

Gospel of John
[Teaching in Jerusalem (Part 2) (John 7:25-36)]

-Prevailing Themes in Chapter 7:

Conversations with Jesus / Controversy about Jesus / Conspiracy against Jesus

-Setting: Jesus is teaching in the temple sometime during the feast (vs. 14, 37)

I. The Attempted Identification of Jesus (vs. 25-29)

-Residents of Jerusalem (v. 25)

-Have the Jewish leaders changed their minds about Jesus? (v. 26)

-No one will know where the Messiah is from. Therefore, Jesus can't be the Messiah (v. 27). [Alternate Views: Messiah comes from Bethlehem (v. 42; Matt. 2:1-6); Messiah will perform signs (v. 31)]

-They knew who Jesus was and where He came from because already He told them (vs. 28, 29; 5:19-24, 30, 37, 38, 43; 6:27, 29, 32, 33, 38, 39, 41-44, 46, 50-52, 57, 58).

II. The Attempted Incarceration of Jesus (vs. 30-36)

-Initial, spontaneous attempt by the residents of Jerusalem (v. 30)

-Reason for the failure of their attempt (v. 30; Eph. 1:11; 2 Tim. 1:9)

-Many in the crowd "believed" (v. 31)

-Subsequent issue of formal warrant for Jesus' arrest (v. 32)

-Jesus' consequent response concerning His imminent departure via the cross, resurrection, and ascension back to heaven (vs. 33, 34; 8:21; 13:33; 14:1-3)

-The Jews' confusion about Jesus' words (vs. 35, 36)

Practical Lessons

1) This passage indicates that Jesus' death on the cross wasn't an accident (Is. 53:10, 11).

2) This passage illustrates the obstinate spiritual blindness of unbelievers (1 Cor. 2:14).

3) This passage points us to the frightening destiny that awaits all who refuse to come to Christ (Matt. 7:22, 23; 25:1-13; Luke 13:24).

4) This passage confronts us with the all-important question: Who is Jesus?