


Believe and Have Life

The Gospel of John


John 7:25–52

Read John 7:25–44.

1. There is much confusion at the feast in Jerusalem about who Jesus is. Why do some of the Jews think he can't possibly be the Messiah? (vv. 27, 41–42; * Micah 5:2)

2. What more do **we** know about where Jesus was from as a man in the flesh (i.e. where he was born and grew up)? (Matt. 1:1; 2:1, 13–15, 19–23)


3. Jesus could have told them this.
 - a. Why do you think he doesn't?

 - b. What does he say instead that he has been saying all along? (vv. 28, 29, 33; *3:13; 5:36–38; 6:38, 57)

4. Why do many put their faith in him even though they're confused about his earthly origin? (v. 31)

5. How do the religious leaders react to the whispered remarks that Jesus may actually be the Messiah? (v. 32)

6. Jesus must have really felt his hour approaching as he spoke the words in verses 33 and 34. How do the Jews try to make sense out of what he says? (v. 35)

*The  symbol indicates verses for further study.

Jesus is at the Feast of Tabernacles. Every morning during the seven days of this harvest festival, a priestly procession went down to the pool of Siloam and drew water in a golden pitcher. They would then go back up to the Temple and march around the altar seven times, pouring the water into a funnel on the side of the altar. The water flowed around the base of the altar as the Temple choir sang. This was a celebration of thanks to God for the rain that made the harvest possible.¹

7. Look closely at verses 37–39.
 - a. Who is the living water Jesus speaks of? (v. 39)

 - b. What makes someone want living water? (v. 37; 4:10–14; Jer. 2:13)

 - c. How can living water flow from us? (vv. 38–39)

 - d. What difference does it make in your life today that you have the Holy Spirit?

Read John 7:45–52.

8. The temple guards return, having not arrested Jesus. Why? (vv. 30, 45–46)

9. What appeal does Nicodemus make to the Pharisees? (v. 51)

How do they respond? (v. 52)

10. What do we learn about the Pharisees from these verses? (vv. 45–52)

What do you think is their problem?

11. What keeps Nicodemus from being like the other Pharisees? (vv. 50, 37–38)

Look again at 3:5–7. What is his, and our, only hope?

¹ Osborne, Grant R. *The Gospel of John*. Cornerstone Biblical Commentary. (Carol Stream: Tyndale, 2007), 120.