



Gospel of John 1-12

Rivers of Living Water

So far in this chapter we have seen Jesus own brothers reject Him, the crowds reject Him and the Jewish leaders reject Him. Now at the Feast of Tabernacles Jesus reveals that the coming Holy Spirit will provide an unlimited supply of His Spirit for love, power and ministry.

A. **Jesus Speaks Boldly** vv. 25-31

1. The Logos of God: vv. 25-27 At this point, the religious leaders do nothing about what Jesus is saying. The crowds identify Jesus as the carpenter from Galilee and continue to miss that He is the Logos (Word) sent from heaven. *See John 1*

2. Jesus teaches in the Temple: vv. 28-31 Jesus restates 'again' who He is and where He came from. NOW they seek to take Him by force but are restrained by the 'will' of God. All of this causes some to 'believe' in Him based on His signs.

B. **Jesus Speaks Revelation** vv. 32-36

1. Revelation concerning God's time: His time is determined by the Father 'not' by the Pharisees or anyone else. These Second Temple Jewish leaders saw themselves as 'guardians' of the Torah. They also saw Jesus as a threat to the Torah-way-of-life.

Knowing Torah: This is a case where those doing the 'guarding' did not know what they were guarding. Jesus death, burial and resurrection are the logical fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant (*See Gen 17*). Regarding this covenant, N.T. Wright says:

"Dealing with sin, saving humans from it, giving them grace forgiveness, justification, glorification—all this was the purpose of the single covenant from the beginning, now fulfilled in Jesus the Messiah." "Justification" p. 95

C. **Jesus Speaks Prophetically** vv. 37-39

1. Water and the Feast of Tabernacles: v. 37 Each day the high priest brought water from the pool of Siloam in procession to the Temple with joyful sounding of the trumpet. *"He that never has seen the joy of the Water-drawing has never in his life seen joy."* Mishnah Sukk. 5:1 Isaiah speaks of the joy of this water in Isa. 12, *"Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation."* This is to be sung when Messiah returns.

2. Four aspects of the Living Water—the Holy Spirit

First: Jesus is the One who gives the Spirit (the Promise of the Father—Acts 1:4-5). *See John 1:33.*

Second: The Spirit comes in a life-long 'abundance' like an artesian well of water that never runs dry. *See John 4:10; 13-14.*

Third: This 'water' is given for the purpose of 'giving to others.' It is OUT OF OUR HEART that the Spirit will flow. It is out of our heart that we are 'engaged' by the Spirit in sharing our faith and love of Jesus. (*Ananias prays for Paul Acts 9:17*)

Fourth: This Acts 2 experience would take place in the future for those who believed in Jesus. Are you thirsty for this kind of blessing—then today—drink and be filled.

John 7:25-39 (NKJV)

25 Now some of them from Jerusalem said, "Is this not He whom they seek to kill?"

26 But look! **He speaks boldly**, and they say nothing to Him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is truly the Christ?

27 However, we know where this Man is from; but when the Christ comes, no one knows where He is from."

28 Then Jesus cried out, as He taught in the temple, saying, "You both know Me, and you know where I am from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know.

29 But I know Him, for I am from Him, and He sent Me."

30 Therefore they sought to take Him; but no one laid a hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come.

31 And many of the people believed in Him, and said, "When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this Man has done?"

32 The Pharisees heard the crowd murmuring these things concerning Him, and the Pharisees and the chief priests sent officers to take Him.

33 Then Jesus said to them, "I shall be with you a little while longer, and then I go to Him who sent Me.

34 You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come."

35 Then the Jews said among themselves, "Where does He intend to go that we shall not find Him? Does He intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks?

36 What is this thing that He said, 'You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come?'"

37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."

39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.