

John 7: Could This Be the Christ?

Lesson Theme: Controversy Over Jesus Grows While Time is Running Out for the Nation of Israel

Jeremiah 8:7–

Even the stork in the heavens
Knows her appointed times;
And the turtledove, the swift, and the swallow
Observe the time of their coming.
But My people do not know the judgment of the Lord.

John 7:1-9:

1. Did Jesus know **when** He would be crucified?
 - Yes! **Daniel 9:24-27**
 - 70 “Weeks” = 70 x 7 years = 490 years total
 - 7 “Weeks” and 62 “Weeks” = (7 x 7) + (62 x 7) = 483 years
 - “The command to restore and build Jerusalem” (Nehemiah 2:1-8: 445-444 BC)
 - “Until Messiah the Prince” (32-33 AD)
 - Note: Remember a Biblical year uses 360 days/year not 365 days/year
 - 70th “week” = 7 years left (7-year tribulation corresponding to Revelation 6-18)
 - Jesus knew it would be on Passover as the “Passover Lamb” (John 1:29), fulfilling the first feast of Israel
 - The OT Scriptures reveal the entire time table of God’s plan for Israel
 - Compare the time of the church age (mystery—unknown gap of time only the Father knows)

Matthew 24:36–

“But of that day and hour no one knows...but My Father only.”

John 7:10-24:

2. Why did Jesus go up to the feast?
 - He obeyed the law

Exodus 34:22-23–

And you shall observe the Feast of Weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the year’s end.

Three times in the year all your men shall appear before the Lord, the Lord God of Israel.

- To teach the people in accordance with the Father’s doctrine
- To seek the glory of the One who sent Him
- To accomplish the Father’s work the Father’s way

Matthew 10:16–

“Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.”

John 7:25-52:

3. Why were the Jews so confused about the Christ?
 - The “**kenosis** issue”—how can a Man be God?

Philippians 2:5-8—

...Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation (Gr: kenoo), taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

4. Would the Christ teach the nations??
 - Yes! That’s the whole point—the new covenant to the world in which the Holy Spirit dwells in believers, both Jew and Gentile.

Isaiah 65:1-2a—

“I was sought by those who did not ask for Me;
I was found by those who did not seek Me.
I said, ‘Here I am, here I am,’
To a nation that was not called by My name.
I have stretched out My hands all day long to a rebellious people,”

5. Did the scribes and Pharisees even understand what the Scriptures say?
 - They twisted the Scriptures to fit their own agenda.
 - The prophets Jonah, Nahum and Hosea were all from Galilee

Conclusion: The Jewish leaders of the nation of Israel had every means of understanding not only who the Messiah is, but when He would arrive. They rejected Jesus, not because they didn’t know He was the Christ, but because they did know, and refused to believe.

Question: Are we living in a time when history is repeating itself all over again?