

GOD'S WILL AND GOD'S TIMING

JOHN 7:1-18

OPEN YOUR BIBLES TO THE GOSPEL OF JOHN CHAPTER 7. WE SPENT 5 WEEKS IN CHAPTER 6. THE APOSTLE JOHN IS PULLING A THREAD THROUGH THIS GOSPEL. ALL THAT IS RECORDED; THE TEACHINGS, THE MIRACLES, THE HEALINGS, THE CRUCIFIXION, AND THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS HAVE BEEN STRATEGICALLY PLACED IN THIS GOSPEL SO THAT ALL WHO READ IT WILL BELIEVE. JOHN'S EMPHASIS IS TRUE SAVING FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST. SO THAT, ALL WHO TRULY BELIEVE (TO THE POINT OF OBEDIENCE IN ACTION) SHALL HAVE ETERNAL LIFE. TODAY WE START CHAPTER 7. THERE IS A 6 MONTH GAP BETWEEN CHAPTER 6 AND CHAPTER 7. MATTHEW AND MARK COVER THE 6-MONTH GAP IN THEIR GOSPELS. JESUS TRAVELED THE LENGTH OF GALILEE, FROM TYRE AND SYDON WHICH IS NORTHWEST OF GALILEE, TO DECAPOLIS IN THE SOUTHEAST. DURING THAT TIME, HE PERFORMED MIRACLES, HEALINGS, CASTED OUT DEMONS, AND THE FED 4,000 MORE PEOPLE (NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH THE FEEDING OF THE 5,000). MOST OF THE 6 MONTHS, HOWEVER, WAS SPENT DISCIPLING THE TWELVE. THE LORD TAUGHT THEM EXTENSIVELY, INCLUDING TELLING THEM FOR THE FIRST TIME OF HIS IMPENDING REJECTION, CRUCIFIXION, AND RESURRECTION. HE ALSO TRANSFIGURED HIMSELF IN DIVINE GLORY TO THE INNER

CIRCLE (PETER, JAMES, AND JOHN). THE FACT THAT JESUS WOULD SPEND ONLY A FEW DAYS WITH LARGE CROWDS AND DEVOTE MOST OF HIS TIME WITH THE TWELVE SHOWS THAT JESUS' PRIMARY FOCUS (BESIDES HIS DEATH ON THE CROSS) WAS DISCIPLESHIP. THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IS THE LEGACY THAT JESUS STARTED WITH HIS APOSTLES (THE 11 ORIGINAL PLUS MATTHIAS AND PAUL). THE LORD DID NOT COMMISSION THE CHURCH TO ATTRACT LARGE CROWDS BUT GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES, AS RECORDED IN MATTHEW 28:19. THE MEASURE OF ANY CHURCH'S SUCCESS IS NOT THE SIZE OF THE CONGREGATION, BUT THE DEPTH OF IT'S DISCIPLESHIP. TODAY WE WILL SEE THAT GOD'S WILL AND TIMING ARE NEVER IN A HURRY, BUT THEY ARE ALWAYS ON TIME.

John 7:1-18 NIV

7 After this, Jesus went around in Galilee. He did not want to go about in Judea because the Jewish leaders there were looking for a way to kill him. ² But when the Jewish Festival of Tabernacles was near, ³ Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave Galilee and go to Judea, so that your disciples there may see the works you do. ⁴ No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world." ⁵ For even his own brothers did not believe in him. ⁶ Therefore Jesus told them, "My time is not yet here; for you any time will do. ⁷ The world cannot hate you, but it hates

me because I testify that its works are evil. ⁸ You go to the festival. I am not going up to this festival, because my time has not yet fully come.” ⁹ After he had said this, he stayed in Galilee.

¹⁰ However, after his brothers had left for the festival, he went also, not publicly, but in secret. ¹¹ Now at the festival the Jewish leaders were watching for Jesus and asking, “Where is he?”

¹² Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, “He is a good man.” Others replied, “No, he deceives the people.” ¹³ But no one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the leaders. ¹⁴ Not until halfway through the festival did Jesus go up to the temple courts and begin to teach. ¹⁵ The Jews there were amazed and asked, “How did this man get such learning without having been taught?” ¹⁶ Jesus answered, “My teaching is not my own. It comes from the one who sent me. ¹⁷ Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own. ¹⁸ Whoever speaks on their own does so to gain personal glory, but he who seeks the glory of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him.

LORD, GIVE US EARS TO HEAR AND CLARITY OF MIND TO
RECEIVE THE TRUTHS YOU HAVE SET BEFORE US. IN JESUS’
NAME

John 7:1 NIV

7 After this, Jesus went around in Galilee. He did not want to go about in Judea because the Jewish leaders there were looking for a way to kill him.

JESUS WAS NOT AFRAID TO DIE. HE CAME TO THIS EARTH TO DIE, BUT IT WOULD BE ON HIS FATHER'S TIMETABLE. NOT HIS, NOT THE WORLD'S

"LOOKING" IS IN THE IMPERFECT TENSE INDICATING THEY WERE ACTIVELY LOOKING AGAIN AND AGAIN, OVER AND OVER WHY? BECAUSE JESUS THREATENED THEIR POWER TO CONTROL PEOPLE WITH RELIGION.

JESUS TURNED OVER MONEY TABLES IN THE TEMPLE AND HEALED A MAN ON THE SABBATH

John 7:2 NIV

² But when the Jewish Festival of Tabernacles was near, THIS FEAST (ALSO CALLED FEAST OF BOOTHS) WAS A FEAST OF GREAT JOY TO CELEBRATE ISRAEL'S DELIVERENCE OUT OF EGYPT. THIS WEEKLONG CELEBRATION CONSISTED OF EVERYONE CAMPING OUT IN MAKESHIFT TENTS, THE BLOWING OF TRUMPETS, POURING OUT WATER IN THE TEMPLE (SYMBOLIZING GOD POURING OUT WATER FROM A ROCK), AND A TORCH PARADE (SYMBOLIZING GOD'S PILLAR OF FIRE THAT LED THEM BY NIGHT). THIS IS ONE OF THREE FEASTS THAT

NATIVE BORN MALE JEWS WERE COMMANDED TO PARTICIPATE
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW.

John 7:3-5 NIV

³ Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave Galilee and go to Judea, so that your disciples there may see the works you do. ⁴ No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world." ⁵ For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

JESUS HAD BROTHERS. MARY WASN'T A PERPETUAL VIRGIN
LIKE SOME RELIGIONS PORTRAY

HIS BROTHERS WANT HIM TO GO SHOW OFF HIS "HUSTLE" AND
BE A CELEBRITY

THIS IS SIMILAR TO THE TEMPTATION SATAN PUT BEFORE JESUS
WHEN HE TOLD JESUS TO JUMP OFF THE PINNACLE OF THE
TEMPLE AND LET ANGELS CARRY HIM SAFELY TO THE GROUND
SO THAT EVERYONE WHO SAW WOULD BE ASTONISHED AND
BOW BEFORE HIM AS THE SON OF GOD

THEIR ADVICE CAME OUT OF EGO AND PRIDE FOR THEY DIDN'T
BELIEVE THAT THEIR BROTHER WAS GOD THE SON, JUST A VERY
TALENTED MAN

FAMILY CAN BE THE MOST DIFFICULT ONES TO CONVINCE
CONCERNING THE TRUTH OF GOD IN YOUR LIFE

John 7:6-7 NIV

⁶Therefore Jesus told them, “My time is not yet here; for you any time will do. ⁷The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that its works are evil.

MY TIME=DIVINE TIME, JESUS' TIME WOULD NOT COME INTO JERUSALEM PUBLICLY UNTIL THE NEXT GREAT FEAST, PASSOVER
JESUS IS NEVER SWAYED BY MANKIND, HE ONLY DOES WHAT THE FATHER SHOWS HIM TO DO, GOD'S WILL & GOD'S TIMING
THE WORLD (KOSMOS) HATES JESUS BECAUSE HE IS THE LIGHT OF TRUTH THAT SHINES ON THE SINNER. JESUS TESTIFIED WITH CONVICTION AGAINST THE SINFUL LIVES AND WICKED PRACTICES OF THE MANY IN HIS DAY

THIS SHOULD MAKE EVERY CHRISTIAN THINK, “IS MY LIFE ANY DIFFERENT FROM MY “UNSAVED” FRIENDS? IF NO ONE CAN TELL, YOU ARE IN A DANGEROUS PLACE INDEED

IT IS THE WORD OF GOD THAT OFFENDS THE SINNER, WHEN WE LIVE LIKE JESUS OUR LIVES SHINE CONVICTION OF HOLINESS ON THE LOST

HATRED IS THE PRICE YOU PAY FOR THE TRUTH YOU PRESENT
RELIGION SAYS EVERYONE IS GOOD, THE GOSPEL SAYS EVERYONE IS BAD AND IN NEED OF A SAVIOR

John 7:8-10 NIV

⁸ You go to the festival. I am not going up to this festival, because my time has not yet fully come.” ⁹ After he had said this, he stayed in Galilee. ¹⁰ However, after his brothers had left for the festival, he went also, not publicly, but in secret.

DID JESUS LIE? CERTAINLY NOT. HE SIMPLY WOULD NOT GO “UP” TO THE FESTIVAL WITH THE CARAVAN OF PEOPLE THAT WENT PUBLICLY. THIS WOULD ATTRACT ATTENTION

AGAIN, JESUS WOULD NOT SUCCUMB TO PRESSURE. HE WAITED FOR THE FATHER’S DIRECTION

John 7:11-13 NIV

¹¹ Now at the festival the Jewish leaders were watching for Jesus and asking, “Where is he?” ¹² Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, “He is a good man.” Others replied, “No, he deceives the people.” ¹³ But no one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the leaders.

THE RELIGIOUS JEWS WERE FERVENTLY LOOKING FOR JESUS
NOTICE THE CROWD IS BUZZING WITH OPINIONS BUT NO ONE IS BOLD ENOUGH TO “SPEAK OUT” ABOUT HIM FOR FEAR OF EXCOMMUNICATION FROM THE SYNOGOGUE OR WORSE

John 7:14-16 NIV

¹⁴ Not until halfway through the festival did Jesus go up to the temple courts and begin to teach. ¹⁵ The Jews there were amazed and asked, "How did this man get such learning without having been taught?" ¹⁶ Jesus answered, "My teaching is not my own. It comes from the one who sent me.

NO FANFARE, NO EGO, JUST PERFECT OBEDIENCE TO FULLFILL THE WILL OF THE FATHER. JESUS IS NOT TURNING OVER TABLES OR HEALING ANYONE, HE'S TEACHING

OTHER RABBIS QUOTED EACH OTHER TO MAKE THEM SOUND ACCEPTABLE. JESUS DID NONE OF THAT. HE SPOKE AS IF HE WROTE THE SCRIPTURES HIMSELF. HE AND THE FATHER ARE ONE, THE SOURCE OF TRUTH AND HIS BELOVED SON WHOM HE SENT

C. S. Lewis writes "A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great

human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

John 7:17 NIV

¹⁷ Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.

KEY WORDS; ANYONE-CHOOSSES-TO DO

KNOWLEDGE OF GOD DEPENDS GREATLY ON HONEST OBEDIENCE. PRACTICE WHAT YOU KNOW

SEEK AND YOU SHALL FIND; KNOCK AND THE DOOR WILL BE OPENED TO YOU (THIS IS ABOUT RELATIONSHIP NOT RELIGION)

John 7:18 NIV

¹⁸ Whoever speaks on their own does so to gain personal glory, but he who seeks the glory of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him.

YOU CAN NOT SEEK YOUR OWN GLORY AND GOD'S GLORY

THE PURPOSE OF YOUR LIFE IS TO GLORIFY GOD

WE HAVE BEEN COMMISSIONED BY KING JESUS TO LIVE LIVES THAT GLORIFY GOD AND DISCIPLE OTHERS AROUND US

LOVE NEVER FAILS

END

