

# Dangers in Serving God

John 7:1 **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.

- Jesus had brothers and sisters [Matthew 13:55-56](#) Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, **James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?** 56 And **his sisters**, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this *man* all these things?
- Jesus brothers and sisters do not believe in Him at this time but will later [Acts 1:14](#) These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and **Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.**
- Two of Jesus brother's will actually write two of the epistles, James and Jude [Galatians 1:19](#) But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother.

# 1. Dealing with persecution and danger

- a. Jesus knew what it meant to live under constant threats
  - i. Jesus suffered two types of threats.
    1. One was to make Him king when that wasn't the will of the Father
    2. The other was to kill him for pretending to be God
- b. The religious leaders want Jesus dead! **1 After these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Jewry, because the Jews sought to kill him.**
- c. Jesus chose not to walk where they were seeking to kill Him
  - i. Jesus would escape to continue the ministry because His hour had not yet come
  - ii. Jesus escaped **John 10:39 Therefore they sought again to take him: but he escaped out of their hand,**
  - iii. He passed through their midst **Luke 4 29-30 And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. 30 But he passing through the midst of them went his way,**
  - iv. Missionaries do not need to needlessly risk their lives or ministry

- d. Jesus is not afraid to die, He actually came to die
  - i. He came to give His life **Matthew 20:28** **Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.**
  - ii. He came to lay down His life with no one taking it from Him
- e. He will not flee His duty but will not place Himself in danger needlessly
- f. Jesus knows that His life and times are in the hands of the Father **8** **Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up yet unto this feast; for **my time is not yet full come.****
- g. Jesus will not allow anyone to push Him into unnecessary danger **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.*

- i. Very likely His brothers believe that He is going to be a king, a political leader
  - ii. Sending Him to Judea, where all the population center was, only made sense
  - iii. If He shows His miracles there then every one will believe and make Him the king
  - iv. If they were jealous or had a bad attitude He would still not play into their hands
  - v. The man of God needs to do what is right but not allow others to push Him either way
- h. Taking precautions in doing ministry only makes sense 10  
But when his brethren were gone up, then went he also up unto the feast, **not openly, but as it were in secret.**
- i. **When you witness you should do so wisely. Do not try to get in trouble, cause problems, bring attention to yourself just to prove a point**

## 2. Dealing with the character attacks

- a. His brothers don't believe in Him 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.

- b. The world hates Him, the same world that He loves and came to give His life for
- c. Murmuring among the people about who He is
- d. You can expect that people will not believe in you. They will not trust your Christianity
- e. They will want to see you fall as a Christian

3. Trusting God's time table 6 Then Jesus said unto them, **My time is not yet come:** but your time is alway ready. 8 Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up yet unto this feast; for **my time is not yet full come.**

- a. Jesus life is on a time table. He was sent by the Father for a purpose
- b. He knows that the Father's will will be done in His life
- c. He has nothing to prove. The Father will prove all things

d. Jesus has mention His time on several opportunities but His time is when He will give His life for us on the cross of Calvary **Matthew 26:18** And he said, Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him, The Master saith, My time is at hand; I will keep the passover at thy house with my disciples.

e. God is at work in your life. You can trust that He has a plan for your life. You are not an accident **Philippians 1:6** Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ: **Romans 8:28-29** And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose. **29** For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

f. Your life is not out of control unless you are living in sin and rebellion. Get focused again on Him and His purposes. Trust Him

4. Bolding talking about Jesus **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.

- a. No one would speak openly of Jesus. They were afraid of the Jews
- b. Some believe that He was a good man but they let fear shut their mouths
- c. Fear has been a very effective tool of the devil to keep our mouths shut
- d. We feel no fear to talk about politics, sports, weather or anything else but Jesus will strike fear in our hearts
- e. Fear will steal from us some of the most blessed and exciting things that God has for us in our lives

John 19:38-39 And after this **Joseph of Arimathaea**, being a disciple of Jesus, but **secretly for fear** of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave *him* leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. 39 And there came also **Nicodemus**, which at the first **came to Jesus by night**, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound *weight*.



- i. I wonder if they regretted the time they could have spent with Him while He was alive but missed because of fear
  - ii. I wonder if their regret drives them now to risk everything for Him
  - f. Are you allowing fear to hinder what God could do in your life? Are you afraid to share who Jesus is and what He has done in your life for fear of your family, friends, coworkers, etc
  - g. Are you going to regret that some time? Maybe at a funeral etc
5. Now is a good time for you **6 Then Jesus said unto them, My time is not yet come: but your time is alway ready.**
- a. Jesus was and is hated because He shows men what they are **7 The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil.**
  - b. Jesus is who He is and is very secure in that
  - c. His brothers have not yet decided to trust Jesus and believe that He is in deed the Son of God
  - d. They can go to the feast because no one has anything against them, they still stand with the world and sin

- e. It is your time. You can be saved today. You can begin to serve. Go to the feast. Get involved
- f. You can be saved today. It is your time.

### The dangers we encounter in serving Jesus

- We allow the world to manipulate us to over react
- We get discouraged and controlled because they attack us personally
- We want things now when God has a time table in our lives as well
- We allow fear to cause us to shut our mouths
- We don't act when it is time to act