

**Andy Deane • 4/3/22**  
**Come & See: John 7**

Six to twelve months have passed since John 6 ended. The Festival of Tabernacles is near where Israel remembered their time in the wilderness as they lived in tents while God provided food and water for them. John 7 shows how opposition to Jesus is mounting.

Let's start by looking at 5 reasons why some people oppose Jesus:

**John 7:1-8,** <sup>1</sup>After this, Jesus went around in Galilee. He did not want to go about in Judea because the Jewish leaders there were looking for a way to kill him. <sup>2</sup>But when the Jewish Festival of Tabernacles was near, <sup>3</sup>Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave Galilee and go to Judea, so that your disciples there may see the works you do. <sup>4</sup>No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world." <sup>5</sup>For even his own brothers did not believe in him. <sup>6</sup>Therefore Jesus told them, "My time is not yet here; for you any time will do. <sup>7</sup>The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that its works are evil. <sup>8</sup>You go to the festival. I am not going up to this festival, because my time has not yet fully come."

**#1 Some oppose Jesus because He speaks hard truths.**

**John 7:12-13; 50-52,** <sup>12</sup>Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, "He is a good man." Others replied, "No, he deceives the people." <sup>13</sup>But no one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the leaders... <sup>50</sup>Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked, <sup>51</sup>"Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?" <sup>52</sup>They replied, "Are you from Galilee, too? Look into it, and you will find that a prophet does not come out of Galilee."

**#2 Some oppose Jesus because they're nervous what others will think about them.**

**John 7:21-24,** <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them, "I did one miracle, and you are all amazed.<sup>22</sup> Yet, because Moses gave you circumcision (though actually it did not come from Moses, but from the patriarchs), you circumcise a boy on the Sabbath. <sup>23</sup>Now if a boy can be circumcised on the Sabbath so that the law of Moses may not be broken, why are you angry with me for healing a man's whole body on the Sabbath?<sup>24</sup> Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly."

**#3 Some oppose Jesus because they think they know better than him.**

**John 7:26-27; 41-42,** <sup>26</sup>Here he is, speaking publicly, and they are not saying a word to him. Have the authorities really concluded that he is the Messiah? <sup>27</sup>But we know where this man is from; when the Messiah comes, no one will know where he is from. "... <sup>41</sup>Others said, "He is the Messiah." Still others asked, "How can the Messiah come from Galilee? <sup>42</sup>Does not Scripture say that the Messiah will come from David's descendants and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?"

**#4 Some oppose Jesus because of misinformation about him.**

**John 7:32; 45-49,** <sup>32</sup>...Then the chief priests and the Pharisees sent temple guards to arrest him... <sup>45</sup>Finally the temple guards went back to the chief priests and the Pharisees, who asked them, "Why didn't you bring him in?" <sup>46</sup>"No one ever spoke the way this man does," the guards replied. <sup>47</sup>"You mean he has deceived you also?" the Pharisees retorted. <sup>48</sup>"Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed in him? <sup>49</sup>No! But this mob that knows

*nothing of the law—there is a curse on them.”*

## **#5 Some oppose Jesus because of bad examples they’ve seen in church.**

**John 7:31**, *Still, many in the crowd believed in him. They said, “When the Messiah comes, will he perform more signs than this man?”*

### **We should ask ourselves: is our opposition of Jesus really justified?**

**John 7:37-39**, <sup>37</sup> *On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink.”<sup>38</sup> *Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.”* <sup>39</sup> *By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.**

Now let’s look at the offer Jesus makes us all:

### **Everyone has an invitation from Jesus to come to him and drink:**

- The gift of living water from Jesus is free!
- Isaiah 55:1, *“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money & without cost.*

### **Our soul thirsts spiritually just as much as our body does physically:**

- This is the most important thing to know about yourself: You have a soul. There’s more to you than your body.
- You were made to seek after God in a spiritual way.

### **Our main issue is that we don’t thirst for God:**

- Instead of finding satisfaction in God, we look elsewhere.
- We have an unquenchable thirst in our soul. Why? So that we might keep searching until we find Jesus.
- “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.” (Saint Augustine)

### **God loves us, so He undermines our vain pursuits:**

- He causes every shiny object to become dull to us.
- He causes each sin to sting, until we have no place left to look, but to Him.

### **So how does our soul practically drink of Jesus?**

- Today we drink of Jesus by consuming His life-giving Word.

### **We drink not just to be satisfied, but to satisfy others.**

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### **Need prayer today? Have questions about following Jesus?**

Our prayer team is available up front after service.