

Gospel of John Chapter 7: Good News For *Change!*

August 18th, 2019

-Pastor Dan

3 Major Jewish Feasts:

Tabernacles. Associated in the OT with harvest of grapes and olives (between April – June). Feast was 7 days long in September. Most popular of the 3 Feasts. Those living in rural areas returned to Jerusalem and lived in make-shift structures of branches and leaves (i.e. booths or tabernacles) while in town. The Feast was known for water-drawing and lamp-lighting rituals.

Passover. The Passover was most celebrated holiday when pilgrims return to Jerusalem to remember Israel's exodus from Egypt around the month of April.

Pentecost. Or the Feast of Weeks is another pilgrimage Jewish holiday which occurs in May. It marks the anniversary of God giving the Torah to Israel at Mt. Sinai.

- **#1 Key Change To Bust Stress: Trust God's Timing.**

Text: UNBELIEF Before the Feast of Tabernacles (vv. 1-10)

"You go to the festival. I am not going up to this festival, because my time has not yet fully come." (v. 8)

"At this they tried to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come." (v. 30)

why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come."
John 2:4

God's timing is never "Early" or "Late" but always PERFECT.

- **#2 Key Change To Bust Stress: Trust God's Opinions Over Others.**

Text: DEBATE During the Feast of Tabernacles (vv. 11-36)

KEY Q: What do you do when Other's DISAPPROVE of you?

- **Family Disapproval** ☹

v5 - *"For even his own brothers did not believe in him."*

- **Public Criticism** ☹

v12-13 - *Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, 'He is a good man.' Others replied, 'No, he deceives the people.' But no one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the leaders."*

- **Public Name-Calling and Slander** ☹

v20 - *"'You are demon-possessed,' the crowd answered..."*

Instead: Remember God's Calling and Approval On your Life:

So Jesus answered: 'My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me.' v16

The one who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory; but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood. v18

Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly. v24

Key: Trust What God says about you versus the world.

- **#3 Key Change To Bust Stress: Consume And Utilize God's Power**

Text: DIVISION After the Feast of Tabernacles (vv. 37-52)

³⁷ 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. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." ³⁹ 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.
John 7:37-39