of the others but spoke with personal authority.

**47Then answered them the Pharisees, Are ye also deceived? 48Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed on him?**

When the litmus test of a person's belief is only from their own pack or tribe or in our time political party only listen to themselves it is a dangerous thing. The Pharisees were saying if we have not determined this man to be the Messiah then He obviously is not the Messiah end of story.

**49But this people who knoweth not the law are cursed.**

The Pharisees and other religious leaders were the super elite of the day and looked down on anyone who was not educated. Those who studied God's Law and interpreted the Laws of God held the power over those who could not read. They decided what God meant at any given time on any given situation.

Deuteronomy 17 and 18 lay out the curses and the promises of God for Israel. Knowledge is held in high esteem by God. He has repeatedly told us to study His Word to know Truth. The

Pharisees of that day simply determined that anyone that could not read and therefore could not study would be cursed.

The last couple of verses pit Nicodemus who had heard from Jesus that he needed to be born again. Nicodemus obviously could not be born again at that time as Jesus had not been killed and raised from dead. But he understood what Jesus had told him. Nicodemus tried to reach out to his fellow leaders by calling on the law of hearing from an accused before deciding or finding his guilt. His fellows did not respond well to Nicodemus. In their ignorance they had determined incorrectly.

**50Nicodemus saith unto them, (he that came to Jesus by night, being one of them,) 51Doth our law judge *any* man, before it hear him, and know what he doeth? 52They answered and said unto him, Art thou also of Galilee? Search, and look: for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet. 53And every man went unto his own house.**

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