

Jesus Goes Quietly to the Feast in Jerusalem

John 7:1-10; Luke 9:51-62

Jesus' Brothers Disbelieve John 7:1-10

¹ After these things Jesus walked in Galilee; for He did not want to walk in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill Him. ² Now the Jews' Feast of Tabernacles was at hand. ³ His brothers therefore said to Him, "Depart from here and go into Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing. ⁴ For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world." ⁵ For even His brothers did not believe in Him. ⁶ Then Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready. ⁷ The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it that its works are evil. ⁸ You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, for My time has not yet fully come." ⁹ When He had said these things to them, He remained in Galilee. ¹⁰ But when His brothers had gone up, then He also went up to the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret.

A Samaritan Village Rejects the Savior Luke 9:51-62

⁵¹ Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem, ⁵² and sent messengers before His face. And as they went, they entered a village of the Samaritans, to prepare for Him. ⁵³ But they did not receive Him, because His face was *set* for the journey to Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ And when His disciples James and John saw *this*, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?" ⁵⁵ But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. ⁵⁶ For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save *them*." And they went to another village.

The Cost of Discipleship

⁵⁷ Now it happened as they journeyed on the road, *that* someone said to Him, "Lord, I will follow You wherever You go." ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air *have* nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay *His* head." ⁵⁹ Then He said to another, "Follow Me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." ⁶⁰ Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God." ⁶¹ And another also said, "Lord, I will follow You, but let me first go *and* bid them farewell who are at my house." ⁶² But Jesus said to him, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Questions:

1. Why had Jesus and His disciples been purposely staying in Galilee away from Judea for the past several months?
2. Why do you think Jesus' brothers wanted Him to go to Judea, since the Feast of Tabernacles was approaching? If they knew about the works He was doing, why didn't they believe in Him (vs 5)?
3. His brothers were saying He shouldn't keep doing things in secret if He wanted to be known? What reason did Jesus give them for not doing as they suggested?
4. What is implied about His brothers that the world did not hate them the way it hated Him? What did He mean that His time had not yet come?
5. Why did Jesus stay behind and not make the trip to Jerusalem with His brothers?
6. What important difference do you find in vs 51 (Luke 9) and how is Jesus' attitude now changed?
7. Where did Jesus and the disciples pass through as they headed for Jerusalem? What problem did the messengers who went ahead to make preparations run into with the people there?
8. Why did Jesus have to correct James and John's reaction to the way they were treated? What should we learn?
9. As they went on further to another village someone said they wanted to follow Him, but why did Jesus respond by referring to foxes and birds instead of commending them?
10. What kind of excuses did others make for not being ready to follow Him? Why was Jesus so direct with them?