

Woodland Baptist Church  
 February 9, 2014 - Morning Worship  
 John 7:25-36 - The Feast of Booths, Part 3  
 Jesus' Origin and Destination

1) READ JOHN 7:25-36

2) Verses 25-27 QUESTIONS about WHERE Jesus is from

a) **25 Some of the people of Jerusalem therefore said, "Is not this the man whom they seek to kill? 26 And here he is, speaking openly, and they say nothing to him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Christ? 27 But we know where this man comes from, and when the Christ appears, no one will know where he comes from."**

i) **People in Jerusalem** - they would be a little more hostile to Christ, as they would have first hand information about how the Jewish feel about him; and they knew that many of the Jewish leaders wanted him dead.

(1) **Is this the man whom they seek to kill?** They knew since the threats had been made about him after the healing on the Sabbath, that this visit to the Feast of Tabernacles would only aggravate the situation, but the people were confounded by the lack of action on the part of the Jewish leadership.

(2) **And here he is speaking openly, and they say nothing to him!** The people observe Christ boldly teaching at the Feast of Tabernacles, they realize that the Jews want to kill him...Christ just called them out on it, they accuse him of being demon possessed and now the crowd that is listening begins to buzz with speculation about who Christ really is and where he is from.

ii) Why would this be? Why would they want to kill him, yet continue to allow him to speak openly?

(1) Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Christ? Maybe the leaders are divided on who this man is...maybe because of that, they have declared a hands off policy toward Jesus?

(2) As soon as they think/say that, they then back up when they think about the fact that they know where christ came from...Christ was from Nazareth...a completely insignificant town...the fact he was born in Bethlehem was obviously forgotten about or missed.

b) The people of Jerusalem felt inclined to disbelieve that Jesus was the Messiah, because they believed that their human Messiah's earthly origins would be unknown. This belief was a tradition.<sup>338</sup> It was certainly not scriptural, since the Old Testament clearly predicted that Messiah's birthplace would be Bethlehem (Mic. 5:2). The common understanding of Jesus' origin was that since He was known to have grown up in Nazareth, He apparently was born there too. Not only did they fail to perceive His heavenly origin, but they were also wrong about His earthly origin. In fact, they did not know Him very well at all.<sup>1</sup>

3) **Verses 28-29** Christ reminds them WHO sent him and from WHERE he came

a) **28 So Jesus proclaimed, as he taught in the temple, "You know me, and you know where I come from. But I have not come of my own accord. He who sent me is true, and him you do not know. 29 I know him, for I come from him, and he sent me."**

i) **You know me and you know where I am from?** This statement could be taken two ways from Jesus - he could be saying it in the form of a question - Oh, so you think you know me and where I am from?? Or he could be saying that they do truly know him and where he is from...but he takes them a little deeper - yes, he is from Nazareth, but ultimately he has come from the Father.

(1) I have not come on my accord -

(2) He who sent me is true - you do not know him -

(3) I know him for I come from his and he sent me -

4) **Verses 30-32** Christ AVOIDS arrest as it was not his TIME

a) **30 So they were seeking to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come. 31 Yet many of the people believed in him. They said, "When the Christ appears, will he do more signs than this man has done?" 32 The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about him, and the chief priests and Pharisees sent officers to arrest him.**

i) Ok, so Jesus has not stopped claiming what he began to claim when he helped the invalid at the pool...now he is telling us that we don't know God.

ii) It's time to shut this guy down...something similar happened in Nazareth, do we remember?

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<sup>1</sup> Constable

(1) **Luke 4:28-30** - 28 When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. 29 And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. 30 But passing through their midst, he went away.

iii) **Yet many of the people believed in him** - this is definitely not good, when the Jewish leaders saw people begin to accept him as Messiah, no matter what caused them to, this was NOT good and would be stopped no matter what they had to do.

iv) **When the Christ appears, will he do more signs than this man has done?** Rhetorical question with the implied answer as "no." No future Christ would do more miracles than Jesus, because Jesus was the Christ. They are asking could there be another that would be better than this one?

b) **32 The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about him, and the chief priests and Pharisees sent officers to arrest him.**

5) **Verses 32-36** There is a time LIMIT on Christ's AVAILABILITY

a) **33 Jesus then said, "I will be with you a little longer, and then I am going to him who sent me. 34 You will seek me and you will not find me. Where I am you cannot come." 35 The Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find him? Does he intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks? 36 What does he mean by saying, 'You will seek me and you will not find me,' and, 'Where I am you cannot come'?"**

i) Time was running out: both for Jesus to finish His work, and for the Jews to believe on Him. The Jews had only "a little while longer" to place their faith in Him, before Jesus would leave them and depart to heaven. After that, many Jews would "seek" their Messiah but "not find" Him. That is what has been happening ever since Jesus ascended, and it will continue to happen until He returns to earth at His Second Coming (Zech. 12:10-13; Rev. 1:7). Jesus was, of course, referring enigmatically to His death.<sup>2</sup>

6) CLOSE

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<sup>2</sup> Constable