

# THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

September 24, 2017

John 7:40-8:1

## READ

John 7:40-8:1

## QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. Reflect, again, on the diversity of reactions to the person of Jesus of Nazareth.
  - 7:12
  - 7:12b
  - 7:20
  - 7:27
  - 7:31
  - 7:40
  - 7:41a
  - 7:41b-42
2. Have you known anyone who held a high view of Jesus, but not a high enough view of Jesus (e.g., "He is 'the Prophet' rather than 'the Christ.'")? Why is that insufficient? What is at stake in the person of Jesus?
3. How did some in the crowd come to a wrong conclusion about Jesus based on Scripture (vv. 41b-42)? Could they have handled it differently? What should they have done?
4. Do you know of an example where Jesus brought division into a relationship (v. 43)? How did it impact the relationship? Was it ever resolved?

5. Jesus words had differing effects on different people. Why would the same words elicit reactions for or against Jesus from the crowds? What was affirmed about His words (Luke 4:22; Matthew 7:29)? Why might His words have affected the temple officers as they did (v. 46)?

6. What two reasons do the Pharisees give the officers for not believing in, or listening to, Jesus' words?

- v. 48
- v. 49

How valid are these reasons?

7. What two things does Nicodemus' statement attempt to draw attention to (v. 51)?

(1)

(2)

8. How has Nicodemus advanced beyond our first encounter with him (3:1-2)? Could he have done more under the circumstances?

9. What is similar about the response of the Pharisees to both the temple officers (v. 47) and Nicodemus (v. 52)?

10. The high tension that has been building throughout chapter 7 abruptly ends at 7:53 & 8:1. What does this suggest?

## **PERSONAL RESPONSE**

1. I will be more thorough in my study of the Scriptures by . . .

2. I will take a bolder stand for Jesus this week by . . .