

## **Jesus and Popular Opinion (John 7:1-24)**

- Ch 1 -Word of God- Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the World,
- Ch 2 -Wedding at Cana, Ch.3 Nicodemus -being born again -from above.
- Ch 4 -Woman at the well, the worshipers which worship in Spirit & truth.
- Ch 6 -The Bread of Life - all these passages highlight the uniqueness of Jesus.
- The events of ch 6 took place at the time of the Passover of April AD 29 (6:4).
- John 7 takes us to the Feast of the Tabernacles in October of the same year.

### **I. Unbelief at Home (7:1-9)**

- Jesus didn't just face opposition from the religious leaders but also his family (5)
- They did not understand his mission & encouraged him to promote his miracles
- His family thought he could go to Jerusalem anytime but His time had not come
- Jesus tells them that the world did not hate them but it hated him (vv.6,7)

### **II. The Questions on the Street (7:10-14)**

- The Jews desired to harm Jesus and so Jesus arrived secretly (11-14)
- The people though were asking questions because they were looking for answers
- The people were afraid of the religious rulers so they did not speak openly
- The people learn that Jesus message is not "the message of man"
- The people also learn that Jesus' message is the Word of God (7:16)
- These truths press upon us that we must respond with a commitment to God's will
- Jesus' own ministry is evidence that he is true & faithful to the living God (7:18).
- Jesus urges the religious rulers that **they make sound judgments** (7: 19-24)
- The Jews knew the law, they believed it had been given by God to Moses
- Based on the knowledge of the Mosaic law, Jesus asks three question.
  - 1) Do you keep God's Law? They claimed they kept it but they, in fact, couldn't
    - Keeping the law and believing it came from God are two different things
    - The Jews rejected the very one to whom the Law was meant to lead them
  - 2) Do you discern the work of God? (vv.20,23) they accused Jesus of law breaking
    - They criticized Jesus for healing a man on the Sabbath & being a law breaker
  - 3) Jesus finally says to them that they are to make sound judgments (v.24)
- Their judgments on Jesus were wholly unfounded