

THE LIFE OF CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS
Class #248 – Tuesday PM June 17, 2008

It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

Isaiah 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

Review from Luke 9:57-62

POD: The worries of the world distract the believer from living in the present.

POD: Because God has tomorrow covered, He wants you to focus on what it is He's prepared for you today.

POD: We can only live the Unique Spiritual Life and fulfill the responsibilities of the CABP in the present.

POD: What we have today is all we need to do what God wants us to do.

The reason people look to the past and worry about tomorrow stems from a weak, impoverished faith.

God's Lunar Calendar

| <u>MONTH</u> | <u>DAYS</u> | <u>FEAST</u> | <u>EQUIVALENT</u> |
|--------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Nissan | 30 | PO,UB,FF | Mar-Apr |
| 2. Iyar | 29 | | Apr-May |
| 3. Sivan | 30 | PENTECOST | May-Jun |
| 4. Tammuz | 29 | | Jun-Jul |
| 5. Av | 30 | | Jul-Aug |
| 6. Elul | 29 | | Aug-Sep |
| 7. Tishri | 30 | TRPTS,ATN,BTHS | Sep-Oct |
| 8. Cheshvan | 29/30 | | Oct-Nov |
| 9. Kislev | 29/30 | | Nov-Dec |
| 10. Tevet | 29 | | Dec-Jan |
| 11. Shevat | 30 | | Jan-Feb |
| 12. Adar | 29/30 | | Feb-Mar |

The Lord now arrives in Jerusalem with His disciples for the Feast of Booths but He does not reveal Himself until the middle of the Feast.

John 7:14 But when it was now the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and *began to teach*.

- The Feast is half over at this point.
- Before this point there was quite a bit of talk about where He was.

John 7:11-31 So the Jews [*religious leaders*] were seeking Him at the feast and were saying, “Where is He?”

- **Seeking – ζητέω – ZETEO** – *Continually seeking* after Him
 - Everybody is looking for the Lord but not everyone knows He is their Lord – the Lord God of Israel.
 - Some have rejected Him as their Messiah so there is division amongst the Jews.
 - Jerusalem is bustling with activity.

¹² There was much grumbling among the crowds concerning Him;

Remember **Luke 12:51-53**?

- He said He came not to grant peace on earth but division.
- Households will be divided - father against son and mother against daughter.

¹² There was much grumbling among the crowds concerning Him; some were saying, “He is a good man”; others were saying, “No, on the contrary, He leads the people astray.” ¹³ Yet no one was speaking openly of Him for fear of the Jews [*religious leaders*].

- This goes on amidst the first three days of the feast before the Lord makes Himself known in the temple.
- We need to understand all the activity that’s going on.
- We noted the protocol established in **Lev. 23:39-43**.
- Temporary shelters were built to commemorate the Lord’s protection of them during their exodus from Egypt.
- It was a time of great celebration.

A total of 189 animals were sacrificed during the seven days of the feast.

- 70 bulls
- 14 rams
- 14 lambs
- 7 goats

When the Lord presents Himself in the temple to teach – 87 animals will have been sacrificed.

Unger’s Bible Dictionary on the Feast of Booths. FESTIVALS, Page 418

Isaiah 4:6 There will be a shelter to *give* shade from the heat by day, and refuge and protection from the storm and the rain.

- Thousands of pilgrims had come to celebrate the feast.
- During all this the religious leaders were seeking to kill Him.

¹² There was much grumbling among the crowds ¹³ Yet no one was speaking openly of Him for fear of the Jews. ¹⁴ But when it was now the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and *began to* teach.

- We do not know what He taught.
- He was probably clarifying the Law – in opposition to the Pharisees’ interpretation of the Law.

¹⁵The Jews then were astonished [*amazed* – θαυμάζω], saying,

While the Lord was teaching the religious leaders murmured to the crowd.

“How has this man become learned, having never been educated?”

- They were poisoning the hearers because quite a crowd had gathered to listen to the Lord.
- A great number of people were positive to what the Lord was teaching.
- The religious leaders are negative – that’s why they are murmuring while He is teaching.

POD: People who are positive listen when the Word of God is being taught.

- Those who speak during class or look around reveal their disinterest and negativity to God’s message.
- They focus on things like the religious leaders – like education.
- He was never formally trained by a rabbi in one of our accredited schools.

¹⁶So Jesus answered them and said, “My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me.

- The message was from God.
- It didn’t originate with one of your rabbis but with God Himself.
- The religious leaders traced their doctrine from a long line of rabbis and their commentaries back to Moses.
- Jesus traces what He taught directly to God.

¹⁷ “If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know of the teaching, whether it is of God or *whether I speak from Myself.*

- They could not discern the origin of His doctrine.
- In effect what He said was - you are unwilling to do the will of God.
- Religious people are all bound up with WORKS in the age of GRACE!

POD: Malleability to the will of God is the key to unlocking everything in the spiritual life.

- Simply being willing to do God’s will whatever that will may be
- Whether it is contrary to tradition or not
- Whether it contradicts what you’ve previously learned

If you question things that are taught – take it to God in prayer.

POD: God reveals things to the malleable soul.

- We cannot advance in the spiritual life apart from malleability and dependence.
- Malleability and dependence are both products of genuine humility.
- These religious leaders were focused on the Lord's lack of formal education.
- He never attended any of their theological seminaries.
- He took no credit for what He taught because it was His Father's.

“My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me. ¹⁷ If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know of the teaching, whether it is of God or *whether* I speak from Myself.

God would reveal the origin of the doctrine to them if they were simply malleable.

¹⁸ “He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who is seeking the glory of the One who sent Him, He is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

- Everything the Lord did, He did for the glory of the Father not Himself.
- He was not going to refrain from teaching something because of how people would receive it.
- He simply taught what God wanted Him to teach whether it fell on deaf ears or not.

¹⁹ “Did not Moses give you the Law, and *yet* none of you carries out the Law?”

- They are all violators of the Law of Moses.
- Anyone who broke one jot or tittle of the Law was guilty of breaking the entire Law and the punishment was death.
- They not only broke the Sabbath but they were seeking to kill Him.

Why do you seek to kill Me?”

Jesus Christ never violated the Law – He fulfilled the Law in its entirety.

He was able to fulfill the Law because He was executing the spiritual life.

Enter the Galileans.

²⁰ The crowd answered, “You have a demon! Who seeks to kill You?”

- They did not possess any situational awareness to the religious leaders' plot to kill Jesus.

²¹ Jesus answered them, “I did one deed, and you all marvel.

- He is referring to His healing of the invalid – 1 ½ years prior (**John 5:1-18**).
- He commanded this man who was an invalid for 38 years to pick up his pallet and walk on the Sabbath.
- The religious leaders flipped out because they saw this man carrying his pallet on the Sabbath.

- They asked him, who commanded him to carry his pallet.

John 5:18 For this reason therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.

“I did one deed, and you all marvel. ²² For this reason Moses has given you circumcision (not because it is from Moses, but from the fathers – [It began with Abraham – Isaac – Jacob], and on *the* Sabbath you circumcise a man.

In order to obey the command to circumcise on the 8th day – if the 8th day fell on a Sabbath day they would circumcise which was in violation of the Law. Circumcision was work!

²³ “If a man receives circumcision on *the* Sabbath so that the Law of Moses will not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made an entire man well on *the* Sabbath? ²⁴ Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.”

A third group enters the scene - they are residents of Jerusalem who are aware of the religious leaders' intent to kill Him.

²⁵ So some of the people of Jerusalem were saying, “Is this not the man whom they are seeking to kill? ²⁶ Look, He is speaking publicly [*out in the open*], and they are saying nothing to Him. The rulers do not really know that this is the Christ, do they?

This is all a challenge directed at the religious leaders.

²⁷ “However, we know where this man is from; but whenever the Christ may come, no one knows where He is from.” ²⁸ Then Jesus cried out in the temple, teaching and saying, “You both know Me and know where I am from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know. ²⁹ I know Him, because I am from Him, and He sent Me.” ³⁰ So they were seeking to seize Him; and no man laid his hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come.

- ❖ God would not permit His Son to be seized until the proper time had come.
- ❖ It would be another 5 ½ months before the Father permitted the Son to be seized.
- ❖ The proper time would be Passover because the Father would be providing the Passover Lamb for that feast - Jesus Christ.

³¹ **But many of the crowd believed in Him. . .**

- ❖ There were many converts that day the Lord taught from the Temple.

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard Bible (NASB) unless otherwise noted.