

THE WORD BECAME FLESH

The Book of John
Lesson 7

Feast of Tabernacles John 7

REFLECTION

Review John 6. One of Jesus' *I AM* statements was made in John 6:35. Jesus said . . . *I AM the Bread of Life*. How have you eaten of the True Bread? How has your life changed because of it?

FOCUS VERSE

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water' (John 7:37, 38).

SECTION 1 – Feast of Tabernacles¹

Read John 7:1-13.

1. Why did Jesus go to Galilee (v. 1)? _____

LOOK DEEPER

What do you learn about Jesus and His family? See Matthew 12:46-50 and Mark 3:21, 31-35, 6:3, 4

- _____
- _____
- _____
2. Why did Jesus' brothers want Him to go to the feast (John 7: 3-5)? _____

¹ Feast of Tabernacles: great feast in the Jewish year which celebrated the completion of the yearly harvest. Commemorates God's goodness to the people in their desert wanderings. People lived in tents and booths for the 7 days of the feast.

Do you think His brothers were sincere in their advice to Him? Why or why not? _____

3. Did His brothers believe that Jesus was the Son of God (v. 5)? _____

4. What did Jesus mean when He said, *My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready* (vv. 6-9)?

Why was Jesus hated by the world and His brothers were not? _____

PERSONAL

As a believer, how does Jesus' earthly family relationships give you comfort and encouragement to go on serving the Lord?

LOOK DEEPER

What is Jesus referring to when He uses the term, *the world*? See John 1:9, 10, 17:11, 14, 16.

5. When did Jesus go to the feast (John 7:10)? _____

6. What was the attitude of the Jews² at the feast (vv. 11-13)? _____

² Jews: religious leaders and rulers who plotted to kill Jesus.

What did some of the people³ say? _____

Why did they not speak publicly? _____

LOOK DEEPER

Why were some of the Jews afraid (John 7:13)? See also John 9:22, 12:42, 19:38, 20:19. _____

SECTION 2 – Jesus teaches at the Feast

Read John 7:14-36.

1. At what point during the feast did Jesus begin to teach (vv. 14, 15)? _____

Where did Jesus go to teach? _____

What was the response of the Jews? _____

2. How did Jesus answer the questions asked of the Jews (v. 16a)? _____

3. What is Jesus again saying about Himself (v. 16b)? _____

4. How does one do God's will? What is the result (v. 17)? _____

5. Whose glory did Jesus tell the Jews He sought (v. 18)? _____

³ people: most likely pilgrims who had come to Jerusalem for the feast.

6. What did Jesus say to the Jews about their law (v. 19)? _____

Why do you think He said this? _____

LOOK DEEPER

Why did the people seek to kill Jesus? See John 5:16, 18 and Matthew 12:9-14.

PERSONAL

How do people today seek to kill Jesus? _____

7. How did the people respond to the words of Jesus (John 7:20)? _____

8. What was Jesus really trying to teach the people with His example of circumcision⁴ (vv. 21-24)?

How are we to judge? _____

9. What did the people conclude about Jesus (vv. 25-27)? _____

10. What did Jesus cry out (vv. 28, 29)? _____

⁴ circumcision: according to Leviticus 12:3, circumcision had to occur on the 8th day. It is symbolic to the cutting off of the flesh – the carnality in man.

11. What were the results of Jesus public claims (vv. 30-32)? _____

12. What was Jesus response to those who came to take Him (vv. 33-36)? _____

What did Jesus mean when He said . . . *you will seek Me and not find Me . . . Where I go you cannot come?*

SECTION 3 – Living Water

Read John 7:37-39.

1. What day of the feast was it (v. 37a)? _____

What did Jesus do? _____

Why is that significant? _____

2. What three steps are required to accept Jesus' invitation in verses 37b and 38a?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

What are the results of these steps? _____

3. What is the Living Water (v. 39)? _____

When would this gift be given? _____⁵

⁵ glorified: after Jesus' death, His resurrection and ascension. The Holy Spirit was given in Acts 2.

PERSONAL

Have you ever drank from this well of Living Water? Explain. _____

SECTION 4 – The Division

Read John 7:40-53.

1. What were the crowds saying about Jesus (vv. 40-42)? _____

LOOK DEEPER

Compare Deuteronomy 18:15, 18 with the questions asked in John 7:40. Also compare Micah 5:2 and I Samuel 16:1-13 with John 7:41, 42. Why do you think that these religious Jews should have known who Jesus was?

2. What happened to the crowd (John 7:43, 44)? _____

SECTION 5 – Unbelieving Leaders

Read John 7:45-53.

1. What were the questions the Chief Priests⁶ and Pharisees⁷ asked the officers⁸ (vv. 45, 46)? _____

⁶ Chief Priest: High Priest, captain of the Temple, overseers and treasurers.

⁷ Pharisees: the orthodox party of the Jews.

⁸ officers: temple servants, guards

What did the officers respond? _____

2. What were the leaders concerned about (vv. 47-49)? _____

_____ ⁹

3. Who stood up in defense for Jesus (vv. 50-53)? _____

What did he use as a defense? _____

What did the Chief Priests, the Pharisees and the crowd do? _____

PERSONAL

How have you stood up alone for Jesus? Share what happened. _____

4. List what you see of the attributes/characteristics/or titles of the Son of God in chapter 7 _____

Which one is most meaningful today and why? _____

This is the Christ.

John 7:41

⁹ rulers: the Sanhedrin, a council of 72 men, whose official duty was to prevent the spreading of false doctrine.

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