

“He Sent Me” - John 7:14-29

Ask - “Have you ever sent someone or been sent by someone to do something? Share.”

Background - By this point in His ministry, many of the Jewish priests and leaders in Jerusalem were considering arresting and killing Jesus. Though Jesus was aware of their evil intentions, He boldly traveled from Galilee to the temple once again undeterred by their wicked plans.

“Teaching Truth” - John 7:14-18

(v14-15) Where did Jesus go, what was the occasion, and what did He do when He arrived (read v1-13 for context)? How did the Jews respond?

(v16-17) From Whom did Jesus get His teachings? Of those listening to His message, who would recognize and know that it came from God rather than a mere man?

(v18) How did Jesus differentiate the motivations of a true prophet of God versus a false prophet? Which was Jesus? Was He just a prophet? Discuss.

JESUS DECLARED IN THE TEMPLE THAT HE HAD BEEN SENT BY GOD AND WAS TEACHING THE THINGS OF GOD. HE EXPLAINED THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A TRUE AND FALSE PROPHET.

“Exposing Hypocrisy” - John 7:19-24

(v19-21) What did Jesus perceive that the Jewish leaders wanted to do to Him? Were the people aware of their intentions? What previous miracle had Jesus done and why had it angered the Jewish leaders (look back at chapter 5)?

(v22-23) In what way did Jesus expose the hypocrisy of the Jewish priests who were angry at Him for healing on the Sabbath?

(v24) How had Jesus been judged inappropriately? On what basis should we judge *the actions* of others? Explain.

JESUS KNEW THAT THE JEWISH LEADERSHIP WANTED TO KILL HIM. THEY WERE ANGRY BECAUSE HE HAD HEALED SOMEONE ON THE SABBATH, YET THEY CIRCUMCISED INFANTS ON THE SABBATH.

“Identifying Himself” - John 7:25-29

(v25-26) Why did some of the people reason that they Jewish leaders weren't actively moving in to seize and kill Jesus?

(v27) Why did many of these people believe that Jesus couldn't be the Christ?

(v28-29) What did these people know about Jesus and, more importantly, what didn't they know about Him? What did Jesus say about Himself in these verses?

THE PEOPLE COULDN'T ACCEPT THAT THIS MAN, WHOM THEY KNEW IN AN EARTHLY SENSE, WAS THE CHRIST. THEY DID NOT KNOW GOD, AND THUS DIDN'T RECOGNIZE HIS SON.

Application - Jesus was sent by God to atone for the sins of mankind. This was God's plan and purpose all along. Those who are willing to follow and obey God recognize that Jesus was sent by Him. Jesus' teachings are of God and are absolutely true. He is the Christ - simultaneously a man from Nazareth and the Son of God from Heaven. What does the fact that Jesus was sent reveal about both He and His Father?