

## Jesus' Unbelieving Brothers

John 7:1-13 (Page 77 in the BPB)

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### Introduction

#### The Setting (vv. 1-2)

##### <sup>1</sup>After these things

“A frequent connective between narratives in John (2:12; 3:22; 5:1, 14; 6:1; 7:1; 11:7, 11; 19:28, 38), and is no indication of the length of interval between the two events.” (Carson, D.A., Pillar Commentary on John, p. 176)

Approximately six months after the feeding of over 5,000 people and Bread of Life Discourse (see John 6:4 and 7:2).

**Jesus was walking in Galilee, for He was unwilling to walk in Judea because the Jews were seeking to kill Him.**

See 5:16, 18

<sup>2</sup>Now the feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths, was near.

**The feast of Booths or Tabernacles, (also known as the Feast of Ingathering)** Ex. 23:16; 34:22; Lev. 23:33-44; Deut. 16:13-17; Ezra 3:4 Neh. 8:13-18; was one of three great annual pilgrimage feasts (along with the Feasts of Weeks/First-fruits/Pentecost) in which every male was to celebrate before the Lord in Jerusalem. Exodus 23:14-17; 34:18-26; Leviticus 23:1-44; Deuteronomy 16:1-17; 2 Chron. 8 12-13

The Songs of Ascents, Psalms 120-134, are closely associated with the three great Pilgrim Festivals.

This Feast closely followed the Day of Atonement.

During the Feast of Booths people remembered their ancestors' wandering in the desert and celebrated the harvest.

**Jesus' Unbelieving Brothers (vv. 3-5)**

**<sup>3</sup>Therefore His brothers said to Him,**

Jesus' brothers – Jn. 2:12; Matt. 13:55-56; Acts 1:14; Gal. 1:19

Jesus' brothers give Him advice on how to be more effective in promoting Himself to His disciples and to the world.

**“Leave here and go into Judea, so that Your disciples also may see Your works which You are doing.**

**<sup>4</sup>“For no one does anything in secret when he himself seeks to be *known* publicly.**

**If You do these things, show Yourself to the world.”**

John comments the spiritual condition of Jesus' brothers.

**<sup>5</sup>For not even His brothers were believing in Him.**

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**Jesus' Distinguishes Himself from His Brothers (vv. 6-10)**

**<sup>6</sup>So Jesus said to them,**

**“My time is not yet here,  
but your time is always opportune.**

**<sup>7</sup>“The world cannot hate you,**

**but it hates Me (John 15:18-25; 17:66-9, 11, 13-21)**

**because I testify of it, that its deeds are evil. (John3:19-21)**

**<sup>8</sup>“Go up to the feast yourselves;**

**I do not go up to this feast because My time has not yet fully come.”**

**<sup>9</sup>Having said these things to them, He stayed in Galilee.**

**<sup>10</sup>But when His brothers had gone up to the feast,**

**then He Himself also went up, not publicly, but as if, in secret.**

### **Different Responses from Those at the Feast (vv. 11-13)**

**<sup>11</sup>So the Jews were seeking Him at the feast and were saying,**

**“Where is He?”**

**<sup>12</sup>There was much grumbling among the crowds concerning Him;**

**Some were saying, “He is a good man”;**

**Others were saying, “No, on the contrary, He leads the people astray.”**

**<sup>13</sup>Yet no one was speaking openly of Him for fear of the Jews.**

### **Conclusion**

**Jesus’ Brothers Unbelief**

**The Jews Murderous Intentions**

**The Crowd’s Skepticism**