

- Jewish leaders looking for a way to kill Jesus.
- Jesus headed to the Festival of Tabernacles– reminding God’s plan of Redemption (Exodus foreshadowing)
- People are watching for Him – 1) some believe he is the Messiah, 2) others believe he is deceiving people, and 3) even the Pharisees are afraid to speak publically about him because they are afraid of the Pharisees.

In these two chapters we see **7 snapshots** of dialogue that Jesus has with the Jewish people throughout the Festival. We’re going to move from one to the next noticing the primary thrust of the dialogue along the way. (*notice outline handouts*)

### **1. 7:14-24**

Halfway through festival – Jesus goes to the Temple courts  
 People are amazed at His teaching  
 Jesus replies (**7:15-17**) – Teaching came from the one who is with God

**Jesus address religious leaders:** You don’t even obey the law that I gave you, yet you’re trying to **kill me** because in **your** eyes I have broken the law by healing on the Sabbath. Moses commanded you to circumcise your boys and you believe it is right to circumcise on the Sabbath. Yet you claim it is against the law for me to heal someone both physically and spiritually on the Sabbath. Remember that circumcision is a physical cleansing in a small sense, but really all about how **it points** to a needed spiritual healing.

How deeply do you think about... Job, handling money, fantasy football, popularity, comfort, etc.?

**Main point:** Jesus's teaching comes from the one who sent Him.

## 2. 7:25-44

People's conclusion halfway through the festival:

- *Pharisees must have come to believe Jesus's teaching is accurate because they're not arresting him.*
- *But he can't be the Messiah because we know where He comes from – Nazareth.*

Jesus response: **7:28-29** – *I am from him and he sent me.* – two huge statements!

- **from** God (Greek shows us) He did not simply mean that God arranged his coming. **Illus: Sun beams vs. gift**

In the expression “He sent Me,” Jesus states clearly that He was the Christ of God, the Anointed One, whom God had sent into the world to accomplish the work of redemption.

**Main Point:** Jesus is equal to God and He is the promised Messiah.

**Try to seize him. Vs 30-31** Some opposed Him, some believed Him.

Pharisees caught wind of this and send temple guards to arrest Jesus. They go out... but they only get caught up in the confusion & head

#### 4. Another dispute (8:12-20)

Jesus says that He is the Light of the World (more on that statement next week)

Argument over the validity of Jesus's claims (8:13)

Jesus response: My testimony on my own behalf is valid I am from God – I'm from above. I testify for myself and so do the Father.

**Main point:** Jesus is from above and He (God the Father and Son) testifies together to the truth of His claims.

#### 5. Another dispute (8:21-30)

*I am from and returning to another place – from above – You are from this world.*

*No one from this world can save you. You need a perfect Redeemer – that is a redeemer from above. I am from above. If you do not believe that I am he (the one I claim to be – the Messiah, the Son of God)... you will die in your sins. **These are some bold claims.***

Some believe, some don't

Why? Because Jesus – who is clearly a man – is claiming to be God. They don't have a category for this. He's claiming to **be God** and to **be separate from** God. And He is proving **this** to be true and valid – through His character, His teaching and through His miracles.

**Main point:** Jesus is fully man and fully God.

**Main point:** Jesus has come from God to set us free.

**Sad reality:** They can't hear it because they are fixated on their deservedness and can't acknowledge their need.

**Question #3:** Do you **need** the redemption the Jesus is offering?

### 7. Final straw (8:48-59)

Aren't we right in saying that you are demon possessed?

Jesus response: Whoever obeys me will not see death but will be saved.

Crowd response: Abraham died... are you greater than Him? Did you know Him?

Jesus response: Before Abraham was born, I AM. (YHWH) Exodus 3:14

In Hebrew, the name of God consists of the four letters YHWH, sometimes called the tetragrammaton (Greek word for 'four letters'). To safeguard against saying God's name in vain, the Jews refused to speak the name at all. When the Jews came across the divine name in Scripture, they substituted the word *adonai*, the general word for Lord.

They picked up stones to kill Him.

Jesus was fully man and He claimed to be fully God. That's an

**Dismiss Him** because you are indifferent about the existence of God who is involved with the world.

Or **worship Him** – offer our everything to Him (Rom 12:1)

**Question #4: Which are you doing?** In the midst of every (blessing, hardship, distraction...) in your life, which are you

Deny Him

Dismiss Him

Worship Him... ? If you're not worshipping Him you're dismissing Him. Worship is not just singing on Sunday.

*(invite praise team up)*

Is Jesus worthy of your worship?

Is Jesus worthy of your life of worship?

Is He your highest pursuit... more than comfort, success,

**Because if Jesus is the eternal God – He's worthy of our**