

1. Opening Prayer

2. Intro

a. Structure of Gospel John with the Festivals

The Sabbath and Jesus the Savior (1:19-2:12)

Turning water into wine

The Passover and Jesus the New Temple (2:13-4:54)

Cleansing the Temple

Meeting with Nicodemus, a Samaritan woman, and a royal official who was Galilean

The Sabbath and Jesus the Son of God (5:1-47)

Healing the man sick for 38 years

The Passover and Jesus the Bread of Life (6:1-71)

Feeding over 5,000 and walking the water

The Festival of Tabernacle and Jesus the Source of Living Water and the Light (7:1-10:21)

Protecting the adulterous woman

Healing the man blinded since the birth

The Festival of Dedication and Jesus the Shepherd and the Dedicated (10:22-11:54)

Rejected by the Jews

Raising Lazarus from the tomb

The Passover and Jesus the Lamb of God (11:55-20:31)

Anointed by Mary

Entry into Jerusalem

The Last Supper and washing the feet of the disciples

Crucifixion and Resurrection

b. The Feast of Tabernacle / Booths (Easton's Bible Dictionary)

The third of the great annual festivals of the Jews (Lev 23:33-43). It is also called the "feast of ingathering" (Exd 23:16; Deu 16:13). It was celebrated immediately after the harvest, in the month Tisri (7<sup>th</sup> month, usually September or October in the solar calendar), and the celebration lasted for eight days (Lev 23:33-43). During that period the people left their homes and lived in booths formed of the branches of trees. The sacrifices offered at this time are mentioned in Num. 29:13-38. It was at the time of this feast that Solomon's temple was dedicated (1Ki 8:2)... This feast was designed (1) to be a memorial of the wilderness wanderings, when the people dwelt in booths (Lev 23:43), and (2) to be a harvest thanksgiving (Neh 8:9-18). The Jews, at a later time, introduced **two appendages** to the original festival, viz., (1) that of **drawing water** from the Pool of Siloam, and pouring it upon the altar (Jhn 7:2,37), as a memorial of the water from the rock in Horeb; and (2) of **lighting the lamps** at night, a memorial of the pillar of fire by night during their wanderings.

### 3. Let Us Read John Ch. 7

#### 4. Discussion

- a. How do you understand Jesus' conversation with his brothers and his action which seems different from the conversation in verses 1-10?
- b. Why do you think Jesus went up to Jerusalem in secret or privately?
- c. Reading verses 14 – 44, what do you think would hinder people from believing Jesus?
- d. Why do you think Gospel John clearly does not mention that Jesus was born in Bethlehem?
- e. Regarding verses 14 and 15, what do you think Jesus would teach about?
- f. How do you understand Jesus' statement "none of you keeps the law" in verse 19?
- g. What is the point of Jesus' argument in verses 21-24? (Rabbi Jose, mid-second century AD once said, "Great is circumcision which overrides even the rigor of the Sabbath.")
- h. How do you understand verse 34?
- i. How do you understand verses 37 and 38?
- j. What do you find interesting in verses 45 to 52?
- k. What's the implication in verse 52?

#### 5. Closing Prayer