

Lesson 11

Who Is Jesus?

John 7:1-52

1. What speculations and opinions are circulating among the various groups in Jerusalem before Jesus arrives for the Feast (vs. 1-12)?

John 7:1-13

1 After this, Jesus moved about within Galilee; but he did not wish to travel in Judea, because the Jews were trying to kill him.

2 But the Jewish feast of Tabernacles was near.

3 So his brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, so that your disciples also may see the works you are doing.

4 No one works in secret if he wants to be known publicly. If you do these things, manifest yourself to the world."

5 For his brothers did not believe in him.

6 So Jesus said to them, "My time is not yet here, but the time is always right for you.

7 The world cannot hate you, but it hates me, because I testify to it that its works are evil.

8 You go up to the feast. I am not going up to this feast, because my time has not yet been fulfilled."

9 After he had said this, he stayed on in Galilee.

10 But when his brothers had gone up to the feast, he himself also went up, not openly but (as it were) in secret.

11 The Jews were looking for him at the feast and saying, "Where is he?"

12 And there was considerable murmuring about him in the crowds. Some said, "He is a good man," (while) others said, "No; on the contrary, he misleads the crowd."

13 Still, no one spoke openly about him because they were afraid of the Jews.

2. What makes you think Jesus was very careful about how He spent His time? (vs.1-13)

3. A. What did Jesus mean when He said that for His brothers, ‘their time is always ready’?

B. How could these words in vs. 6 also apply to us concerning the way in which we spend our time? See Ephesians 4:17-19 & 5:15-16

Ephesians 4:17-19

17 So I declare and testify in the Lord that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds;

18 darkened in understanding, alienated from the life of God because of their ignorance, because of their hardness of heart,

19 they have become callous and have handed themselves over to licentiousness for the practice of every kind of impurity to excess.

Ephesians 5:15-16

15 Watch carefully then how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise,

16 making the most of the opportunity, because the days are evil.

C. What changes could a person make to correct the way in which he spends his time?

4. Why did some people say that Jesus ‘was leading the people astray’ or “deceiving the people”?

5. A. The Jewish leaders are impressed by Jesus’ knowledge of Scripture. According to Jesus, from where did He get His teaching?

B. How could His hearers verify this? Also see Matthew .26:73

73 A little later the bystanders came over and said to Peter, "Surely you too are one of them; even your speech gives you away."

6. Why does Jesus' teaching in verses 14-29 provoke the responses of verses 30-31?

John 7: 14-29

- 14** When the feast was already half over, Jesus went up into the temple area and began to teach.
- 15** The Jews were amazed and said, "How does he know scripture without having studied?"
- 16** Jesus answered them and said, "My teaching is not my own but is from the one who sent me.
- 17** Whoever chooses to do his will shall know whether my teaching is from God or whether I speak on my own.
- 18** Whoever speaks on his own seeks his own glory, but whoever seeks the glory of the one who sent him is truthful, and there is no wrong in him.
- 19** Did not Moses give you the law? Yet none of you keeps the law. Why are you trying to kill me?"
- 20** The crowd answered, "You are possessed! Who is trying to kill you?"
- 21** Jesus answered and said to them, "I performed one work and all of you are amazed
- 22** because of it. Moses gave you circumcision--not that it came from Moses but rather from the patriarchs--and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath.
- 23** If a man can receive circumcision on a Sabbath so that the law of Moses may not be broken, are you angry with me because I made a whole person well on a Sabbath?
- 24** Stop judging by appearances, but judge justly."
- 25** So some of the inhabitants of Jerusalem said, "Is he not the one they are trying to kill?"
- 26** And look, he is speaking openly and they say nothing to him. Could the authorities have realized that he is the Messiah?
- 27** But we know where he is from. When the Messiah comes, no one will know where he is from."
- 28** So Jesus cried out in the temple area as he was teaching and said, "You know me and also know where I am from. Yet I did not come on my own, but the one who sent me, whom you do not know, is true.
- 29** I know him, because I am from him, and he sent me."

John 7: 30-31

- 30** So they tried to arrest him, but no one laid a hand upon him, because his hour had not yet come.
- 31** But many of the crowd began to believe in him, and said, "When the Messiah comes, will he perform more signs than this man has done?"

7. To whom did Jesus refer when He spoke of Living Water flowing out to others from those who drink of Him? CCC#1999

1999 The grace of Christ is the gratuitous gift that God makes to us of his own life, infused by the Holy Spirit into our soul to heal it of sin and to sanctify it. It is the sanctifying or deifying grace received in Baptism. It is in us the source of the work of sanctification:

Therefore if any one is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself.

8. What word in John 14:16 shows that the Holy Spirit is a separate person from Jesus Himself?

John 14:16

16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always,

9. Read Galatians 4:6-7 and Romans 8:9 and describe the difference after Pentecost of the relationship of the Holy Spirit to those who receive Him. (Indwelling: 2 Corinthians. 1:21-22, Galatians.4:6, Ephesians.1:13, Titus 3:5)

Galatians 4:6-7

6 As proof that you are children, God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

7 So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Romans 8:9

9 But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

21 But the one who gives us security with you in Christ and who anointed us is God;

22 he has also put his seal upon us and given the Spirit in our hearts as a first installment.

Galatians 4:6

6 As proof that you are children, God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

Ephesians 1:13

13 In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised holy Spirit,

Titus 3:5

5 not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, he saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

10. Why did Jesus have to die before the Spirit could come to us? (Consider, what did Jesus' death accomplish?) CCC #244

244 The eternal origin of the Holy Spirit is revealed in his mission in time. the Spirit is sent to the apostles and to the Church both by the Father in the name of the Son, and by the Son in person, once he had returned to the Father. The sending of the person of the Spirit after Jesus' glorification reveals in its fullness the mystery of the Holy Trinity.