

# **Eternal Life Through Believing in Jesus**

## **21) Rivers of Living Water**

***'And many of the people believed in Him, and said,  
"When the Christ comes, will He do more signs  
than these which this Man has done? The Pharisees  
heard the crowd murmuring these things  
concerning Him, and the Pharisees and the chief  
priests sent officers to take Him. Then Jesus said to  
them, "I shall be with you a little while longer,  
and then I go to Him who sent Me. You will seek  
Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot  
come." Then the Jews said among themselves,  
"Where does He intend to go that we shall not find  
Him? Does He intend to go to the Dispersion among  
the Greeks and teach the Greeks? What is this  
thing that He said, 'You will seek Me and not find  
Me, and where I am you cannot come'?"'***

**(John 7:31-36)**

***'Seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon  
Him while He is near'***

**(Isa.55:6)**

***'Behold, now is the accepted time; behold,  
now is the day of salvation'***

**(2 Cor.6:2)**

## **He invites them all to receive salvation**

***'On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified'***  
**(John 7:37-39)**

- ✓ **The feast of tabernacles commemorated the wandering in the desert**
- ✓ **Once they entered the Promised Land, they had abundance of crops due to regular rainfall**
- ✓ **The feast acknowledged the fruitful harvests of barley and wheat, grapes and olives which had all been gathered in. All this was possible because of the gift of rain upon the land**
- ✓ **The feast included daily processions of priests from the temple to the Pool of Siloam**
- ✓ **Without knowing it this was a picture of how the people were left dry, thirsty and unsatisfied with religion**

- ✓ **Jesus' invitation - thirst...come...drink**
- ✓ **Only living water can satisfy our inner thirst.  
'Living water' refers to the Holy Spirit**
- ✓ **Jesus later promised His disciples to send the Holy Spirit** *'Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you'* **(John 16:7)**
- ✓ **Jesus did not only speak of something coming into a person, but something flowing out of them**
- ✓ **A vessel will not overflow until it's full**

***'Therefore many from the crowd, when they heard this saying, said, "Truly this is the Prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Will the Christ come out of Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from the town of Bethlehem, where David was?" So there was a division among the people because of Him. Now some of them wanted to take Him, but no one laid hands on Him'***  
**(John 7:40-44)**



**Some of the crowd rejected Jesus because they thought He was born in Galilee**

**The very passage that convinced his critics that he could not be the Messiah was one of the strongest to prove that He was**

**There was a division amongst them**

**This word implies a violent dissension. Strongly for or strongly against. Some believed He was the Messiah and others wanted Him arrested**



*'Then the officers came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why have you not brought Him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this Man!" Then the Pharisees answered them, "Are you also deceived? Have any of the rulers or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed"*

**(John 7:45-49)**

**Though enemies, the Pharisees and the Sadducees combined in their purpose to arrest and do away with Jesus**

**The temple police were so impacted by Him they didn't want to arrest Him. The literal emphasis of their statement is 'Never did a *man* speak like this. He must be more than a *man*.'**

**He spoke with such authority**  
***'He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes'***  
**(Matt.7:29)**

**...and yet with such grace**  
***'So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth'***  
**(Lk.4:22)**

**Instead of arresting Him, they had been arrested  
by what they had heard**

**It's like reading the Bible to judge it and find it  
has judged you perfectly**

**The response of the rulers revealed their  
arrogance and disdain for the people, 'No one of  
the Pharisees have believed in Him, and they are  
the only ones who can discern truth from error'**

**But God habitually chooses the weak and humble**

***'Nicodemus (he who came to Jesus by night, being one of them) said to them, "Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing?" They answered and said to him, "Are you also from Galilee? Search and look, for no prophet has arisen out of Galilee." And everyone went to his own house'***  
**(John 7:50-53)**

**Though Nicodemus didn't *publicly* side with Jesus, he said that even their own law would not condemn a man without hearing Him firsthand**

**Their response to Him was another insult to the people of Galilee. 'Are you as ignorant as these?'**

**'No prophet has ever come from Galilee?'**

**They got that wrong!**

**\*Jesus said He would bring division on the earth**

**\*There was a division among the people because of Him, but Christ satisfies thirsty souls**

**\*The Pharisees sent officers to arrest Him, and they confess that never man spoke as He did**

**\*The Sanhedrin sit in judgment upon Him, but one of their own number rebukes them**

**\*If this was the case with Christ, then it will be no difference for us**

***'And everyone went to his own house' (Jn.7:53)***  
**is very solemn. The Feast was now over. The temporary booths would be taken down, all would now return to their own homes ...away from Christ. And there the curtain falls.**