

GOSPEL OF JOHN: LESSON 6

VI. JESUS' CLAIMS AND CONFLICT WITH THE JEWS (Chapters 7-8)

- A. The occasion (**7:1, 2, 14; 8:20, 59**)
 - 1. Jews seek to kill Jesus – reason for being in Galilee.
 - 2. Feast of the Jews – Feast of tabernacles (cf. Lev. 23:33, 39-44; Num. 29:12-34)
 - 3. The temple – by treasury

- B. Jesus' unbelieving brethren disagree with Him over His public manifestation (**7:3-9**).

- C. Jews disagree concerning character of Jesus (**7:10-13**)
 - 1. Jews: seek to kill Jesus
 - 2. Some of multitude: Jesus is a "good" man.
 - 3. Others: Jesus is leading the multitude astray.

- D. Jesus appeals to multitude to make right judgments concerning Him – first discourse during feast (**7:14-36**)
 - 1. Jesus' claim: Sent by God; from God; knows God
 - 2. Jesus' test: knowing source of teaching depends on first willing to do God's will.
 - 3. Jesus' argument: if circumcision on Sabbath is practiced, certainly, making man whole was lawful (cf. 5:1-18).
 - 4. Questions concerning the identity of Jesus:
 - a. Do rulers know that Jesus is truly the Christ?
 - b. Will the true Christ do more signs than Jesus?
 - c. Where would Jesus go that Jews could not also go?
 - 5. Pharisees send officers to take Jesus.

- E. Jesus speaks of rivers of living water – second discourse during the feast (**7:37-52**)
 - 1. Rivers of living water – blessings of salvation provided with Spirit's revelation.
 - 2. Response of multitude – divided.
 - a. Jesus is the prophet.
 - b. The Christ out of Galilee? – it is Bethlehem
 - c. Some would have taken Him to kill Him – no hands laid.
 - d. Officers report: never man so spake.
 - 3. Nicodemus' appeal for justice for Jesus.

- F. Jesus deals with trying case of woman taken in the sin of adultery (**8:1-11**).
 - 1. Jesus remains true to law, strong against sin, and compassionate to the woman.

- G. Jesus claims to be light to the world – third discourse during feast (8:12-58).
1. Jesus is the light of life to those who follow Him.
 2. Jesus' own witness of Himself is true – Father's witness confirms.
 3. Jesus claims to be from above – not of this world.
 4. Jews will die in their sins through unbelief – therefore cannot go where Jesus is going.
 5. Many believe on Jesus.
 6. Abiding in Jesus' word – character of true disciple
 7. Rejecting truth and desiring to kill Jesus – Jews were manifesting the character of the Devil.
 8. Jesus claims to be "I Am" – in existence before Abraham.
 9. Jews try to stone Jesus – Jesus hidden and departs from temple.

QUESTIONS:

1. What was the feast of tabernacles?
2. What did Jesus' brothers in effect want Jesus to do?
3. What did Jesus mean by: *"My time is not yet come; but your time is always ready"*?
4. What is necessary in understanding if Christ is speaking from God or not?
5. Who was made whole on the Sabbath?
6. What argument does Jesus offer that He did not violate the law of the Sabbath?
7. What questions were circulating concerning the identity of Jesus?
8. What did the Pharisees do when they heard the multitude's questionings concerning Jesus?
9. Why could not the Jews go where Jesus was going?
10. What are the rivers of living in 7:38?
11. Were the Jews right concerning from whence the Christ would come in 7:42?

12. Why did not the officers take Jesus as they were commanded?

13. Examining how the Jewish leaders responded to the officers,
 - a. the leaders were reacting with humility.
 - b. the leaders were reacting with prejudice.
 - c. the leaders were reacting with love for the truth.

14. Why did the Pharisees bring the adulterous woman to Jesus?

15. How “law abiding” were the Pharisees in this matter?

16. Jesus did not condemn the woman caught in adultery because:
 - a. the man who committed adultery with her was not also brought forth.
 - b. the law demanded at least two witnesses to condemn on of a sinful act.
 - c. Jesus applied His grace apart from the law.

17. What did Jesus claim to be to the world?

18. Why is Jesus’ own witness concerning Himself true?

19. Where is Jesus when He makes His claim and witness?

20. What contrasts does Jesus make between man and Himself?

21. When would Jesus’ true identity be known?

22. What is necessary before one can be a true disciple?

23. How were the Jews showing that the Devil was their father?

