

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN 7:1-13

*Jesus at The Feast of Booths:
A Delayed Departure*

JOHN 7-8

Working Summary –

- John 7–8 demonstrates that Israel rejected Jesus because they did not know the Father, a reality revealed by their refusal to recognize Jesus as the One sent from God (cf. 7:28-29, 8:19)

1

2

¹ Therefore After these things Jesus was walking in Galilee, for He was unwilling to walk in Judea because the Jews were seeking to kill Him. ² Now the feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths, was near. ³ Therefore His brothers said to Him, "Leave here and go into Judea, so that Your disciples also may see Your works which You are doing. ⁴ For no one does anything in secret when he himself seeks to be known publicly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world." ⁵ For not even His brothers were believing in Him. ⁶ So Jesus said to them, "My time is not yet here, but your time is always opportune. ⁷ The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it, that its deeds are evil. ⁸ Go up to the feast yourselves; I do not go up to this feast because My time has not yet fully come." ⁹ Having said these things to them, He stayed in Galilee.

¹⁰ But when His brothers had gone up to the feast, then He Himself also went up, not publicly, but as if, in secret. ¹¹ So the Jews were seeking Him at the feast and were saying, "Where is He?" ¹² There was much grumbling among the crowds concerning Him; some were saying, "He is a good man"; others were saying, "No, on the contrary, He leads the people astray." ¹³ Yet no one was speaking openly of Him for fear of the Jews.

3

4

BIBLICAL CULTURE SHOCK

1. Geography – A Ping-Pong Pattern

- 1:28 – Judea ("beyond the Jordan")
- 2:1 – Galilee (Cana, Capernaum)
- 2:13 – Judea (Jerusalem, countryside)
- 4:4 – Samaria (*traveling from Judea to Galilee*)
- 4:46 – Galilee (Cana)
- 5:1 – Judea (Jerusalem)
- 6:1 – Galilee (Sea of Tiberias, Capernaum)
- 7:10 – Judea (Jerusalem)
- 21:1 – Galilee (Sea of Tiberias)



BIBLICAL CULTURE SHOCK

1. Geography – A Ping-Pong Pattern

- The closer Jesus gets to Jewish religious life the more hostility he encounters

5

6

BIBLICAL CULTURE SHOCK

2. Holidays – *The Feast of Booths* (Leviticus 23:33-44; Deut. 16:13-16)

7

³⁴ “Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, ‘On the fifteenth of this seventh month is the Feast of Booths for seven days to the LORD ... ⁴⁰ Now on the first day you shall take for yourselves the foliage of beautiful trees, palm branches and boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God for seven days ... ⁴² You shall live in booths for seven days; all the native-born in Israel shall live in booths, ⁴³ so that your generations may know that I had the sons of Israel live in booths when I brought them out from the land of Egypt.

(Leviticus 23:34, 40, 42-43)

8

BIBLICAL CULTURE SHOCK

2. Holidays – *The Feast of Booths* (Leviticus 23:33-44; Deut. 16:13-16)

- Feast of remembrance for God’s past provision (wilderness wanderings) and thanksgiving for his present provision (harvest)

➤ John portrays Jesus as the fulfillment of the Feast – the greatest provision for God’s people

9

A DELAYED DEPARTURE**Main message:**

- Jesus rejects the temptation for worldly popularity in obedience to the Father’s divine itinerary

10

A DELAYED DEPARTURE

1. Jesus rejects the brother’s *timing* of going up to the feast

- Jesus must wait for the proper timing, indicated by his father, for when he should go up to the feast (cf. 5:19, 8:27)

11

A DELAYED DEPARTURE

2. Jesus rejects the brother’s *purpose* of going up to the feast

- The brothers are going in attendance *with* the world, Jesus is going to testify *against* the world
- Jesus goes not to increase popularity but to increase opposition

12

A DELAYED DEPARTURE

3. Jesus rejects the brother's *manner* of going up to the feast
- Jesus departs secretly, not in attendance, but in fulfillment

13

A DELAYED DEPARTURE**Implication:**

- The Lord often acts in ways that are contrary to what we perceive as wise or what we think is most God-glorifying.

Do you trust him anyway?

14