

“Who is Jesus?”: Teacher of Truth – Part 3
John 7:37-52

John 7:37 ¶ On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.

John 7:38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’”

John 7:39 Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

John 7:40 ¶ When they heard these words, some of the people said, “This really is the Prophet.”

John 7:41 Others said, “This is the Christ.” But some said, “Is the Christ to come from Galilee?”

John 7:42 Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?”

John 7:43 So there was a division among the people over him.

John 7:44 Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

John 7:45 ¶ The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, “Why did you not bring him?”

John 7:46 The officers answered, “No one ever spoke like this man!”

John 7:47 The Pharisees answered them, “Have you also been deceived?”

John 7:48 Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in him?

John 7:49 But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed.”

John 7:50 Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them,

John 7:51 “Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?”

John 7:52 They replied, “Are you from Galilee too? Search and see that no prophet arises from Galilee.”

Introduction: CALL TO FOCUS AND ATTENTION.

The Teacher’s Central Message (vv.37-39)

- A) Peak Time (**vv.37**)
 - a. Most celebrated day
 - b. Seventh or eighth day
- B) Passionate Plea
 - a. Sent out to all
 - b. Participation demanded
- C) The Need: Thirst (**vv.38**)
 - a. A relevant call
 - i. Water-pouring rite and lights ceremony
 - ii. **Eze. 47:1-9** (living water reference)
 - iii. **Zech.14:16-17** (water miracle in wilderness)
 - iv. **Isa.55:1**, “Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.”
 - b. A specific response
- D) The Satisfaction: Christ
 - a. Flows out of the one who drinks...John 14:6
 - b. If you don’t drink you will not be satisfied...ever
 - c. Jesus Christ is the FULFILLMENT of what the Feast of Booths was pointing to (ALL of God’s works in the Old Testament in delivering His people were ultimately shadows to the ultimate deliverance found in the Messiah, Jesus Christ).
- E) The Means: Belief
 - a. His Promises Made (scripture)
 - b. His Promises Fulfilled (Spirit)
- F) The Promise: Holy Spirit
 - a. It is the Holy Spirit that will put a SEAL on this promised fulfillment. Those delivered will be distinct because of the indwelling Holy Spirit!

- b. **Eph.1:13-14**, “**13** In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, **14** who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.”
- c. **John 3:5**, “Jesus answered, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.’”
- d. **John 16:7-11**, “**7** Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. **8** And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: **9** concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; **10** concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; **11** concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.”

G) **APPLICATION:** Is Jesus your ultimate satisfaction, which will be marked by a changed life because of the indwelling Holy Spirit?

The Teacher’s Divisive Message (vv.40-44)

- A) To Some: Prophet (like Moses)
- B) To Some: Messiah
 - a. From David’s Line
 - b. Out of Bethlehem
- C) To Some: Fraud
 - a. They only knew Galilee
 - b. Lack of Indifference
- D) To All: Lord
 - a. **John 7:30**, “So they were seeking to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come.”

- b. **John 10:18**, “No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”
- c. **Phil. 2:9-11**, “**9** Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, **10** so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11** and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

E) **APPLICATION:** Jesus Christ divides. Don’t fret if your life and message causes problem even in your own families.

The Teacher’s Compelling Message (vv.45-52)

- A) Dangerous Truth (so compelling it causes one to risk – vv.45-46)
- B) Impartial Truth (reaches all levels of society and politics – vv.47-50)
 - a. **John 12:42**, “Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue”
 - b. Acts
- C) Consistent Truth (with the law – vv.50-51)
 - a. Nicodemus (John 3)
 - b. Progress
- D) Common Truth (simple message, from a simple man, from a simple “common” town – v.52)
- E) **APPLICATION:** No matter who you are (rich, poor, brilliant, common...) this message is for you because Jesus Christ is the only way to God.