

Gospel of John
[Return to Jerusalem (John 7:1-10)]

Introduction/Overview of Chapters 7-10

-Cycle #3 (7:10-10:40); Duration: 2-3 months (7:2 with 10:22); Confusion about Jesus is increasing (7:11, 12, 25-27, 31, 40-43; 9:16; 10:19-21, 24, 41, 42); Opposition to Jesus is increasing (7:30, 32, 44; 8:59; 10:31, 39)

I. The Occasion of Jesus' Return to Jerusalem (vs. 1, 2)

-Seven months later (6:4 with 7:2 and Lev. 23:5, 34)

-Feast of Booths (Tabernacles): Lev. 23:34-43 Num. 29:12-39 Deut. 16:13-15; 31:10, 11 Neh. 8:13-18 Hos. 12:9 Zech. 14:16-19

-The Jews have determined to kill Jesus (v. 1)

II. The Discussion Concerning Jesus' Return to Jerusalem (vs. 3-8)

-brothers = siblings (Matt. 12:46 and parallels; 13:55, 56; Acts 1:15; 1 Cor. 9:5); James the Just (Acts 15; Gal. 2:9; James 1:1)

-their "advice" (vs. 3, 4); their true disposition (v. 5)

-Jesus' reply (vs. 6-8)

III. The Discretion Involved in Jesus' Return to Jerusalem (vs. 9, 10)

-Jesus does the opposite. Instead of public display, He uses maximum discretion as He returns to Jerusalem.

Practical Lessons

1) True followers of Christ will sometimes experience opposition from family members.

2) Unbelief wears many faces.

3) Not everyone is entitled to know all our business.

4) Jesus is the supreme example of One who waited upon God.