

The Book of John:
The Disciple Jesus Loved
Study Notes

Chapter 7 PT. 1: Jesus Teaches at the Feast

John 7:1-18

Verses 1-2

John 7:1-2 (NASB) – “¹ After these things Jesus was walking in Galilee, for He was unwilling to walk in Judea because the Jews were seeking to kill Him. ² Now the feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths, was near.”

Feast of Tabernacles (Booths or Sukkot)

Understanding: This is one of the LORD’S Holy Days (**Review Leviticus Chapter 23**). An eight-day Jewish harvest festival commemorating G-d's provision and protection for the Israelites during their 40 years in the desert by having them live in temporary shelters. (**Sukkot: October 6-13,2025**)



The specific regulations for a *kosher* sukkah were developed and codified by rabbinic authorities.

- **Location:** The sukkah must be built outdoors, under the open sky. It cannot be placed under a tree, a roof, or a balcony.
- **Walls:** The sukkah must have at least two full walls and a third, partial wall. The walls can be made of any material, but they must be sturdy enough to withstand a normal wind.

- **Roof (*Schach*):** The roof covering is the most important element of a sukkah.
 - It must be made of organic, unprocessed material, such as branches, leaves, or bamboo mats, that have been detached from the ground.
 - The *schach* must provide more shade than sunlight during the day, but it must also be sparse enough to allow a person to see the stars at night. This symbolized the protective cloud the Israelites lived under in the desert.

Verse 3

John 7:3 (NASB) – “³ So **His brothers** said to Him, ‘Move on from here and go into Judea, so that Your disciples also may see Your works which You are doing.’”

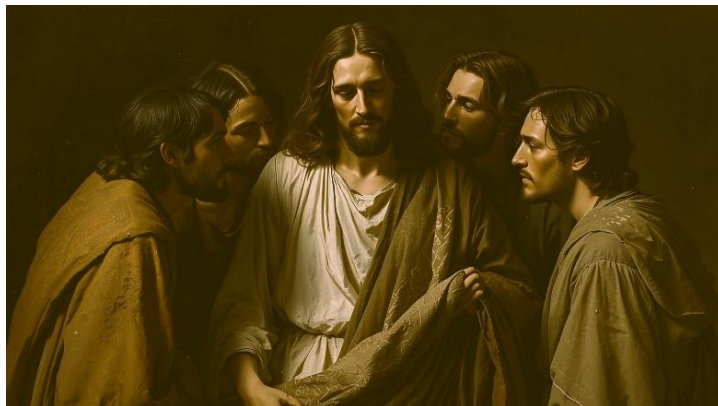
Brothers-(Greek)-*adelphoi*-brothers, It literally means "from the same womb".

- They all had the same mother.
- These are actually Jesus’ half-brothers.
- The four brothers are named in **Matthew 13:55** and **Mark 6:3** as James, Joseph (or Joses), Simon, and Judas (or Jude).

Key: They keep trying to get Jesus to fit into their plans. They even reveal their motives are selfish!

Verse 4

John 7:4 (NASB) – “⁴ For no one does anything in secret when **he himself** is striving to be *known* publicly. If You are doing these things, show Yourself to the world.”



- They are pushing Jesus to show off His gifts.
- It is not His Glory they are seeking; it is their own.
- He is being urged to put His abilities on display so they can boast about being His brothers.
- They want to be known; their vanity is showing. **How do we know?**

Verse 5

John 7:5 (NASB) – “⁵ For not even His brothers believed in Him.”

Note: Never forget Jesus knows the heart of **ALL** men!

Verse 6

A Response of Meekness

John 7:6 (NASB) – “⁶ So Jesus said to them, ‘My time is not yet here, but your time is always ready.’”

- Every second of Christ's time was precious, and had its own business allotted to it.
- Jesus had to steward His time well.
- He has no time to waste.

Key: Jesus stating, “your time is always ready”, is Him saying that they had nothing to be urgent about; they don’t believe.

Verse 7-8

John 7:7-8 (NASB) – “⁷ The world **cannot** hate you, but it hates Me because I testify about it, that its deeds are evil. ⁸ Go up to the feast yourselves; I am not going up to this feast, because My time has not yet fully arrived.”

Note: **NEVER FORGET**...the world only hates what is not of it!

John 15:19 (NASB) – “¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love *you* as its own; but because **you are not** of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.”

Always See Yourself This Way!



In The World But Not Of It! (John 17:16)

Verse 9-11

John 7:9-11 (NASB) – “⁹ Now having said these things to them, He stayed in Galilee. ¹⁰ But when His brothers had gone up to the feast, then He Himself also went up, not publicly, but as *though* in secret. ¹¹ So the Jews were looking for Him at the feast and saying, ‘Where is He?’”

Key: Jesus knew that the Jews would be looking for Him.

- He could not allow anyone to move out of Father's timing.
- He could not even be convinced by those closest to Him to ever seek honor from men.
- He was resolved in every movement He made.

Verse 12-13

John 7:12-13 (NASB) – “¹² And there was a great deal of talk about Him in secret among the crowds: some were saying, ‘He is a good man’; others were saying, ‘No, on the contrary, He is misleading the people.’ ¹³ However, no one was speaking openly about Him, for fear of the Jews.”



Note: Even though the People had such differences of opinions about Jesus, they could not voice them near the ear of the Jewish rulers. Even they knew of the hatred that they had towards Jesus.

Jesus Knew When to Retreat and When to Be Bold:

Verse 14-16

John 7:14-16 (NASB) – “¹⁴ But when it was now **the middle of the feast**, Jesus went up into the temple *area*, and *began to teach*. ¹⁵ The Jews then were astonished, saying, ‘How has this Man become learned, not having been educated?’ ¹⁶ So Jesus answered them and said, ‘My teaching is not My own, but His who sent Me.’”



Understanding: When it was time to move, Jesus did not hide in the city. He stepped right into the temple!

Question: Why the Temple?

Answer: Because people would have been more at rest and better disposed to hear Him, when they had spent several days in their booths, reflecting on the feast of tabernacles. Also, by this time, both His friends and His enemies would not still be looking for Him.

Verse 17-18

John 7:17-18 (NASB) – “¹⁷ If anyone is willing to do His will, **he will know about the teaching**, whether it is of God, or I am speaking from Myself. ¹⁸ The one who speaks from himself **seeks his own glory**; but He who is **seeking the glory of the One who sent Him**, He is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.”

Note: If you want to operate in the will of G-d, you must operate from the Word of G-d! A trained ear will know the difference...Selah.

The End