

JOHN

Chapter Seven

FAITH COMES BY HEARING: Read Chapter Seven

Summary: Verses 1-53

1. Jesus is encouraged to visit Judaea, because his followers wanted the world to see his works. But, Jesus knew that the Jews wanted to kill him, so he released the disciples to go ahead and Jesus would later come in secret to teach in the temple.
2. The people gathered at the feast and some of them looked for Jesus, while others debated about who He was.
3. Jesus declares that His doctrine is not His, but His Father's. He models humility by reminding them that He is not seeking His own glory because He points to the Father that sent Him.
4. Jesus calls out the Jews' hypocrisy in condemning Him for healing on the Sabbath because they circumcise on the Sabbath, and challenges them to judge deeper than such petty things.
5. The Jews debate about whether or not Jesus is the Christ based on the Scriptures and their traditional teachings. They note that they shouldn't "know where He is from" and that he should "come from David's seed".
6. The Pharisees order officers to arrest Jesus because some of the people begin to believe that He is the Christ based on His bold teachings and supernatural miracles. When the officers return empty-handed, the Pharisees ask why. The officers respond by stating that "No man ever spake like this.". Here Jesus thwarts the people's efforts to seize Him by confounding them with His words.
7. The Pharisees accuse the officers of being deceived by Jesus and claim anyone who believes in Him does not know the law.
8. Nicodemus defends Jesus and contests the Pharisees' process of judging Jesus, but he is silenced by the technicality of Jesus' perceived birthplace.

REFLECTION

1. What verse stuck out most to you?
2. Why do you think Jesus stated, "Now is not the right time for Me to go..." ? (vs. 6)
3. Why was it so important to link Jesus to the Father?
4. What are some things that hinder the kingdom of God coming in your life?
5. What does it say about the power of our words that Jesus avoided arrest by merely speaking?
6. What Pharisee-like qualities are still at work in the world today? The Church?
7. Why is it easier to debate Scripture than allow Scripture to change you?
8. Jesus lived on a prophetic time line. (vs. 30) How does the timing of God differ from our own timing?
9. Jesus' choices were driven by God's purposes on His life. What typically is the driving force behind your decisions?
10. Notice vs. 53. "Then the meeting broke up, and everybody went home." The interesting fact here is that everybody was comfortable to debate and give opinions about Jesus but they all went home unchanged. Why?

APPLICATION

1. What are you going to stop talking about and change this week?
2. Are you a talker or a doer? What needs to change for you to be more of a doer of the Word of God?

