

Gospel of John – The Parable of Joy
Chapter 7

John 7:1-44

1. This entire chapter is a great reminder of why it is important to have an understanding of the culture in which the book of Scripture you are reading was written. Understanding the story of the golden pitcher gives us a deeper understanding of why Jesus said what he said and why he chose this time to say it.
2. The feast of Tabernacles was near (2). We are reminded, in the notes, that Jesus fulfilled Passover and Pentecost and that most likely this pattern will continue with Tabernacles. See Leviticus 23 for all the feasts.
3. “Your time is always here” (6). Does Jesus mean that he has a specific mission and a short time to be here or that their time ‘to display themselves’ is always here?
 - 3.1. “My time has not yet been fulfilled” (8). I believe this is another reference to Daniel 9:24-27.
4. Jesus constantly reminds us that what He is currently about is the Father’s business, not His own. (16).
 - 4.1. Interesting that His teaching was considered so different because He didn’t refer to other rabbinic sources for His authority.
5. The word ‘astonished’ is astonishing to me. It refers to the fact that they were astonished that He healed on the Sabbath not that He did a miracle. (21)
 - 5.1. His attempt to teach them that the Law allowed for certain work (24) brings up a great point. God’s law was not intended to be a burden. It became a burden when man began to expand it.
6. The fact that there are two different groups of Jews here, the Jerusalemites and the ones from the rest of Israel, had never crossed my mind.
7. No one laid a hand on Him because His hour had not come (30). Again we see the importance of timing in His work.
 - 7.1. In verse 27 we see some embracing myth and some embracing biblical prophecy. If they had really known Daniel they would have known the ‘timing’.
8. The narrative speaks of living in the past and the future. Jesus invites us to live in the present.

John 7:45-53

1. “No one has ever spoken like this.” (46). Here we see the temple guards being amazed at the words of Jesus. He must have had something mysterious, yet compelling, about Him.
2. Nicodemus stands up for Jesus (50). How neat that he was either a secret follower or was almost one by this time.
3. Jonah was the other prophet from Galilee. He had spend three days in the belly of the great fish. In another place, Jesus compared this event to what awaited Him. Here we see the type and pattern of Jonah become even deeper.