

## John 7-8

### Ch 7

Theme – Due to persecution near Jerusalem, Lord primarily focused in the Galilean area; Feast of Tabernacles is near (Sept- Oct; approx. 6 mths to final Passover); Lord is mocked by His ½ brothers; brothers try to goad the Lord to enter Jerusalem w/ “pomp & spectacle”; the world rejects Jesus because He testifies that their deeds are evil (v7); Lord goes to the Feast in secret; people discuss the Lord, but in secret due to fear of the Jewish religious leaders; Lord teaches publicly during the Feast; people amazed at His teaching because they felt a person from Nazareth would be uneducated; Lord explains that if people were willing to do the will of God, they would recognize the teaching was from God; the Son seeks to glorify the Father; Lord knows they religious leaders are trying to kill Him & they accuse the Lord of having a demon (lying spirit- 1Kings 22:21-23); Lord points out it is illogical that they are angry at the Lord for healing a man on the Sabbath when they “violate” the Sabbath by circumcising a baby boy on the Sabbath; do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment (v24, echoed in Jn 8:15); people point out the religious leaders are not stopping Jesus from teaching, but they are confused as to whether Jesus could be the Messiah; Lord points out that they only think they know who He is; some wanted to seize the Lord, but others could not imagine that the Messiah would do greater works than the Lord (meaning, they suspected He was the Messiah); when the chief priests & Pharisees send Temple officers to arrest the Lord, the Lord foretells that the day was coming when He was returning to the One who sent Him & they could not follow; on the Great Day of the Feast (8th day) and likely after the water from the Golden Pitcher was poured out (The Life & Times of Jesus the Messiah by Alfred Edersheim); the Lord cried out & offered “rivers of living water” to anyone who came & drank from Him (v37-39); people greatly conflicted/ divided over whether Jesus was the Christ; when the officers return without the Lord, the Pharisees ask why; “No one ever spoke like this Man!” (v46, parallels Mark 1:22- Jesus taught with authority); Pharisees berate and chastise the officers; Nicodemus encourages following the normal legal procedures; the religious leaders mock Nicodemus too & claim no prophet ever came out of Galilean area (Jonah came from Gath-Hepher, 2Kings 14:25, to the west of Sea of Galilee)

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## Ch 8

Theme – While teaching, religious leaders bring a woman caught in adultery to Jesus [Jn 7:53-8:11 is a possible addition to John as not in our oldest copies of John, yet topics of grace, mercy, & righteousness in judgment are topics throughout the Bible]; caught in the very act, but man is not present; Lord stoops & writes on the ground with His finger (Dan 5:5, 25-28?); “He who is without sin, cast the first stone” (v7, Jesus can & He WONT, they cant & they shouldn’t); the accusers leave (woman stays); “Nor do I condemn you” (v11, Lord shows mercy without downplaying the seriousness of sin); “I AM the Light of the World” (v12, I AM statement #2); the testimony of the Lord is true; the judgment of the Lord is true because it is harmonious with the Father; the Father testifies about Jesus & confirms His testimony as true; religious leaders ask where the Lord’s Father is (prelude of attack on Jesus’s birth as being illegitimate in v41); if you knew Me, would know My Father (triplicate of knowing Father is to know, love, recognize the Son in Jn 7:17, 8:19, 8:42); Where Jesus is going, they cannot go because they will not believe in Him (v21 & 24); the Lord speaks the words He heard from the Father (v26 which echoes Jn 5:37-38, 6:44-45); when the Lord is crucified, they will know that He does the will of the Father (v28, echoes Jn 6:38); Jesus is never alone for the Father does not leave Him for the Son always does what pleases the Father (v29, confirms 2Cor 5:19, that the Father did not abandon the Son when the Son was crucified); Lord exhorts those who are believing in Him to continue (hold fast) in Him; know the truth & “the truth will set you free” (v32); unbelieving Jews interject & claim they’ve never been in bondage (umm, Egyptians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, Romans...); all who sin are slaves to sin; only way to remain in the house is to become a son (we are adopted through Jesus- Rom 8:15, Gal 4:6); religious leaders claim to be descendants of Abraham, but they don’t act like Abraham; religious leaders insult the Lord over rumored circumstances of His birth (conceived in fornication- v41); religious leaders claim to be children of God, but Lord corrects them- their father is the devil; because their father is the “father of lies,” they reject the truth that Jesus teaches (because he is also a murderer, this is why they seek to kill the Lord who is telling them the truth for they are doing the deeds of their father- Jn 8:40 & 44); the religious leaders do not hear the words of God because they’re not of God (v47); religious leaders accuse the Lord of having a demon (Jn 7:20, 8:48, 52, 10:20); Lord says whoever holds fast to His word will never taste death (think spiritual death, 2nd death, eternal judgment); because religious leaders are of this world (v23), they misunderstand & think of earthly death; Lord says that He must speak what He knows, otherwise be a liar like them; truth is that Abraham rejoiced to see the Day of the Lord; “before Abraham was, I AM” (v58- reference Ex 3:14); religious went to stone the Lord, but He slipped away

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