

THE GOSPEL

— *according to* —

JOHN

Review: John 7–8 occurs during
The Feast of Booths

- It was a week-long holiday occurring in early Fall. See Leviticus 23:33-36, 39-43.
- All the travelers would come to the temple and set up booths (or shelters) a bit like jury-rigged tents.
- This reenactment reminded them of their days in the desert immediately after God brought them out of Egypt.
- The holiday climaxed with water-pouring and torch-lighting ceremonies, remembering how, in the desert, God provided water for Israel and led them by a pillar of fire.

Review: John 7 records

Seven Perspectives on Jesus

1. Jesus is a showman seeking popularity (7:3-5).
2. Jesus is a good man (7:12).
3. Jesus is a deceiver, maybe even a demon-possessed nut-job (7:12, 20, 47).
4. Jesus is a great teacher, maybe even the prophet whom Moses promised (7:15, 40, 46).
5. Jesus might be the political Messiah (7:26-27, 31, 41).
6. Jesus, the man from Galilee, is definitely not the Messiah (7:27, 41-42, 52)!
7. Jesus is God the Son who can fix all that's wrong in creation (7:16-18, 28-29, 33-34, 37-39).

Review: THE MAIN POINT OF JOHN 7

With Jesus, there's no middle ground. He divides the world. Either he's the Messiah sent from God, deserving your total devotion, or he's not and should be abandoned.

Scripture Reading

JOHN 8:12–59

GOD HAS PRESERVED HIS WORD.

How should we think about John 7:53 – 8:11?

1. Does this passage change what we know of Jesus in the New Testament?

No, not at all.

2. Does this sort of difference occur often in the New Testament?

No, only one other time (Mark 16:9-20).

3. Does this shake our confidence in the New Testament?

No, it increases our confidence.

“The fact that we have enough manuscript evidence to arrive at this conclusion [that we can determine whether a paragraph like John 7:53-8:11 is original or not] shows that we can be practically certain about the original contents of the text of the New Testament.... It should make us more confident in the Scriptures not less.”

— *James M. Hamilton, Jr.*

THE MAIN POINT OF JOHN 8

Jesus claimed to be God. Whether you receive that truth about God the Son will determine your relationship with God the Father.

IN JOHN 8, JESUS CLAIMED TO BE GOD.

He made this claim in two ways:

1. Jesus claimed to be God at the climax of the ceremony (7:37-52; 8:12).
Just like God gave water and light to his people in the desert, Jesus will forever satisfy and shepherd those who follow him.

“They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

— *Revelation 7:16–17*

IN JOHN 8, JESUS CLAIMED TO BE GOD.

He made this claim in two ways:

1. Jesus claimed to be God at the climax of the ceremony (7:37-52; 8:12).
2. Jesus claimed to be God at the climax of the controversy (8:13-59).

He said, “Before Abraham was, I am.”

JESUS IS GOD.

Embracing this truth will affect...

1. Your humility.
2. Your morality.
3. Your approach to adversity.