

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

The Book of John

Lesson 18 Religious leaders

Return pages 5 & 6 only

Read John 7:22-53

additional reading: Leviticus 23: 1-44

The chapter break begins at verse 22, make sure you go back and read before we begin.

Verse 31. *And many of the people believed on him, and said, When Christ cometh, will he do more miracles than these which this man hath done?* Jesus was doing miracles in every place, what infuriated the Jews was when He did them on the Sabbath day. *The Pharisees heard that the people murmured such things concerning him; and the Pharisees and the chief priests sent officers to take him.* Why not get on board? What is their problem?

Pride and what would they have to relinquish? Power. They would rather the people be blind and die in their sins as long as they had control over them than have sight and die with their sins forgiven and the Pharisees loose control.

Verse 33. *Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me. Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come.* Here again, He is talking spiritual about a people who were entirely physical. I am the Messiah and when you get around to seeking me, I will be in heaven and you cannot get to heaven because you did not believe on me when I was here on earth.

Verse 34. *Then said the Jews among themselves, He just said something spiritual and they are going to miss it. Whither will he go, that we shall not find him? will he go unto the dispersed among the Gentiles, and teach the Gentiles? What manner of saying is this that he said, Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come?*

Verse 37. *In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.* Let us make note of a few things:

- First you have the interpretation of the words. They are given to you in verse 39. *(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: So Jesus is talking about the Holy Spirit as the rivers of living water inside you flowing out of you.*
- Number two. Dispensationally, verse 39 says, *for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.*) At this time Jesus was giving eternal life to all who believed but He was not placing the Holy Spirit within them. He would not do so until after they had received the full results of His death, burial and resurrection.
- Number three. He is once again claiming in their presence on the basis of the word of God that He is God manifested in the flesh.

Jesus says, if any thirst let him come unto me and drink. Isaiah 55:1. *Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.* Any reference to the speaker there? In the context? *The LORD thy God*, in verse 5. *I will make an everlasting covenant with you,*

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verse 3. It is clear that the Lord speaking in verse 1. When Jesus says in John 7, what the Lord said in Isaiah 55, He is clearly claiming to be God.

Proverbs 18:4 *The words of a man's mouth are as deep waters, and the wellspring of wisdom as a flowing brook.* There is the wisdom of God in a body of flesh. Isaiah 12:3. *Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.* We had the verse earlier with the woman at the well. Isaiah 44: 3. *For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring:* That would be the Lord there. Speaking about pouring out water there to the thirsty. Jeremiah 2:13. *For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.* Remember the passage in John 4 with that woman at the well. The Lord is trying to show them, how simple salvation is. It is as easy as taking a drink of water. It is as easy as eating a piece of bread. It is as easy as feeling the wind blowing on your face. It is not hard to be saved. What is the work that we have to do to have eternal life? This is the work of God – believe. Believe.

Verse 40. *Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, Of a truth this is the Prophet.* (Look at the capitol P.) *...this is the Prophet.* Here is Deuteronomy 18:15 reference again. *The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;*

Verse 41: *Others said, This is the Christ. But some said, (Now watch.) Shall Christ come out of Galilee? Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was?* Now, where would they get that reference?

Have you ever noticed how people get to arguing against the truth – if you can talk to them for twenty minutes, you will find them contradicting everything they said earlier in the conversation? Look at verse 27. *Howbeit we know this man whence he is: but when Christ cometh, no man knoweth whence he is.* Later, after that argument, they say, “this cannot be the Christ because He comes from the town of Bethlehem where David was.

Verse 43. *So there was a division among the people because of him.* (that has never ended.) *And some of them would have taken him; but no man laid hands on him. Then came the officers to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said unto them, Why have ye not brought him?* (I love this verse.) *The officers answered, Never man spake like this man.*

Never man spake like this man. What are you going to say He said wrong when He said nothing wrong?

Verse 47. *Then answered them the Pharisees, Are ye also deceived? Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed on him?* What are you thinking? You are a Jew, this stuff is crazy, and you are buying in? What are they saying? They are trying to make them feel weak, stupid, pitiful, helpless saying none of us great people have become one of His followers. Peer pressure coming to bear.

Verse 49. *But this people who knoweth not the law are cursed.* And for seven chapters we have seen that the very people that have made that statement do not know the law. The Holy Spirit said it through the Apostle Paul. They wrest the scriptures to their own destruction. 2 Peter 3: 16

Verse 50. *Nicodemus* (Here he comes making his second appearance and It is always good.) *Nicodemus saith unto them, (he that came to Jesus by night, being one of them,) Doth our law judge any man, before it hear him, and know what he doeth?* Nicodemus raised his hand and said, "but if you are cursed for not obeying the law, should not we make

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certain we obey it?" Nicodemus has responded to light God gave him so far. Whenever God's given him light, he has responded to light; and now look at this light that breaks out in this Pharisee's meeting. You are cursed if you do not obey the law; and suddenly Nicodemus realizes "if we kill this man without giving Him a hearing, we are cursed."

Let's run some scriptures: Deuteronomy 1:16-18. *And I charged your judges at that time, saying, Hear the causes between your brethren, and judge righteously between every man and his brother, and the stranger that is with him. Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment is God's: and the cause that is too hard for you, bring it unto me, and I will hear it. And I commanded you at that time all the things which ye should do.* You have to give the man a hearing; it does not matter who he is.

Deuteronomy 17:8-9. *If there arise a matter too hard for thee in judgment, between blood and blood, between plea and plea, and between stroke and stroke, being matters of controversy within thy gates: then shalt thou arise, and get thee up into the place which the LORD thy God shall choose; And thou shalt come unto the priests the Levites, and unto the judge that shall be in those days, and inquire; and they shall shew thee the sentence of judgment:* You need to have a proper procedure. You have to give a person the opportunity.

Deuteronomy 19:15-17. *One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established. If a false witness rise up against any man to testify against him that which is wrong; Then both the men, between whom the controversy is, shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges, which shall be in those days; So,* Nicodemus is absolutely right. "You have to give the man a hearing and we have not done that."

Verse 52. *They answered and said unto him, Art thou also of Galilee?* They did not answer the question. These Pharisees are dwelling in darkness and they will not come to the light because their deeds are evil. "Sir, I have a question. "Does not the law require we give this man a hearing?" "Nicodemus, here is our answer. "Are you not from Galilee?" What has that have to do with anything? Nothing. They do not want to obey the law, if It is going to hinder them from doing what they want to do. What they want to do is get rid of Jesus.

Now here is an amazing statement. *Search, and look: for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet.* Turn in Bible to Matthew 12:38-40. *Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee. But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.* The reason why this statement is so amazing is Jonah was from Galilee. Jesus said the only sign I am going to give you is the sign of the prophet Jonas; and He pointed them to a prophet that came from Galilee. There is a reference to the city of his birth in Kings – and that city, if you go back to Joshua is in the region that became Galilee.

The same with Nahum, the Bible says Nahum the Elkoshite and that town or that region was in Galilee. So when these men say, *Search, and look: for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet* – what they were doing is testifying to the fact that they had not searched and looked. Or if they had, it did not matter to them what the Bible said. This is the same with religious leaders today? Think about it, honestly. They do not care what the Bible says;

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they just care about maintaining power. The word of God is not important to these large denominations and religious movements. The only thing that is important to them is manipulating and controlling people lives, keeping the money flowing.

John 7 verse 53. It is seemingly an insignificant verse, but it is so powerful. Now look at verse 1 same chapter. *...the Jews sought to kill him.* Verse 20. *Thou hast a devil...* Verse 30. *...they sought to take him:* Verse 44. *...some of them would have taken him...* Verse 47. *...Are ye also deceived?* Verse 53. *And every man went unto his own house.* You know – just another day in the life of a spiritual leader. “We lied about, plotted to kill a innocent man, planned and discussed His assassination. We have willingly in the foreknowledge ignored and violated the law that we are to teach and represent. Well, let’s go home and have supper.

Notes

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Lesson 18

Name _____

1. How does Chapter 7 teach us to respond to those who misuse Matthew 7:1?
2. Explain the following terms:
 - the dispersed among the gentiles
 - out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water
 - of the seed of David
3. What two prophets arose out of Galilee?
4. According to verse 15-17, what is the key to learning and understanding Biblical truth?
5. What do we learn from verse 18 about witnessing?
6. Of what ministers and ministries does verse 18 teach us to beware?
7. Explain Jesus' teaching in verse 19-22 regarding the authorship and transmission of the law.
8. Explain Jesus' teaching in verses 19-22 regarding the keeping of the Sabbath?
9. How does verse 24 relate to the case of the Sabbath?
10. Why did the Holy Spirit think it significant to point out that this teaching took place at the feast of tabernacles?
11. Why should the people have known where Christ should come from?

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12. Explain the following terms:
 - Jewry
 - your time is always ready
 - letters
 - every whit whole
13. How do you reconcile verse 34 with Matthew 7:7?
14. Explain the reasoning concerning the Gentiles in verse 35?
15. What does verse 37-39 teach us about the requirements for receiving the Holy Spirit?
16. What did you learn from this lesson?

True/false

- If a Pastor, minister, preacher sounds good and makes you feel good about yourself, then he is a man of God.
- We are not supposed to judge, that is for God only.
- Nicodemus used the light God gave him incorrectly.



Scripture Memorization; (write these on the back on the sheet, Must be in KJV)
Proverbs 18:4; Proverbs 10:11; proverbs 16:22