

# John 7

Many people were looking for physical food, not spiritual.

Even among the twelve there was one that didn't believe.

There were many following him, but some were true followers, some weren't.

How do you tell?

The only way is by understanding what they are seeking.

The true followers are those that are seeking to have their spiritual needs met, and are hearing the word of God and believing it.

Not just saying, "Christ is that prophet," but heeding his words.

Not everybody who follows Jesus around, is going to receive eternal life.

Just a physical affinity with Jesus doesn't do them any good.

It is only being spiritually born as children of God.

## Verse 1

**John 7:1** After these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Jewry, because the Jews sought to kill him.

He'd gone into Galilee and crossed to the east side of the sea.

Now he has come back, but he is staying in Galilee.

He won't go down to Judea, because they still wanted to kill him.

Because he'd healed a man on the sabbath day.

And then he said the God was his Father.

## Verse 2

**John 7:2** Now the Jews' feast of tabernacles was at hand.

So more time has passed. Last time it was before the Passover.

Feast of Passover in the first month, feast of tabernacles in the seventh month.

And that is probably the same timeframe when he healed that man.

It doesn't say whether he went to Jerusalem for the Passover or not.

But at least in the intervening time, he has stayed away.

## Verse 3

**John 7:3** His brethren therefore said unto him, Depart hence, and go into Judaea, that thy disciples also may see the works that thou doest.

He's gone back and is staying with his brethren.

He's basically put his ministry on hold for the time being.

Nobody is willing to receive the word of God.

The Jews want to kill him, they won't believe. They are only interested in their religion. And the Galileans are offended at him. They're only interested in the physical aspect of his ministry.

Nobody is responding to the word.  
So Jesus has just been lying low.

But his family is advising him to go up to Jerusalem for the feast, and declare himself. That's what they've been wanting him to do.

But when he had a chance at that first Passover, he didn't do it.

So now they are telling him, "here's another chance."

"If you're serious about this thing, you can't just sit around here. You're not going to make disciples that way."

"What you need to do is go up to the feast, where all of your disciples, all of the people can be there. And then they can see what you do, and believe on you."

So they think that everybody just needs to see Jesus's works to believe.

He just hasn't been manifesting himself the way he should.

He needs to do some more miracles that everyone can see.

## Verse 4

**John 7:4** For there is no man that doeth any thing in secret, and he himself seeketh to be known openly. If thou do these things, shew thyself to the world.

They're saying, "before you were talking like you wanted to be known openly, but now you're hiding in secret."

"Which is it?"

"If you want people to know you, you need to show them."

## Verse 5

**John 7:5** For neither did his brethren believe in him.

It is clear they didn't understand.

Just like Mary didn't at the marriage in Cana.

But that just creates the wrong kind of followers.

He's just finally gotten rid of a bunch of them, and now they want him to do something that will get him a bunch more like that all over again.

But he doesn't need to do anything more.

He said last time that "All that the Father hath given me shall come to me."

So he doesn't need to do these miracles.

Those that have been taught of God, those that have heard the word, will come just to hear his word.

They'll just hear the word and come to him. They don't need to see anything.

## Verse 6

**John 7:6** Then Jesus said unto them, My time is not yet come: but your time is always ready.

Jesus is basically saying, “look, the next step in my ministry is for me to be killed.”  
“And it isn’t time yet.”

“I’ve been rejected, the Jews just aren’t going to receive the word. No more miracles need to be done, nothing is going to change that.”

## Verse 7

**John 7:7** The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil.

Jesus has just lumped Jew and Gentile together. “the world.”

“It’s not my lack of works. It is what I have to say about their works.”  
Their works are evil, and they like them.  
They don’t love God, they hate me.

## Verse 8

**John 7:8** Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up yet unto this feast; for my time is not yet full come.

“You all can go up to this feast. They have nothing against you.”  
“But I’m not going up to this feast yet, because it is not my time to be crucified.”

So they wanted him to go up ahead of time and declare himself.  
But the Jews would kill him, and it isn’t his time to die yet.

## Verses 9-10

**John 7:9** When he had said these words unto them, he abode still in Galilee.  
10 But when his brethren were gone up, then went he also up unto the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret.

So he didn’t go up ahead of time, and didn’t go with them.  
He waited, and then snuck up when nobody would know.

## Verse 11

**John 7:11** Then the Jews sought him at the feast, and said, Where is he?

The Jews thought they had him. They figured he had to come to the feast.

## Verse 12

**John 7:12** And there was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; but he deceiveth the people.

All the people are also talking about him.  
Some say he is a deceiver, others say he is a good man.

But it doesn't say that they said he was the Christ. The Son of God.  
Just a good man.

## Verse 13

**John 7:13** Howbeit no man spake openly of him for fear of the Jews.

But even then they wouldn't talk openly about him, because they were scared of the Jews.

## Verse 14

**John 7:14** Now about the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and taught.

So Jesus arrives late, and doesn't get up to speak until the middle of the feast.  
3rd or 4th day.

## Verse 15

**John 7:15** And the Jews marvelled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?

Now think about it. You get up, and you are teaching on something. And you get through, and you ask if there are any questions.  
And somebody raises their hand, and you think, "Oh good, maybe they understood what I was saying."  
And then they ask, "Where did you learn to read?"

They're not paying one bit of attention to what he is saying, they just want to know how he learned to read.

## Verse 16

**John 7:16** Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.

So Jesus tells them, "Look, what I'm teaching is not coming from me. From my knowledge. From my learning."  
I didn't need to learn anything, I didn't need to learn letters, I didn't need to learn from any man. God gave it to me. It is from him that sent me.

## Verse 17

**John 7:17** If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

This is a principle that we've gleaned from what Jesus has been.  
But he hasn't stated it in this way.

The message itself is enough to be able to know whether or not he is sent of God.  
*If you do God's will.*

No need to see miracles.

## Verse 18

**John 7:18** He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.

Have you noticed how Jesus never said, "I am the Son of God."  
Instead he said, "my Father."

He hasn't been speaking of himself.  
He's been speaking the word of God to the glory of God.

He didn't make a big deal. Didn't commit himself to them.  
He hasn't been seeking his own glory.

And from that they should know that he is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.  
Just that aspect of the message alone is an indicator.

And so those that do God's will will know when they hear.

But they don't.

## Verse 19

**John 7:19** Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law? Why go ye about to kill me?

They don't do the will of God.  
And that's why they don't know, just from the word.

Moses gave them the law, and yet they don't keep it.  
They are trying to kill a man that is innocent of any crime, except speaking the word of God.

But at least they are consistent.  
They don't believe his word, and they don't believe Moses's either.  
Moses was another man who sought not his own glory, but the glory of the one that sent him.

The Bible says that Moses was a meek man above all the men that were upon the face of the earth.

And he gave them a law that was a sure word from God.

And they don't keep it.

They refuse to hear the word of God. They don't love God, they don't do his will.

They will not receive someone who comes in God's name.

## Verse 20

**John 7:20** The people answered and said, Thou hast a devil: who goeth about to kill thee?

"You're crazy man. You're devil possessed. Nobody's trying to kill you."

They are so offended by what he just said, that they short-circuited.

Not only do they brush off his argument, by saying he is crazy.

Not only do they go further and say he's possessed by the devil, to have such warped thinking.

But they are so set on contradicting him, that they go so far as to lie, disputing his statement that the Jews want to kill him.

## Verse 21

**John 7:21** Jesus answered and said unto them, I have done one work, and ye all marvel.

They wanted signs, but it is ultimately a work that he did that is tripping them up.

## Verses 22-23

**John 7:22** Moses therefore gave unto you circumcision; (not because it is of Moses, but of the fathers;) and ye on the sabbath day circumcise a man.

23 If a man on the sabbath day receive circumcision, that the law of Moses should not be broken; are ye angry at me, because I have made a man every whit whole on the sabbath day?

God told Abraham that every male descendent had to be circumcised the 8th day.

So if you were born on Friday you had to be circumcised on Saturday. Sabbath or no Sabbath.

And yet they are angry at him, because he healed somebody on the Sabbath.

There are some things that transcend the Sabbath.

Like the promise of God, the covenant that he made with the fathers.

The same promise and covenant that he has now come to fulfill.

They are willing to circumcise something away on the Sabbath, but not to make a man whole.

## Verse 24

**John 7:24** Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.

"You're not judging righteously."

They're not judging based on right and wrong.  
They're judging superficially. Based on what they see.

Not based on truth. Not spiritually.

## Verse 25

**John 7:25** Then said some of them of Jerusalem, Is not this he, whom they seek to kill?

I thought they were just pretending like there wasn't anybody trying to kill him.

## Verse 26

**John 7:26** But, lo, he speaketh boldly, and they say nothing unto him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is the very Christ?

So Jesus is teaching, and the rulers are there, and they aren't saying anything against him.  
They aren't trying to arrest him.  
In fact, everyone is saying that nobody is trying to kill him.

So the people of Jerusalem wonder if the rulers are know changing their minds.  
If they believe that he is indeed the Christ.

## Verse 27

**John 7:27** Howbeit we know this man whence he is: but when Christ cometh, no man knoweth whence he is.

So it seems like the rulers might be endorsing him by their silence.  
But the people are still skeptical, because they don't think he fits the criteria.  
They believe that when Christ comes no one will know where he is from.  
But they know that Jesus is from Galilee, they know who his family is.

Now it is clear that the Pharisees and rulers did not believe this.  
They knew from scripture that that was not true.  
But apparently many of the people held this idea that Christ would just pop out of nowhere one day.  
But others disagreed. That was just one opinion.  
And apparently it was held strongly by the people in Jerusalem.

But you'll notice, that instead of reconsidering their position, they just assume that he isn't the Christ.  
They don't ask him.

But he answers them anyhow.

## Verses 28-29

**John 7:28** Then cried Jesus in the temple as he taught, saying, Ye both know me, and ye know whence I am: and I am not come of myself, but he that sent me is true, whom ye know not.  
29 But I know him: for I am from him, and he hath sent me.

“You’re right, you know me, and you know where I’m from.”  
“I’ve told you that I’m the Christ, and that I’m from above.”  
“Yet you still won’t receive me.”

“Because I’m not come of myself. I didn’t come in my own name.”  
“And you don’t know him that sent me.”  
“Because he is true.” (and you refuse to hear the truth)

“You don’t know him, but I do.”  
“I came from him, and he sent me.”

Here Jesus has come, and made it clear who he was and who had sent him.  
He is the only one who can declare the Father.  
And yet they are pretending that they can discern whether or not he is the Christ.

They don’t even know the One who would send the Christ.  
They are in no place to judge whether he is from him or not.

But the Christ would know.  
And here he is, and he is declaring it to them, and they will not hear his word.

## Verse 30

**John 7:30** Then they sought to take him: but no man laid hands on him, because his hour was not yet come.

## Verse 31

**John 7:31** 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?

They believed what?  
Because of his word?  
Because, “well, no he does fit up with what the scriptures said”?  
No. Because of the miracles.

But they do have a point. What more could Christ do?

## Verse 32

**John 7:32** The Pharisees heard that the people murmured such things concerning him; and the Pharisees and the chief priests sent officers to take him.



## Verses 33-36

**John 7:33** Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me.

34 Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come.

35 Then said the Jews among themselves, Whither will he go, that we shall not find him? will he go unto the dispersed among the Gentiles, and teach the Gentiles?

36 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?

They like the miracles, but Jesus makes it clear that one day he's not going to be here to do them.

His point is that they need something more.

They can't keep him physically and keep receiving physical benefits.

The kingdom is not going to come yet.

Not only do they need to be prepared before they can enter in, they aren't going to receive it now at all. The physical kingdom will not come. Because the whole nation is not ready.

And they don't understand that.

## Verses 37-38

**John 7:37** 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.

38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

Same thing he told the Samaritan woman.

Here is what they need. They need to come and drink.

And then they will have something inside of themselves that they *can* keep, unto life eternal.

If they are believing on him, they need to believe on this.

Because the kingdom isn't coming yet.

Psalms 1:1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the **rivers of water**, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Song of Solomon 4:15 A fountain of gardens, a well of **living waters**, and streams from Lebanon.

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:

4 And they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows by the **water** courses.

Isaiah 58:11 And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a **watered** garden, and like a spring of **water**, whose **waters** fail not.

## Verse 39

**John 7:39** (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

So he is speaking of the same thing that he spoke to Nicodemus about. The Spirit. Not water baptism, spiritual baptism.

So he is saying, "Look, I'm leaving. But those that believe on me are going to receive something within themselves."

And that is the Spirit.

That they would receive after he was glorified. He would leave, but then the Spirit would come.

## Verse 40

**John 7:40** Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, Of a truth this is the Prophet.

When they heard him speak of living waters.

(Those that come to the prophet would receive life, those that didn't would be cut off.)

## Verses 41-42

**John 7:41** Others said, This is the Christ. But some said, Shall Christ come out of Galilee?  
42 Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was?

Those who thought he was the Prophet have a better understanding.

## Verse 43

**John 7:43** So there was a division among the people because of him.

## Verse 44

**John 7:44** And some of them would have taken him; but no man laid hands on him.

The Pharisees had sent officers to take him.

## Verses 45-46

**John 7:45** Then came the officers to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said unto them, Why have ye not brought him?

46 The officers answered, Never man spake like this man.

Even the officers were impressed by what he said.  
But the rulers of the people were hung up on signs.

They were uncertain enough that some they were scared to arrest him.

## Verses 47-48

**John 7:47** Then answered them the Pharisees, Are ye also deceived?

48 Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed on him?

Have any of the educated men, the holy religious men, the men in authority, believed?

## Verse 49

**John 7:49** But this people who knoweth not the law are cursed.

The only people believing are these country hicks!

(But they did know the scripture.)  
It is the law that spoke of the prophet.

Jesus told them to search the scriptures.

## Verses 50-51

**John 7:50** Nicodemus saith unto them, (he that came to Jesus by night, being one of them,)

51 Doth our law judge any man, before it hear him, and know what he doeth?

“If we’re going to talk about the law, then we shouldn’t be judging people until after we’ve heard their case.”

“We need to listen to what he has to say then.”

“So we can understand what he is doing.”

But they don’t want to hear him.

## Verse 52

**John 7:52** They answered and said unto him, Art thou also of Galilee? Search, and look: for out of Galilee ariseth no prophet.

Isn’t that the same thing the people said? (who don’t know the law and are cursed)

“All his disciples are these stupid Galileans.”

“Are you from Galilee too?”

“Check the scriptures on this, no prophet is to come from Galilee.”

But that’s not true.

**Isaiah 9:1** Nevertheless the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in **Galilee** of the nations.

2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

3 Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, and as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

4 For thou hast broken the yoke of his burden, and the staff of his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, as in the day of Midian.

5 For every battle of the warrior is with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood; but this shall be with burning and fuel of fire.

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

8 The Lord sent a word into Jacob, and it hath lighted upon Israel.

9 And all the people shall know, even Ephraim and the inhabitant of Samaria...

## Verse 53

**John 7:53** And every man went unto his own house.

They didn’t take him.