

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

LESSON 8 - JOHN CHAPTER 7

ASSIGNMENT

READ John chapter 7.

MEMORIZE John 7:37,38,

"In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water."

"It was the last and great day of the religious gathering. Jesus stood up and spoke with a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. The Holy Writings say that rivers of living water will flow from the heart of the one who puts his trust in Me." (N.L.T.)

KEY WORDS

The key words in this chapter are **belief** and **unbelief**.

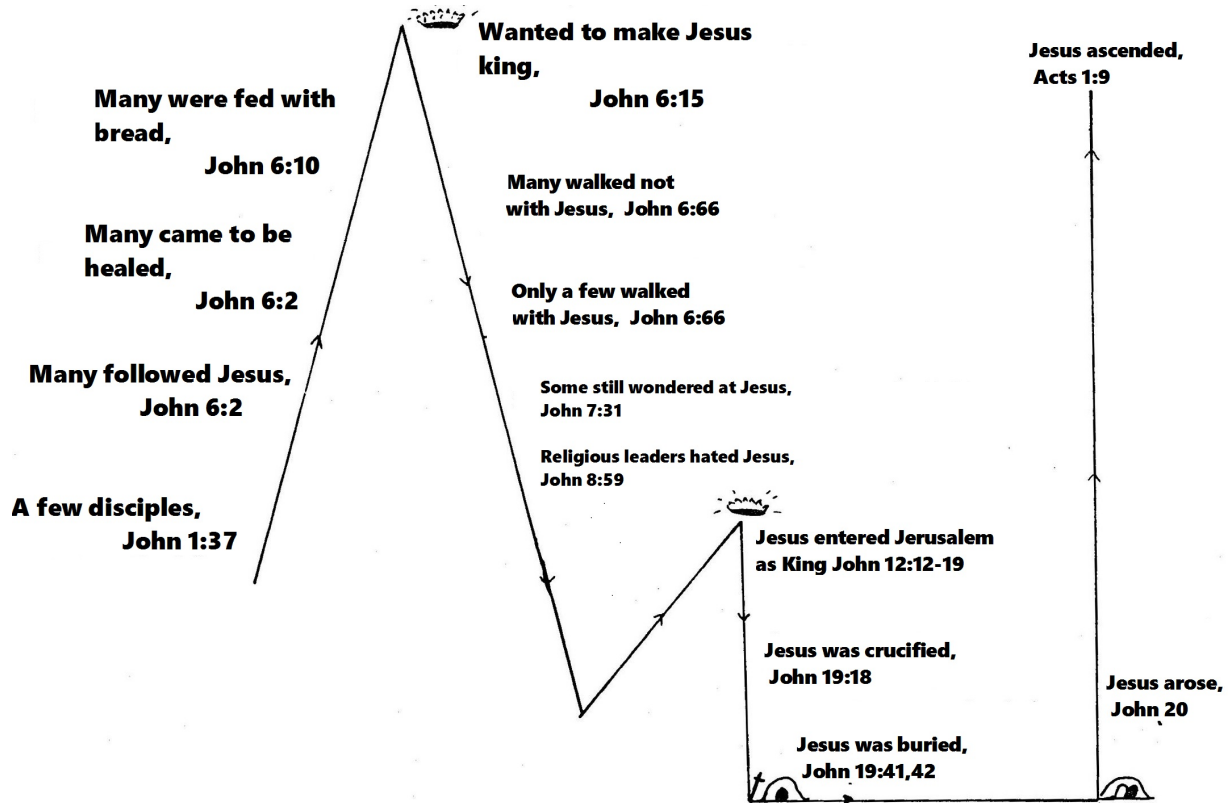
OUTLINE OF JOHN CHAPTER 7

- A. Unbelief of the brothers of Jesus, John 7:1-10.
- B. Jesus goes to Jerusalem, John 7:9-10.
- C. Unbelief of the people, John 7:11-18.
- D. Results of unbelief, John 7:19-36.
- E. Results of believing, John 7:37-39.
- F. Unbelief of the religious leaders, John 7:40-53.

LOOKING AT JOHN CHAPTER 7

In chapter 6 many people left Jesus. The twelve disciples stayed with Jesus. They believed Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God.

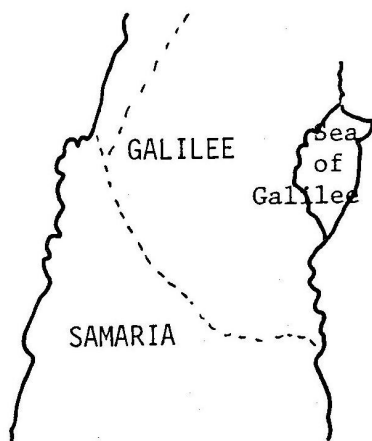
When we look at the life of Jesus it is something like the chart on the next page.



Jesus stayed in Galilee until the feast of tabernacles The feast of tabernacles was in October. This was about 6 months after the Passover feast. The Jews at Jerusalem wanted to kill Jesus.

A. Unbelief of the brothers of Jesus, John 7:1-10.

READ John 7:1.



Where did Jesus do His work?

Why did Jesus not go to Judea?

Who were the brothers of Jesus?

See also Matthew 12:46; 13:55; Galatians 1:19. This is good to know. Some teach that Mary never had any other children.

It is interesting to see that the brothers of Jesus did not believe in Jesus. He must have lived the same way they lived, except that He never sinned. Even the brothers and sisters of Jesus did not know who He really was.

Why did these brothers make fun of Jesus?

What did they want Jesus to do?

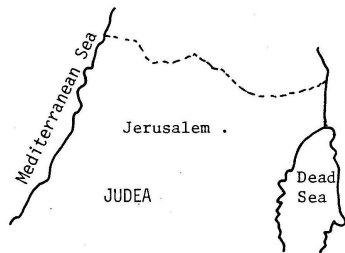
How did Jesus answer His brothers? John 7:6

Remember back in chapter 2 Jesus told Mary,

“My hour is not yet come.”

What did Jesus mean by this?

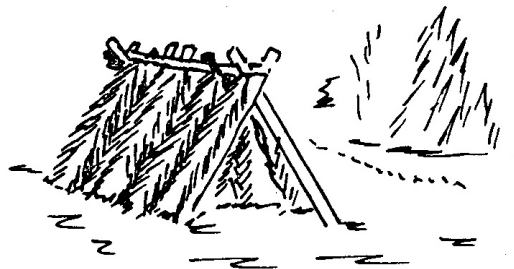
Jesus did not deceive His brothers. He told them He was not going to Jerusalem at that time. He could not tell them all His plans because His brothers did not believe in Him.



B. Jesus goes to Jerusalem. John 7:9,10.

It is wonderful to see that God knows everything. He knows when He will do something. At the right time Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He went up alone. No one knew He was there. He did not let the people see Him until the right time. We see that Jesus went to every feast that was held in Jerusalem.

This was the feast of tabernacles (tents). It was like a thanksgiving feast. The feast reminded the people of the time when their forefathers finished their wanderings in the wilderness. At this feast they set up booths made of branches. This feast was also a time of great joy.



C. Unbelief of the people, John 7: 11-18.

Many people came to Jerusalem for the feast. The people from Jerusalem were there. The people from Judea were there. The people from Galilee were there. The religious leaders were at Jerusalem.

What did these men want to do with Jesus? John 7:1

These men hated Jesus and wanted to get rid of Him. People from other cities wanted to hear more of Jesus. At this time people were making up their mind as to WHO Jesus was. Some said,

Jesus was a _____ man.

Others said Jesus _____ the people.

Some said Jesus was a good man, others said He was a bad man. All this was talked about in secret because of the Jews.

Why did the people not talk openly about Jesus?

During the middle of the feast Jesus came into the temple and taught. He went and taught where the people were. The religious leaders were there too. He was not afraid. He talked to His enemies while the people were listening.

The people were surprised that Jesus knew so much. They said,

“How does this man know letters when He has never learned?”

This means Jesus never went to any of their schools or any big school.

Who taught Jesus? John 7:16

Jesus said His doctrine or teaching was from God.

What did Jesus do the last time He was in Jerusalem?

John 5:5-8

On which day of the week did Jesus do this miracle?

John 5:9

Why were the Jews angry?

John 5:16

In John 7:19 Jesus talked about making the man well. The Jews said Jesus broke the law because He healed a man on the Sabbath. Now Jesus said,

"None of you keep the Sabbath, Why do you want to kill me?"

Jesus explained how they broke the Sabbath. Abraham was circumcised. Moses gave them a rule to circumcise the Jewish boys. A male child was to be circumcised when he was 8 days old.

Did the Jews circumcise a male child on the Sabbath? John 7:23

The Jews believed it was so important to circumcise a male child that they did it on a Sabbath. They did some work on a Sabbath.

Why were the Jews angry at Jesus? John 7:23

After this Jesus told them, (John 7:24)

"Do not judge by the way things look. Judge right."

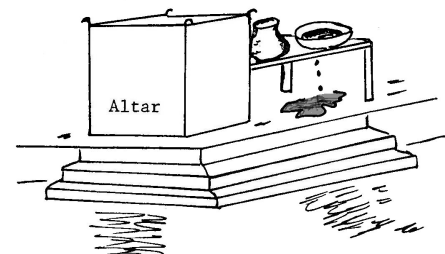
D. The result of not believing, John 7:19-36.

1. The people thought Jesus had an evil spirit (demon), John 7:20. When people do not want to believe God, they cannot think right. They also might see the loving, kind Savior as a man with an evil spirit. Today many people refuse to believe the Word of God. Often they believe that those who teach the Word of God are teaching lies.

2. The leaders wanted to kill Jesus, John 7:25-30. The religious leaders were still angry at Jesus because He healed on the Day of Rest. Jesus knew they wanted to kill Him. Jesus told the people that the religious leaders wanted to kill Him. The people did not understand His words.

E. Result of believing, John 7:37-39,

The last day of the feast was a holy day like a Sabbath. Every day of the feast except the eighth day, the priest went to the pool of Siloam. He brought a jug (pitcher) of water to the temple. This water was poured into a basin. The basin had a small hole in it. The water slowly ran out of the basin. This was a very important thing at the feast. It reminded the people how God gave water to their fore-fathers in the wilderness. Without water the people could not have lived.



What was a very important thing at the feast of tabernacles?

The last day of the feast Jesus **stood** up and called out. Who heard Jesus?

John 7:32

verse 33

verse 35

Those who hated Jesus stood there. Those who believed Jesus stood there. Jesus stood and called out like a man with a very important message.

What did Jesus call out? John 7:37,38

The water which the priest poured out was important. But the next year he would do the same thing again. It did not satisfy.

Jesus wanted to give the people something which satisfied. One more time Jesus offered them peace (living water). One more time Jesus begged them to believe on Him.

What did Jesus offer the people?

F. Unbelief of the religious leaders, John 7:40-53.

The chief priests and Pharisees held a meeting on a day of the feast. This was wrong. They sent men (soldiers) to arrest Jesus.

Why did they want to arrest Jesus?

John 7:31,32

John 7:23

These men (soldiers) heard Jesus preach.

What did Jesus tell them?

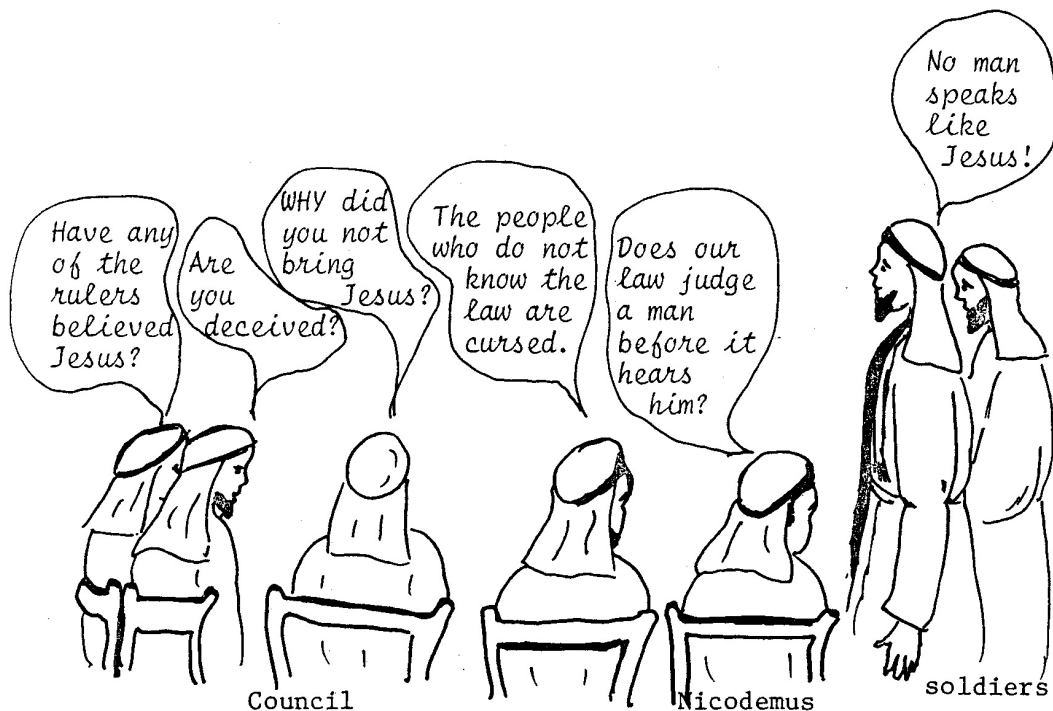
John 7:33



In verse 34 Jesus said,

"Where I am, thither ye cannot come."

It was not time yet for Jesus to die. The men could not take Him. The men came back to the priests and Pharisees.



Were the priests and Pharisees waiting for the soldiers to bring Jesus?

The soldiers said they did not bring Jesus because (John 7:46)

Why could the soldiers not take Jesus? John 7:30

The words of Jesus had power. The priests and Pharisees were not happy.

They said the soldiers were

They said the people did not know the law and were

They asked Nicodemus if he was from

This meant that he was not as good as they were.

Nicodemus was at this meeting. He belonged to the council. He said,

"Can you judge a man when you have not brought him to court? Do you really know what Jesus is doing?"

The priests were angry at these words.

What did the priests and Pharisees do wrong?

- 1) They had their meeting on a day of the _____, v.32,37.
- 2) They did not _____ on Jesus, John 7:48.
- 3) They did not bring Jesus to _____, John 7:51.
- 4) They did not know what Jesus was _____, John 7:51.

The words of Nicodemus made them feel ashamed. Every man went home from the meeting.

We can learn that it pays to "judge right" in all we do, even when others don't like what we say.

IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

1. Jesus did all things at the time God wanted Him to do them.
2. Jesus said His teaching was from God.
3. The religious leaders wanted to kill Jesus.
4. Jesus offered the people living water - water which would satisfy them.
5. The enemies of Jesus could not take Him. His time to die had not come as yet.
6. The leaders who said Jesus broke the sabbath also broke the Sabbath.
7. It pays to "judge right."

8. Those who do not believe often make lies by twisting the truth.

WORDS TO LEARN

1. booths - tent-like places made of branches and leaves. The people lived in these during the special religious days - feast of tabernacles.
2. comfort - to give relief or rest in time of sorrow or trouble.
3. feast of tabernacles - a time when the Jews thanked God in a special way. They remembered the time their forefathers finished their time of wandering in the wilderness.
4. forefathers - the people from whom the people of the time came.
5. knowledge - that which a person knows.
6. religious leaders - priests, Sadducees, also Pharisees in these lessons.
7. unbelief - not to believe, to accept as false.

Lesson 8 - Review

Fill in the blanks.

1. The _____ of Jesus made fun of Jesus.
2. Jesus went to Jerusalem _____ his brothers went.
3. The leaders at Jerusalem wanted to _____ Jesus.
4. During the middle of the _____, Jesus stood in the temple to teach.
5. Jesus said His teaching was from _____.
6. The religious leaders _____ keep the Sabbath in the right way.
7. At the feast of tabernacles the pouring out of _____ was very important.
8. Jesus said He would give the people _____ water.
9. To get this water, the people would have to _____ in Him.

10. The soldiers could not _____ Jesus and
Him to the priests and Pharisees.
11. _____ was at the meeting which the priests and
Pharisees held. He said a man should be brought to court before he was
judged.
12. The soldiers could not take Jesus because His _____ .
13. Write out John 7:37,38.

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