

Lesson 13: In Jerusalem For the Feast

January 6, 2021

Jesus Teaches At The Feast
"I am the light of the world"

John 8:12-30

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John 8:12-30

8:13-16 – These Jews understood the significance of His claim.

- These Jews responded to His claim to be the *"light of the world"* by denying He offered any evidence.
- Jesus, in fact, had offered significant evidence which they rejected. (cf. John 7:28; Matthew 13:13-15)
- His testimony was corroborated. (cf. John 5:30-40)

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8:13-16 – These Jews understood the significance of His claim.

- They reference the requirements of the Law to substantiate testimony. (Numbers 35:30; Deuteronomy 17:6; cf. Deuteronomy 19:15).
- Jesus is not contradicting the fact that He will be the final judge of all. (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:10)
- Rather He came to save, not to *"judge"* or condemn. (cf. John 3:17)

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- Jesus did not judge *"after the flesh,"* but righteous judgment. (John 7:24)
- The Pharisees were wedded to the practice of judging others, as is indicated by their repeated judgments of the Lord (cf. 7:15 and 7:49).
- Jesus often rebuked sin and the hypocrisy among the Jewish leaders. (cf. 8:1-11; Matthew 23)

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8:17-20 – Jesus continues to affirm that His testimony must be corroborated. (cf. John 5:30-40)

- These also bear witness that Jesus' testimony is true.
- John the Baptist. (5:32-35)
- The works which Jesus did by the power of the Father. (5:36-38)
- Moses in the Scriptures. (5:39-47)

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8:17-20 – Jesus points out their insincerity and unbelief.

- They did not know the Father, therefore they do not know the Son. (cf. Isaiah 59:1-2; John 14:6)
- To know one is to know the other. (cf. 7:28; 8:55; 14:9)
- What does it mean to *"know"* the Father and the Son? (See 1 John 1:3-4; 2:3-5; 3:24; 2 John 9)

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Jesus knew they sought occasion to kill Him.

- John 5:18, *“For this cause therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only brake the sabbath, but also called God his own Father, making himself equal with God.”*
- John 7:1-25,
*“7 And after these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Judaea, because the Jews sought to kill him ...
19 Did not Moses give you the law, and (yet) none of you doeth the law? Why seek ye to kill me?
20 The multitude answered, Thou hast a demon: who seeketh to kill thee? ...
24 Judge not according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment.
25 Some therefore of them of Jerusalem said, Is not this he whom they seek to kill?”*

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NOTE: Jesus made these statements in the temple and near the place where the Jewish court met (*“In the treasury” – ASV*).

- “The term used here for treasury (cf. Mark 12:41, 43), is employed by Josephus in the plural form to describe several chambers in the temple used as store rooms for the preservation of the temple valuables as well as personal property committed to them for safe-keeping. Clearly these rooms are not meant, for the public had no access to them.”
- “There were also thirteen ‘Shofar-chests’ in the sacred precincts dedicated to the reception of free-will offerings, each named for the purpose for which the gifts were to be used. It is generally assumed, given the fact that both women and men had access to them, that they were located in the Court of the Women. This is probably the area where Jesus was teaching.” (Daniel H. King, *John*, Truth Commentaries, Page 227)

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NOTE: No one took Jesus because *“His hour was not yet come.”* (NOTE: 2:4; 7:6,8,30; 12:23)

- His hour of death would come ONLY after He had finished His earthly mission and not sooner.
- John 10:17-18, *“Therefore doth the Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I may take it again. No one taketh it away from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment received I from my Father.”* NOTE: verses 19-20 – *Thought he might be suicidal. Crazy.*
- John 10:30-33, *“I and the Father are one. The Jews took up stones again to stone him. Jesus answered them, Many good works have I showed you from the Father: for which of those works do ye stone me? The Jews answered him, For a good work we stone thee not, but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.”*
- John 10:39, *“They sought again to take him: and he went forth out of their hand.”*

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John 8:21-24, “For except ye believe that I am He ...”

- They mocked Him as they had before because He said He would go away and they would not find Him. (cf. 7:33-36)
- They reasoned only from a fleshly viewpoint when Jesus spoke with a heavenly perception. *“Ye are from beneath ... of this world.”* The Lord points out the difference between this group and himself as to both their origin and nature. He is from heaven. They are of this realm of sin and death.
- He must return to his Father but they, in their unbelief, must die in their sins.
- They will die looking, hopelessly, for the Savior whom they have, and have rejected.

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John 8:24, “Ye shall die in your sins.”

Jesus spoke clearly and precisely.

- Unless we believe Jesus is the Christ we will be lost. He claims to be *“I AM.”* (cf. Exodus 3:14)
- What about sincere Jews, Muslims, Hindus, etc.?
- Some modern preachers would condemn Jesus for being too narrow. We find it difficult to say anyone is lost.
- Yet, to preach the Spirit-revealed word is to convict of sin. (John 16:8)
- We all make a choice!