

## Outline of Fr. Patrick Winslow's Lecture on Lesson 9

### I. First Approach - What is happening at this moment in the text?

- A. (7:1-13) Before going up into Judea for the Feast of Tabernacles.
1. Jesus would not go about in Judea because the Jews sought to kill Him.
  2. It was the feast of Tabernacles and his brethren urged Him to go to Judea – to be public to His disciples in His mission.
    - a. “Even the brethren did not believe in Him.”
    - b. This urging Him on was to help secure their own faith too.
  3. Jesus refuses, for His ‘time has not yet come.’
    - a. He seems to be speaking over their heads.
    - b. Jesus remains in Galilee, the brethren go up to the feast in Judea.
  4. Afterward, Jesus decides to go up to the feast privately.
    - a. The Jews were seeking Him out at the feast.
    - b. There was debate regarding His being either a good or a bad man.
- B. (7:14-31) At the feast...
1. In the middle of the event, Jesus goes into the center of it all - the Temple - and begins to teach.
    - a. The Jews marvel and wonder where His knowledge comes from.
    - b. Jesus responds that His teaching is from the One who sent Him - God. And those who seek His will, will know upon whose authority He speaks.
    - c. Jesus defends His authority as being true.
      - i. Jesus then accuses them of being false because they do not observe the law - they seek to kill Him.
      - ii. The Jews accuse Him of having a demon in denial of His claim.
      - iii. He explains the error of their judgment.
        - To keep Moses' law they circumcise on the Sabbath.
        - Yet, they are angry with Jesus because on the Sabbath He makes a man's whole body well.
        - They are making judgments based upon appearances.
    - d. People from Jerusalem speak out.
      - i. “Is not this the man whom they seek to kill? And there He is, speaking openly, and they say nothing to Him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Christ?”
        - They confirm what the authorities denied
        - They do not understand why they let Him speak - in the middle of the Feast, at the center of the celebration (in the Temple).
        - They wonder, is this a sign of Judean's true belief that He is the Christ? The authorities seem to be afraid of Him.
      - ii. They claim to know from where Jesus comes - Galilee. Therefore, He cannot be the Christ because when “Christ appears no one will know where He comes from.”
        - Jesus suggests that they do not know from where He comes.
        - He comes from God

- They do not know Him.
- iii. They were offended at such a statement and sought to arrest Him.
  - Not a hand was laid upon Him - because His hour had not yet come.
  - The people begin to believe and ask themselves, “when the Christ appears, will he do more signs than this man has done?” - signs given already are enough to conclude that He is the Christ?

C. (7:32-53) The chief priests and Pharisees react.

1. The chief priests and Pharisees send officers to arrest Him.
  - a. Jesus responds by telling them when and where He will go, as if to say all will happen according to His schedule - not that of the priests and Pharisees.
  - b. They were confused when He tells them where He goes, and they shall not be able to come.
2. On the last day of the feast Jesus speaks up again.
  - a. “If any one thirsts, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.’”
    - i. Referring to the Spirit they will receive after Jesus is glorified.
      - The people respond with various claims as to His identity. Some even wanted to arrest Him - but none touched Him.
3. The officers sent to arrest Him return empty handed.
  - a. They explain to the chief priests and Pharisees, “no man ever spoke like this man.”
  - b. The chief priests and Pharisees respond angrily that their authority is being usurped - because *their* authority is before all others (even before Jesus.) then Jesus must be leading people astray and the people accursed.
  - c. Nicodemus points out that He has not been given a fair hearing.
  - d. They respond by accusing Nicodemus concern as being personal, self-serving interest, then use the prophets as their defense.

**II. Second Approach** - what might be John’s pastoral point? Why this account?

A. (7:1-13); (7:14-31) & (7:32-53)

1. There is the general explanation of why the Jews sought to kill Our Lord.
  - a. That God was always in control - the emphasis on ‘the hour not yet having come.’
  - b. The wretched state of those Jews who opposed Our Lord - they seemed to be offended because God did not consult them or respect their authority.
2. The significance of the Feast of Tabernacles (Read III Third Approach first) – shows how Our Lord is the fulfillment of the Old Testament feast.
  - a. Jesus is the Word ‘tabernacled’ amongst us.
    - i. He is the new Temple of God.
    - ii. ...in which will be offered the one priestly sacrifice for all.
    - iii. He is the light to lead all the nations into the new promised land of heaven.
    - iv. Within this Temple (Christ) is found the holy of holies (the Heart of Christ) from which flows the waters of eternal life - like the blood and water that flowed from His side as He hung upon the cross.
      - The blood and water that flowed from His side at the ‘hour’ of His glory.

### III. Third Approach - how does our understanding of this text deepen/enrich in light of the Old Testament?

- A. (7:1-13) The Feast of Tabernacles. **What** is being celebrated and **how** it is being celebrated.
1. **What** - The feast
    - a. Celebrates the permanent abode promised and delivered to the Jews - the **Promised Land**.
    - b. Commemorates living in tents as Israelites moved through the wilderness.
    - c. Offers thanks for the Temple - the permanent tabernacle. The ark of the covenant traveled in a tabernacle/tent through the wilderness.
  2. **How** - the feast was celebrated by
    - a. Priestly Sacrifice - 70 bullocks were offered, one for each of the nations (as noted in the table of nations). The priestly nation offers sacrifice to God for all the nations.
    - b. Light - A pillar of fire and cloud accompanied the Israelites through the wilderness leading them into the promised land. The Lord illumined their way - He was their light in the wilderness.
    - c. Water - (Num 20) In Exodus, Moses strikes the rock and water flows from it to quench Israel's thirst. A priest retrieves water from the Pool of Siloam and pours it over the altar of sacrifice amidst scriptural songs.
- B. (7:32-53) Theme of water continued
1. (37 & 38) make reference to this image of water already implied in the celebration of the feast of Tabernacles.
    - a. "If any one thirsts, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, 'out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.'"
    - b. See Ezekiel 47:1-12 for water and temple imagery.