

The Gospel of John

7:25-36

Welcome back to this week's study in the book of John.
As with this study and all bible studies, remember to pray before you start.

✚ **John 7:25-27** *Now some of them from Jerusalem said, "Is this not He whom they seek to kill? But look! He speaks boldly, and they say nothing to Him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is truly the Christ? However, we know where this Man is from; but when the Christ comes, no one knows where He is from."*

If you will remember last week, Jesus testified that he who speaks of himself is from himself, but those who speak to glorify the one who sent then is of the one that sent him.

In other words, if Jesus spoke of Himself and brought attention to Himself by the words He said, then He would not have been from God. But Jesus didn't speak of Himself nor glorified Himself, but rather God was the one Jesus glorified in all that He did. The Jews could not deny, this and it seems this put them to silence as we read starting out this week.

✚ *But look! He speaks boldly, and they say nothing to Him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is truly the Christ?*

Did they truly know that this was the Christ or were they just lost for words? I think they were just lost for words, because they could not refute what Jesus had said as we read in last week's study.

✚ **John 7:16-18** *Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone wants to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him."*

Now as these guys from Jerusalem thought about these things, and they wondered how the Jews could not know that this was the Christ, with and their reasoning being.

✚ *"However, we know where this Man is from; but when the Christ comes, no one knows where He is from."*

But they were wrong in their assumptions, because the bible does say throughout the Old Testament where the Messiah will come from.

✚ **Hosea 11:1** *When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called My son.*

† **Micah 5:2** *"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."*

† **John 1:45** *Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote--Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."*

† **Deut 18:15** *"The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear,*

Sure they knew where Jesus was from, but they didn't understand the scriptures in regards to the Messiah and where He would be from.

Jesus answers them.

✠ **John 7:28-29** *Then Jesus cried out, as He taught in the temple, saying, "You both know Me, and you know where I am from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know. But I know Him, for I am from Him, and He sent Me."*

Jesus yells out, not in angry but rather so all could hear Him, You know Me as Jesus from Nazareth, but you have no idea why I am here or Who sent me.

Jesus was speaking of God who had sent Him and did you notice what Jesus said? *whom you do not know*. You claim to know God, but you know nothing about Him at all.

But I know God because *"I am from Him, and He sent Me."*

So many claim to know God and they even call out to Him in times of trouble. There are many people in this world who will say, yes there is a god. But they don't know God at all.

Some see God as a provider only when they are in need or trouble.

Some see God as a higher force.

Some see God as angry.

Some see Him as something man has made up.

Some see God as up in heaven, sitting on His throne looking down and laughing at us all, or that God has forgotten about us all together.

Some see God as a crutch.

Some see God as just another god like so many others.

We could go on and on with how the world sees God or what they perceive God to be.

But the truth is that everything you would ever want to, or need to know about God is in the bible. All these people have never read and studied the bible; they are taking their thinking of who, or what God is by what others have said.

But to really know God is to know His Son Jesus Christ.

It is impossible to say that you believe in God and that you don't believe in Jesus.

It would be like saying you believe in eggshells, but you don't believe that there is anything inside of the eggshell, no white or yolk, just a shell. Sound ridiculous doesn't it? Just as ridiculous as people saying that they believe in God but not Jesus.

✠ ***"But I know Him, for I am from Him, and He sent Me."***

We have all heard of stories where someone was adopted as a baby and for most of their life they believed that the man and woman who raised them were their parents. Then we read of this same person finding out the truth and finding their real parents.

This was not the way with Jesus. He knew all along that He was from God and that Joseph was not His father.

✠ ***Luke 2:48-50 So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously." And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them.***

Jesus was only twelve years old at this time, but still Jesus knew that He was from God and why God had sent Him. Even at age twelve Jesus was ready to start ministering to the people, but His time had not yet come, it would be another 18 years before Jesus' ministry started.

✠ ***John 7:30-31 Therefore they sought to take Him; but no one laid a hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come. And many of the people believed in Him, and said, "When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this Man has done?"***

Remember I said back a few studies ago that I believed Jesus had prayed, and sought the Lord about going to Judea, because the Jews sought to kill Him? I also believe that the Lord told Jesus to go to Judea. Verse 30 shows this is true because God had His hand of protection around Jesus. If Jesus had gone on His own will, and against God's, then He would have been tempting the Lord, which would have been a sin. But God told Jesus to go to Judea and as Jesus was obedient, God protected Him.

Sometimes we are afraid to witness to others because we are afraid that they will make fun of us, or not like us anymore, or maybe even get violent with us.

But if the Lord calls you to go somewhere and do His work, then you can rest assured that He will protect you. But we should always have the attitude of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego.

✠ ***Dan 3:16-18 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be***

known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

"It's God's will for me to go and speak His word and He will protect me. Even if He doesn't I will still love and worship God for all eternity."

Easy words to say, but much harder to live.

✎ ***And many of the people believed in Him, and said, "When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this Man has done?"***

These words are so dangerous, because it's words like these that bring to mind what will happen during the last days and during the tribulation.

- † ***Matt 24:3-5 Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many."***

- † ***Matt 24:23-27 Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand. Therefore if they say to you, 'Look, He is in the desert!' do not go out; or 'Look, He is in the inner rooms!' do not believe it. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.***

- † ***Rev 19:20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.***

I've said it before and I will say it again, the world is so ready for the antichrist and the false prophet. The world is constantly seeking after some sort of sign or wonder before they will believe anything. The antichrist will fill the world's lust for signs and wonders, and by so doing, will deceive the world as hundreds of thousands and millions will bow down to the antichrist.

People look for Jesus in the Shroud of Turin.

People look for Jesus in billboard ads for spaghetti (yes this is true).

People look for Jesus in burnt tortillas (yes this is true also).

People are looking for a tall man with long brown hair and blue eyes and a clean looking beard. Millions of homes in the world have pictures of this man hanging in their homes and they worship it.

But Jews (which Jesus was) have dark hair, sometimes curly, their eyes are brown and they are not that tall.

But we need to see something to worship it, right? That's what the children of Israel thought as they built and worshipped a golden calf. But the end of this false worship only brought them death. When you worship the one and only true God, there is no death, only eternal life with Him in heaven. And the best part is that Jesus did all the work on the cross. We just need to believe and repent of our sins.

✠ **John 7:32-36** *The Pharisees heard the crowd murmuring these things concerning Him, and the Pharisees and the chief priests sent officers to take Him. Then Jesus said to them, "I shall be with you a little while longer, and then I go to Him who sent Me. You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come." Then the Jews said among themselves, "Where does He intend to go that we shall not find Him? Does He intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks? What is this thing that He said, 'You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come'?"*

The Pharisees were getting mad here, because Jesus' words were so true and others could not refute them. Also because as we just read in verse 31 that **many of the people believed in Him**. The Pharisees thought that they were the only ones who could teach the bible and that their way was the only true and right way. If others strayed from that way, then the Pharisees had condemned them to hell.

I need to be careful how I phrase this next statement.

There are so many churches out there today, and the sad thing is that people believe that if you go to their church or branch of church that you are saved. But if you go to one of those other churches you are going to hell.

Now don't get me wrong, because there are many cults out there like the Mormons, Jehovah Witnesses, Moonies and so on that teach a totally false doctrine and a false Jesus from what the bible says. I am not referring to these as those other churches.

But then there are the Baptists, the Pentecostals, non-denominational churches, etc that do teach the bible in truth. The only difference is usually in how they worship. The Baptists are very conservative in their worship. They sing from hymnals with a piano and or organ playing. They believe in the gifts of the Holy Spirit but not all of the gifts such as tongues or prophecy, nor do they really practice or teach them.

The Pentecostals on the other hand, sing and dance all over the place and they have all types of musical instruments playing including guitars, drums, basses etc. They do believe in all the gifts of the Holy Spirit and practice them a little too much and not always according to scripture.

The non-denominational churches are usually in the middle. They also use various instruments in their praise and worship, just no dancing around bringing attention to themselves. They also believe in all the gifts of the Holy Spirit and teach and practice them all, according to what the bible teaches on how and when to use them.

The thing is that they all believe in the Jesus of the bible, they all believe in the Trinity, they all believe that the bible is the only authority and they don't add other books to it.

The differences in these different churches really has to do more with a person's personality than their beliefs, since they all believe the same things about God, Jesus, how to be saved, and the bible.

But as I said the different churches are because people have different personalities, some like the laid back Baptist churches, some like the hype they get from the Pentecostal churches and some are in between. There are also other churches that believe in the Jesus of the Bible. I just didn't want to mention them all. The thing is that we all love Jesus, the Jesus of the bible, and just because the church someone goes to isn't called First Baptist church of your town, or Calvary Chapel of your town, or the Pentecostal church of your town, or whatever name the church you go to is called. If they believe in the Jesus of the Bible, teach the bible and have no other companion book to the bible, and believe in the Trinity then don't put them down or try to persuade them to go to your church. If they are happy where they are and it's a true Christian church, let them stay. You can always have home groups to fellowship together with them.

✎ ***Then Jesus said to them, "I shall be with you a little while longer, and then I go to Him who sent Me. You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come."***

Jesus knew His time was not yet here for Him to die, and He tried to explain this to them. Jesus also told them that He would be returning to the Father as Jesus refers to God as ***Him who sent Me.***

We read about this last week and even this week as Jesus refers to God as the one who sent Jesus.

✎ ***"You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come."***

So many are seeking to get to heaven, but their own way. The sad thing is that they will never make it, because they are trying to do it their own way and not God's. The Jews sought to go to heaven, but they were seeking it by their own righteousness and works. Jesus told them before that:

✝ ***John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."***

The Jews were seeking the Messiah, and He was right in front of them, but they just never believed in Him. Therefore, they could not find Him nor will they be able to go where Jesus is going and where He is right now, which is at the right hand of God.

✝ ***Mark 16:19 So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.***

But once again the Jews didn't get it.

✠ *Then the Jews said among themselves, "Where does He intend to go that we shall not find Him? Does He intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks? What is this thing that He said, 'You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come'?"*

They just didn't get it so they thought that Jesus would go to others then the Jews to teach them. All of this happened at the middle of the feast. Next week starting in verse 37 we read that the end of the feast has arrived as Jesus speaks of the Holy Spirit on this last day of the feast.

May God richly bless you in His love, grace and mercy and may you love others the same way!