

Living Water: John 7.

- I. (1-9) Jesus' brothers want Him to promote Himself at the Feast Of Tabernacles.

The **Feast of Tabernacles** was a joyful, weeklong celebration, when families camped out in "temporary housing/tents" to remember God's faithfulness to Israel during the wilderness wanderings.

Leviticus 23:34-36 - *“Speak to the children of Israel, saying: ‘The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the LORD. ‘On the first day there shall be a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work on it. ‘For seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. On the eighth day you shall have a holy convocation, and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. It is a sacred assembly, and you shall do no customary work on it.*

So many scattered Jews would return to Jerusalem for the celebrations. God has His own way and timing of revealing Himself to His people.

- II. (10-24) Jesus goes to the Feast secretly amidst so much murmuring about who He was and what He does. He makes His way to the temple and teaches.

Jesus tells His listeners, “If you want to do what God wants, you know that am teaching is true and I teach it in righteousness for God’s glory. When Moses delivered the Law you never tried to kill him (for example they would circumcise on the Sabbath), why then do you want to kill me for healing someone on the Sabbath (you’re wrong)?”

- III. (25-31) The crowd is puzzled; this would’ve been a good time for Jesus to be arrested and killed but none dare touched Him while He taught boldly.

I think the crowd was just despising and rejecting Him in thinking that Messiah would come suddenly and spectacularly. They knew the prophecies that pointed out His birth and heritage.

- IV. (32-36) He assures His listeners about His coming death and ascension, though they didn’t understand.

They probably thought that He was intending to escape.

- V. (37-39) If anyone thirsts...

At the Feast of Tabernacles, water was poured out daily at the altar to remind everyone of the water God miraculously provided for a thirsty Israel in the wilderness.

Exodus 17:6 - *“Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink.” And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel.*

Numbers 20:11 - *Then Moses lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their animals drank.*

Jesus boldly calls people to *Himself*, claiming that He can satisfy the inner thirst in man. The water of the Holy Spirit not only goes in, it also comes out. Not only does the believer receive blessing, but he *becomes* a blessing to others. Christianity emphasizes outflow, extending life and blessing to others.

Psalms 42:1-2 - *As the deer pants for the water (streams), so pants my soul for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?*

Isaiah 55:1 - *“Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat. yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in abundance.*

Luke 11:13 - *“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”*

The body is 65% water and needs about 3-4 liters of water a day to operate efficiently. It helps break up and soften food. It is a cooling agent; water regulates our temperature through perspiration, and lubricates all our joints.

VI. (40-53)

Jesus was arrested; the arresting officers realized Jesus wasn't a criminal. Nicodemus reasons with the Jewish leaders warning them of illegal judgment.

In fact, a prophet *had* risen from Galilee. Jonah, who was a type of Jesus Christ came from Gath Hopher, which was three miles north of Nazareth in Lower Galilee (2 Kings 14:25).