

John 7 – Feasting and Water

These are the leaders notes from the Kielder Bible Study Group for the meeting that was held on 6th November 2012

Recap

Some key points from chapter 6 :-

- Jesus miraculously feeding the crowd of 5,000
- the people wanting to make Jesus king
- Jesus coming to his disciples on the lake
- Jesus teaching:
 - that real food is to do God's will
 - that He is the bread of life
 - that we need to take Him into our lives
- many of his disciples leaving him
- Peter declaring Jesus only has eternal life.
- It shows Jesus as the one who has power over the natural world to change and use it as He wills. and it shows Jesus as the one who claims to be the very source of daily life, without whom death must come.

John 7

In John 6 v4 we had learnt that it was the time of the Passover, which happens in April, we now jump 6 months to October for the Feast of Tabernacles The missing 6 months are covered in Mark 7 to 9

Jesus goes to the Feast of Tabernacles

1-5

Q Why were the Jews wanting to kill Jesus?

Q Who were Jesus' brothers? A Jesus's half brothers – We are told that he had at least 4 - James Jude, Joses and Simon

Q Why did the brothers do what they did? A They were trying to provoke Jesus into action as they did not believe Him v5

6-9 10-13 Q How do Jesus actions match up with what he said in v 8 A He was not going

as an activist but as a preacher.

Q What were the Jews doing and why? v11

Q Why would no one speak publicly about Jesus v13

Jesus Teaches at the Feast

14 -19 Q Why does Jesus wait till halfway through the feast before starting to preach A Crowds at maximum

Q What was Jesus's answer to the query as to where his knowledge came from?

Q What law did Jesus say they were breaking? A The Jews said they kept Moses' Law yet their intention was to kill Jesus. They strongly defended themselves but nevertheless it was true. In this they showed themselves to be false. The Law said you shall not kill and yet they were plotting murder, so for all their religious appearances they rejected the Law

20-24 Q Why did they think Jesus was Demon possessed?

Q What did Jesus say the issue was ? A looking at the external compared to the internal

Is Jesus the Messiah?

25-27 Q What were some of the crowd saying ? And why did others refute it? v27

28-31 Q Why was Jesus speaking in such an unclear way? A He only gradually wanted to reveal who he was, he only gradually wanted the opposition against him to mount

32-36 Q What did the Pharisees do?

Ezekiel 47 1-2 3-6 7-12

“At the Feast of Tabernacles the Jews celebrated the time when Moses brought forth water from the rock and thanked God for the provision of water for the later year and prayed for it for the coming year. They also looked forward to the time when God would release water from the temple as prophesied in Ezekiel (Ezek 47) and the High Priest would go down to the pool of Siloam with a golden pitcher and bring back water and pour it through a funnel near the side of the altar as a picture of what they hoped would one day would happen.”

37-39 Q So in the midst of all this what does Jesus say?

Note – Teachers usually sat so by standing up Jesus was drawing attention to himself.

V39 refers to Acts 2 1-21

40-43 Q What was the peoples response?

Unbelief of Jewish Leaders

45-49 Q What do the Pharisees ask the guards?

Q Why did the Pharisees say that there was a curse on the mob? A The Pharisees believed that the mob were ignorant of the scriptures, and did not pay attention to the minutiae that mattered so much to the Pharisees

50-52 Q What does Nicodemus do?

A Pointed out the Pharisees failures.

Recap

Some key points from chapter 7 :-

- Jesus, in his own time, going to the Feast of Tabernacles
- Speculation in the crowd as to who he is
- Jesus, half way through the feast, teaching at the Temple
- Jesus challenging the Jews on their failure to keep the Law
- Half-hearted attempts to arrest Jesus coming to nothing
- On the last day Jesus proclaiming himself as a source of living water
- Further speculation as to who he is
- The temple guards refusing to arrest him
- The anger of the Pharisees