

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

August 20, 2017

John 7:1-13

READ

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QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. Why is Jesus unwilling to walk in Judea (v. 1)? What is driving this unwillingness (vv. 6, 8)?
2. What seems, *on the surface*, to be the brothers' motivation in urging Jesus to make a public move at this time (vv. 3-4)?
3. What is actually behind their "advice" (v. 5)? How is that really expressed in their words of vv. 3-4? How devastating would this be to Jesus (c.f., Mark 3:21)? What characterizes unbelievers—whoever they may be (v. 7)?
4. Jesus' brothers are unknowingly pushing His agenda ahead of schedule. How potentially devastating would their suggested course of action be?
5. Timing is of extreme important to the LORD. "There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). Consider Psalm 25:1-5 in light of God's timetable.
 - Vv. 1-2—What is the main thing required of us? How is that demonstrated in the phrase, "To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul"?
 - V. 3—What is our relationship to God's timetable?
 - Vv. 4-5—What is it that feeds our trust as we wait for/on the LORD?

6. The Jews (i.e., Jewish religious leaders) are “seeking” two things—
- v. 1
 - v. 11

Why are they unable to achieve their goals at this time (vv. 6, 8)?

7. Why might some in the crowds consider Jesus to be “a good man”? Are there any problems with identifying Him in this way (c.f., Luke 18:19)? Why might some in the crowds consider Jesus to be a deceiver?
8. What is ultimately motivating the crowds even as they consider the person of Jesus (v. 13)? Are you willing to describe a time when your fear of man led you to push your faith down beneath the surface? How can Proverbs 29:25 help?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

1. I will learn to wait on the LORD by . . .
2. I will fear the LORD, not man, by . . .