"My Times" John 7:1-13

Introduction:

- 1. In Psalm 31:5 King David Once Wrote:
 - "My Times Are In Thy Hand!"
 - That Is He Believed In The Truth That:
 - All Of His Life & All Of His Time:
 - Was Under "The Direction And Appointment Of God" And Was "In His Power & Fixed By Him!" (Gill)
 - This Simply Means That:
 - He Trusted In The Fact Of:
 - God's Sovereign Control:
 - Over His Life!
 - And David Learned:
 - To Trust In This Truth And:
 - To Trust In This God While:
 - Pursuing After:
 - God's Sovereign Purpose & Plan:
 - For His Life & His Time!

- 2. And What Was True:
 - For David Is True:
 - For Us All!
 - **IE:** If The Times Of Your Life Were Like The Sand In An Old Hourglass Every Grain That Drops From The Top To The Bottom Is Not Only Known By God But Is Directed By God All The Way Until The Last Grain Drops At The End Of Your Life!
 - All Of Your Time & Times Are In The Hand Of God!
 - Now Even Though:
 - It May Be Hard For Us:
 - To Fully Understand This And:
 - To Live Our Lives:
 - According To This!
 - This Is Exactly:
 - How Jesus Lived His Own Life:
 - In This World:
 - As We Will See Once Again:
 - In The Gospel Of John!
- 3. So Let's Turn Back In Our Bibles:
 - To John 7 Where:
 - As We Begin A New Chapter:
 - We Will Find That The "Times" Of Jesus:
 - Are Moving More & More Rapidly:
 - To Their Conclusion And:
 - To The Completion Of His Purpose!
 - But He Lived His Entire Life:
 - In The Light Of The Same Truth:
 - That David Did!
 - "My Times Are In Thy Hand!"
 - And We See This Especially:
 - In 7:1-13! So Let's Read These Verses Together:
 - "After these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Jewry, because the Jews sought to kill him. / 2 Now the Jews' feast of tabernacles was at hand. / 3 His brethren therefore said unto him, Depart hence, and go into Judaea, that thy disciples also may see the works that thou doest. / 4 For there is no man that doeth any thing in secret, and he himself seeketh to be known openly. If thou do these things, shew thyself to the world. / 5 For neither did his brethren believe in him. / 6 Then Jesus said unto them, My time is not yet come: but your time is alway ready. / 7 The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil. / 8 Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up yet unto this feast; for my time is not yet full come. / 9 When he had said these words unto them, he abode still

in Galilee. / 10 But when his brethren were gone up, then went he also up unto the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret. / 11 Then the Jews sought him at the feast, and said, Where is he? / 12 And there was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; but he deceiveth the people. / 13 Howbeit no man spake openly of him for fear of the Jews!"

- 4. We Can See From These Verses:
 - That The Lord Jesus Christ:
 - Lived His Entire Life Knowing That:
 - "His Times" Were Under:
 - The Sovereign "Hand" Of God His Father!
 - And His Belief & Trust:
 - In This Truth Enabled Him:
 - To Be Faithful To His Mission:
 - No Matter What Opposition:
 - He Faced!
 - Even If It Was:
 - Opposition From His Own Family!
 - And His Own Brothers:
 - As We Just Read!
 - And The Way He Lived:
 - According To This Truth:
 - Made A Stark Difference:
 - Between His Way & The World's Way!
 - Between The Way Of The Lord & The Way Of The World!
 - And That Is Why:
 - In 7:1-5 That Even In The Face Of:
- 1. Opposing Purposes:
 - Jesus Was Able To Keep Pursuing After:
 - God's Plan For The Times In His Life!
 - In The First 5 Verses Of This Chapter:
 - We Can See A Big Difference:
 - In Understanding:
 - About The Purpose Of Jesus' Life!
 - According To These Verses:
 - His Own Brothers Thought:
 - His Purpose Should Be:
 - One Of Popularity And Prominence!
 - From Another Gospel:
 - We Know The Names Of His Brothers:
 - James & Joseph & Simon & Jude!
 - Two Of Whom Would Later:
 - Come To Believe In Jesus And Even Be Used By God To Write The Scriptures Known By Their Names!
 - These Brothers Would Have Been:
 - Half-Brothers Sons Of Joseph & Mary:
 - Since Jesus Was Uniquely Conceived:
 - By The Holy Ghost As:
 - The Eternal Son Of God!
 - But At This Time In Their Lives:
 - Though They Had:
 - Grown Up With Jesus And Probably:
 - Heard His Words And:
 - Saw His Works!
 - At This Point 7:5 "Neither Did His Brethren Believe In Him!"
 - This Means That:
 - They Did Not "Believe" In Jesus:
 - The Way He Was Meant:
 - To Be Believed In!

- They Did Not "Believe" In Jesus:
 - The Way That Peter & The Other Close Disciples Of Jesus:
 - Believed In Him!
- That We Learned Back In:
 - 6:68-69 "Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. / And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God!"
- They Did Not "Believe" In Jesus:
 - The Way John Would Have Wanted them To Which Was The Reason He Wrote This Gospel! As He Says In:
 - 20:31 "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name!"
- So Even Though These Brothers Of Jesus:
 - Did Not Believe In Jesus:
 - In A Saving Way Yet!
 - They Did Notice That There Was Something Different & Special:
 - About Jesus!
 - And So When They Urged Jesus:
 - In 7:3 To "Depart hence, and go into Judaea, that thy disciples also may see the works that thou doest!"
 - I Don't Believe They Did This:
 - Out Of Hatred Or Even Jealousy Toward Jesus!
- Perhaps They Saw Jesus:
 - The Way The Crowd Did:
 - When He Fed The 5,000 Along The Shores Of The Sea Of Galilee:
 - Back In Chapter 6!
 - Perhaps They Were Even:
 - Part Of The Crowd:
 - Who Wanted To "Take Him By Force, To Make Him A King!" (6:14-15)
- And They Wanted Others:
 - To See Jesus The Same Way:
 - They Saw Jesus!
 - To Become A Public Figure:
 - To Rescue Them From The Power Of Rome:
 - By Means Of His Powerful Works!
- To Them Popularity & Prominence:
 - Was The Very Definition:
 - Of Greatness & Glory!
 - And The "Feast Of Tabernacles" Would Have Been A Great Time:
 - For Jesus To Thrust Himself On The Public Scene!
 - The "Feast Of Tabernacles" 7:2:
 - Was A Special Time Of Celebration & Commemoration:
 - For The Jewish People And:
 - Still Is!
 - They Celebrate:
 - God's Provision:
 - At The End Of The Year's Harvest!
 - They Commemorate:
 - God's Protection:
 - In History Wilderness!
 - So They Build:
 - Temporary Structures: (Riley)
 - To Live In Rich & Poor For 8 Days!
 - This Feast Starts On Tuesday!
- And Jesus' Brothers Thought:
 - What A Great Time & Opportunity:
 - For Jesus To Make His Works Known!
 - After All 7:4 "For there is no man that doeth any thing in secret, and he

himself seeketh to be known openly. If thou do these things, shew thyself to the world!"

- Now The Purpose:
 - These Brothers Had In Mind:
 - For Jesus Is Really Just:
 - The Purpose & Way:
 - Of The World!
 - "If You've Got It, Flaunt It!"
 - But This Kind Of Purpose:
 - Would Have Gotten In The Way:
 - Of Jesus' True Purpose & True Glory!
 - He Did Not Come:
 - To Merely Be:
 - A Political Savior:
 - For The Jews!
 - But To Be:
 - The Spiritual Savior:
 - Of The World!
- And So Even In The Face Of:
 - The Opposing Purpose:
 - Of His Own Brothers:
 - Jesus Kept Pursuing After:
 - The Purpose Of God His Father! Even:

- One Of Prudence!
 - In 7:1 John Tells Us That:
 - "After these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Jewry, because the Jews sought to kill him!"
 - Jesus Knew That:
 - His Times Were In The Hands Of God And:
 - Jesus In A Unique Way Knew What Those Times Were!
 - And It Was Not Yet His Time:
 - To Go Back To Judea & Jerusalem:
 - In A Public Way!
 - Because It Was Not Yet Time:
 - For Him To Be Killed:
 - On The Cross Of Calvary!

- The Reason He:
 - "Would Not Walk In Jewry" Was Not:
 - Because Of Fear But Because:
 - The Time Was Not Yet Right:
 - For Him To Do So!
 - Jesus Sought To Live His Life:
 - According To The Wisdom & Direction:
 - Of His Father!
- And So Since Jesus Knew That:
 - His Times Were In God's Hands:
 - He Did Not Need To:
 - Act Hastily Or Rashly:
 - According To The Purpose Of His Brothers!
 - Instead He Could Faithfully:
 - Fulfill His Mission:
 - According To God's Purpose & Time!
 - And If You Do Believe In Jesus:
 - The Way God Means For You To!
 - That Is In A Saving Way!
 - Then Jesus Himself Can Enable You To Live In The Light Of:
 - The Truth That Your Times Are In God's Hand!
 - Every Single Grain Of Sand:

- In The Hourglass Of Your Life:
 - Is Under The Sovereign Control And Direction Of The Lord!
- And Now You Can Live Each Day Of Your Life:
 - Prudently According To:
 - The Wisdom Of God:
 - That Is Found In His Word!
 - You Don't Need To:
 - Act In Haste Or Make Rash Decisions!
 - Instead Be Faithful:
 - In The Place God Has Put You / For The Purpose God Has Given You!
 - And This You Can Do:
 - No Matter What Opposing Purposes:
 - You Might Face:
 - In Your Own Life!
- But We Can Also See The Difference In How Jesus Lived:
 - In The Face Of Second:

2. Opposing Pressures!

- That We Find Next In:
 - 7:6-10 Jesus Answer To His Brothers:
 - "Then Jesus said unto them, My time is not yet come: but your time is alway ready. / The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil. / Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up yet unto this feast; for my time is not yet full come. / When he had said these words unto them, he abode still in Galilee. / But when his brethren were gone up, then went he also up unto the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret!"
 - Jesus Was Able To Keep Pursuing After:
 - God's Plan For His Times In His Life:
 - Even In The Face Of:
 - Mounting Pressures!
 - Like The Mounting Pressure Of:

- His Time!
 - In 7:6 Jesus Contrasted:
 - His Time With:
 - His Brother's Time!
 - "My time is not yet come: but your time is alway ready!"
 - This Verse Shows Us That:
 - There Was A Big Difference:
 - In Spirit:
 - Between Jesus & His Brothers!
 - Their Spirit:
 - Was Of This World And:
 - Of This Age!
 - So They Were In A Hurry:
 - To Accomplish:
 - Their Purposes!
 - They Had Little Patience:
 - Because Their Time:
 - Was Short!
 - However Jesus' Spirit:
 - Was Of Heaven And:
 - Of The Ages!
 - So He Was In No Rush!
 - No Hurry To Accomplish:
 - His Purpose / God's Purpose!
 - He Could Live & Serve:
 - In Faithfulness & In Patience!
 - One Of The Differences Between:

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- Is That - They:
                                   - "Knew Nothing Of God's Agenda!" (Don Carson)
                 - But - Jesus Did!
                          - Because - For "Every Deed And Action Of The Lord . . . There Is A Definite Moment,
                          Determined From All Eternity, In The Plan Of God!" (William Hendrickson)
        - And This Is Why:
                 - Jesus Did Not Bow To:
                          - The Pressure Of Time!
                                   - Because - He Knew That:
                                           - His Times Were All In God's Hand!
                 - But Jesus Also Deals With:
                          - In 7:7 - The Mounting Pressures Of:
- His Treatment!
        - 7:7a - The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth!"
                 - This Verse Shows Us The:
                          - Big Difference In Treatment:
                                   - Between Jesus & His Brothers!
                 - And - To His Brother's Challenge:
                          - To Make Himself Known:
                                   - He Makes His Own Challenge:
                                           - About Their Spirit Of Worldliness!
        - You See - The World:
                 - Cannot Hate Its Own!
                          - Even Though The World:
                                   - Often Does Fight:
                                           - Against Its Own!
                 - It Cannot & Does Not:
                          - Fully Hate Its Own!
                                   - Because - The World:
                                           - Deep Down -Understands Its Own!
                 - But - That's Not True:
                          - About Jesus!
        - The World Hates Jesus!
                 - Because - The World:
                          - Cannot Understand Jesus!
                                   - And - The World Hates Jesus:
                                           - Especially Because Of:
- His Truth!
        - 7:7b - "Because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil!"
                 - This Is Still Why:
                          - The World Hates Jesus!
                 - This Is Still Why:
                          - The World Rejects:
                                   - The True, Real Jesus!
        - Because - He Tells The Truth:
                 - About Our Works - And:
                          - About Our Selves!
                                   - That They Are Evil - And:
                                           - Flow From An Evil Heart!
                 - Isaiah 64:6 - "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags;
                 and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away!"
                          - The World Does Not Want / Does Not Like To Hear This!
- But - In Spite Of All:
        - The Mounting Pressures:
                 - Against Jesus!
                          - Of His Time / Treatment / Truth!
                                   - Jesus Remained Patient & Faithful:
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- Jesus & His Brothers:

- To His Mission!
- Because He Knew More Than Anyone!
 - Even More Than King David Himself:
 - That Psalm 31:15 "My Times Are In Thy Hand!"
- Now There Are Some:
 - Who See A Contradiction Between Jesus Words & Actions That We Find In:
 - 7:8-10 That Jesus Said One Thing, But Does Another!
 - "Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up yet unto this feast; for my time is not yet full come. / When he had said these words unto them, he abode still in Galilee. / But when his brethren were gone up, then went he also up unto the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret!"
- But Instead Of A Contradiction:
 - We See A Greater Confirmation:
 - Of The Driving Force:
 - Of Jesus Life Which Was:
 - The Will Of God His Father!
 - In 7:8 He Says:
 - "I Go Not Up Yet Unto This Feast!"
 - Corresponds With 7:8 "For My Time Is Not Yet Full Come!"
 - So, He Was Not Going To Go:
 - According His Brother's Timetable, But According To His Father's!
- And So Likely A Few Days After:
 - His Brothers Left Jesus Himself Left:
 - To Go To Jerusalem!
 - So That As We Will See:
 - Me Might Fulfill His Father's Purpose:
 - And Not His Brothers'!
 - And Though He Went Up:
 - 7:10b "Not Openly, But As It Were In Secret!"
 - It Was So That He Might Fulfill His True Purpose & Mission:
 - For Just The Right People, In Just The Right Place, And At Just The Right Time!
- And If You Are One Of Jesus' Followers Today:
 - This Too Is How You Can Live Your Life!
 - No Matter What Pressures You Face!
 - By God's Grace & Through His Strength:
 - You Can Fulfill God's Will As Found In His Word Faithfully & Patiently Like Jesus!
- So Many Times:
 - The Spirit Of This World / Age:
 - Infects Us And We Live Our Lives:
 - In Impatience & In A Hurry!
 - We Let The Pressures Of This World:
 - Squeeze Us Into Its Mold:
 - Of Hurry & Worry! IE: Jello!
- But When You Remember That:
 - Your Times Are In God's Hands:
 - You Can Trust In & Rest In:
 - The Wisdom & Will Of God:
 - To Fulfill His Plan For Your Life:
 - Each Day!
- But Even Before Jesus Arrives In Jerusalem:
 - In 7:10-13 We Can See Another Difference:
 - In How Jesus Lived!
 - Even In The Face Of Third:

3. Opposing Perceptions!

- When You Live A Life Free From:

- The Hurry & Worry Of This World:
 - The World Will Take Notice!
 - Even As It Did Of Jesus! Because:
- 7:11-13 "Then the Jews sought him at the feast, and said, Where is he? / And there was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; but he deceiveth the people. / Howbeit no man spake openly of him for fear of the Jews!"
 - In These Verses:
 - We Find 3 Different Perceptions:
 - Of Jesus!
- In 7:11 There Were Those Who Were:
 - Hostile Toward Jesus!
 - These Were Probably The Same Jewish Leaders:
 - Who We Met In Chapter 5:
 - When Jesus Was Previously In Jerusalem:
 - And Healed The Man At The Pool Of Bethesda!
 - They Were Greatly Offended!
 - So From 5:18 "Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God!"
 - So They Waited For Their Next Opportunity:
 - To Catch Jesus In The Act!
 - Asking As We Are Told Here:
 - In 7:11 "Where Is That One!"
 - In A Tone Of Scorn & Disdain!
 - However We Also Find:
 - In Jerusalem At That Feast:
- In 7:12 Among Those Who Were "Murmuring" About Him:
 - Those Who Were:
 - Hopeful Toward Jesus!
 - "Some Said He Is A Good Man!"
 - He Is Good!
 - How True They Were!
 - Because Oh How Good Jesus Is!
 - Jesus Is Good:
 - In Every Word! (Eternal Life)
 - In Every Work! (Gospel)
 - In Every Will! (Nature)
 - Even More Than They Knew!
 - Truly Good!
 - They Were Not Far From The Kingdom Of God!
 - But They Needed To Go The Next Step Further!
 - They Need To Believe In His:
 - Ultimate & Infinite:
 - Goodness & Grace!
 - And So Must You!
 - To Have Your Sins Forgiven!
 - 20:31 "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name!"
 - However We Still Find:
 - In Jerusalem At That Feast:
- Also In 7:13 Those Who Were:
 - Hardened Toward Jesus!
 - "Others Said, Nay: But He Deceiveth The People!"
 - The Spirit Of Their Leaders:
 - Was Starting To Infect Their Own Hearts!
 - But They Did Know That:
 - When It Came To Jesus:
 - And His Claims:

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- There Really Can Be No Other Options:
                                          - Than These Two!
                 - Either Jesus Was:
                         - A Liar - And A Deceiver:
                                  - Or He Was Telling The Truth:
                                          - And Was Indeed:
                                                   - The Lord Of All!
                 - He Was Either:
                         - Good Or Bad!
        - Had To Make A Choice!
                 - And - So Do You!
                         - What Is Your Perception Of Jesus?
                                 - The True Jesus!
                                          - The One Who Is The Way, The Truth & The Life?
        - Hostile? Hopeful? Hardened?
                 - Repent Of The Evil:
                         - He Came To Confront In Your Heart:
                                 - And Believe In Him:
                                          - As Your Savior From Sin!
                 - Can You Live As Jesus Did - And:
                         - Even As David Did:
                                  - By God's Grace & Through His Strength - That Is:
- Your Times Are In God's Hands!
        - And So - In Christ:
- No Matter What Opposing Purposes:
        - You Face In Your Life:
                 - You Can Live Prudently:
                         - According To The Wisdom Of God:
                                  - And Not The World!
- No Matter What Opposing Pressures:
                 - You Can Live Patiently:
                         - According To The Will Of God!
                                  - Without Hurry & Without Worry!
                                          - Because God Is Still In Control! And:
- No Matter What Opposing Perceptions:
        - You Face - Like Jesus Faced:
                 - You Can Persevere:
                         - According To The Work Of God:
                                 - In Your Life!
                                          - A Work Of Goodness & Of Grace!
- To Faithfully Fulfill His Father's Plan & Mission:
        - Because He Knew The Truth Of:
                 - Psalm 31:15 - "My Times Are In Thy Hand!"
                         - And - He Did This For You:
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- And For Your Salvation!

- In The Hourglass Of Your Life: - Drops!

- The Very Last Grain Of Sand:

- And So - The Crowd:

- And Only Then:

- You Face:

Jesus Was Able:

- And Now - Through Jesus:

- You Can Live In The Light Of This Truth:

- Even Until:

2.

Conclusion:

In Faith That:

Your Times Are Still In God's Hands!
 So - Be Faithful Unto Then!
 And Live Prudently / Patiently / And:
 Persevere - For God & His Glory!

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