

Jesus Teaches at the Feast of Tabernacles

John 7:11-31

The Heavenly Scholar (11-24)

¹¹ Then the Jews sought Him at the feast, and said, "Where is He?" ¹² And there was much complaining among the people concerning Him. Some said, "He is good"; others said, "No, on the contrary, He deceives the people." ¹³ However, no one spoke openly of Him for fear of the Jews.

¹⁴ Now about the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and taught. ¹⁵ And the Jews marveled, saying, "How does this Man know letters, having never studied?" ¹⁶ Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. ¹⁷ If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or *whether* I speak on My own *authority*. ¹⁸ He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. ¹⁹ Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill Me?"

²⁰ The people answered and said, "You have a demon. Who is seeking to kill You?" ²¹ Jesus answered and said to them, "I did one work, and you all marvel. ²² Moses therefore gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath. ²³ If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath, so that the law of Moses should not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath? ²⁴ Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."

Could This Be the Christ?(25-31)

²⁵ Now some of them from Jerusalem said, "Is this not He whom they seek to kill? ²⁶ But look! He speaks boldly, and they say nothing to Him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is truly the Christ? ²⁷ However, we know where this Man is from; but when the Christ comes, no one knows where He is from." ²⁸ Then Jesus cried out, as He taught in the temple, saying, "You both know Me, and you know where I am from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know. ²⁹ But I know Him, for I am from Him, and He sent Me."

³⁰ Therefore they sought to take Him; but no one laid a hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come.

³¹ And many of the people believed in Him, and said, "When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this *Man* has done?"

Questions:

1. How was Jesus being talked about around Jerusalem? Why were the Jews (religious leaders) looking for Him?
2. What two main opinions were the people murmuring? What kept them from speaking openly about Jesus?
3. How could Jesus drop His secrecy and begin teaching openly at the middle of the week? What did the Jewish leaders really mean when they said He had never studied?
4. Where had Jesus received what He was teaching? What attitude is necessary for anyone to receive His teaching?
5. Why was Jesus not tooting His own horn like other teachers? (vs 18) Whose honor was He righteously seeking?
6. What two dynamite accusations does Jesus unleash in vs 19? Why did the people here say He had a demon?
7. What was the one work Jesus had done that started all the Sabbath controversy previously? (John 5:1-18) How did the Jews, of necessity, violate the Sabbath themselves?
8. What did Jesus say about judging? How does this measure up with "judge not that you be not judged"? (Matthew 7:1)
9. If those from Jerusalem knew the leaders were seeking to kill Jesus, what now surprised them? What still kept them from believing in Jesus as the Messiah?
10. What does Jesus expose as the root cause of their unbelief? Why could no one seize Jesus? In spite of all the opposition, what convinced many of the people to believe in Jesus?