

Jesus the Man and Jesus the Christ are One and the Same

John 7:25-31 (vv. 28-29)

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The Lesson: Jesus the Man and Jesus the Christ are One and the Same

1. vv. 25-26: Isn't This The Man They are Trying to Kill?

Hold Up! Wait a Minute! What is Going On?

The people from Jerusalem knew that the religious leaders wanted to kill Jesus. The crowd that came for the feast did not know it (John 7:20); but those from Jerusalem did. Yet, they were amazed that the rulers would not and could not stop Jesus from teaching. Here He is speaking boldly, publicly and no one is trying to stop Him or apprehend Him. After all, He is just a man or is He? Jesus was never afraid or intimidated by the threats against Him. He still spoke boldly, and with such boldness that no one could make Him stop.

The Pharisees could not stand before Jesus in open debate and hold their ground. He trumped them every time (Mark 2:13-15, 18:21; 3:1-6, 20-27), so the multitude slowly began to realize that the rulers did not know that Jesus was indeed the Christ. True, they may not have known that He was God in the flesh, but they could see something special about Him.

2. v. 27. Where is this Man Called Jesus From?

Many of the Jews believed that the Messiah would appear suddenly, as if out of nowhere (Mal. 3:1). The idea was that He was concealed and would someday just burst suddenly upon the world and no one would know where He came from. The evil rulers made many arguments against the Messianic claims of Jesus.

- a) They argued that the Messiah would have a mysterious origin,
- b) They insisted that no prophet could come out of Galilee,
- c) They insisted that Elijah must come first but had ignored John the Baptist as well.

And we know good and well where this Man called Jesus is from. He is that carpenter, Joseph's boy. You know the one that married Mary and she was already

pregnant. No way can He be the Messiah! Everyone seems to be forgetting (a) That Jesus was born in Bethlehem as prophesized and (b) the miraculous conception. The arrogance of the Pharisees pretending to know all about Jesus and yet using this presumed knowledge to reject Him is a prime example of human self-deception and conceit that is still prevalent today.

3. **vv. 28-29: I KNOW WHO SENT ME!**

Oh yeah, you know my earthly origin, but not my heavenly origin because you don't know my "REAL" daddy! You brood of vipers! You who supposedly know the scriptures and the law, but have no connection with the Law Giver! Woe to you! (Matt. 12:34; 23:13-37).

You see Me as just a man from Galilee, but as witnessed by many at My baptism, I am God's Son. The Father and I are One! I speak God's Word, do God's work and I am in fact God in the flesh! (John 12:49).

4. **v. 30. They Tried to Seize Him But Could Not.**

The Pharisees are now furious and eagerly want to take Him by force. There were so many people around though and being the crowds that they were, they dared not make a scene. In the midst of all that,

- a) Some of the people were beginning to believe in the deity of Jesus so they had to pull back;
- b) The Hour was not yet come also implies that a supernatural restraint imposed overruled the possibility despite the fact that they actually had a company to lay hold of Him.

5. **v. 31. Many in the Crowd Believed in Jesus, Yet Doubted He was The Christ**

The tragedy here is that even though many would gladly have hailed Jesus as the Messiah, they hesitated out of fear of repercussions from their religious leaders. Unfortunately, poor leadership is still prevalent today. Many would rather follow the crowd than do what is right (example: Trump's Revolt on the Whitehouse).

- a) Verse 31 (a): **How Great is the Blame on those Evil Doers?** How great is the blame on those who rejected Jesus the Messiah, but also were the principal cause of a whole nation's failure to receive deliverance?

b) Verse 31 (b): Can Anyone else Do More than What Jesus Has Done?

Is it fair to ask, who has done more than Jesus? If Jesus isn't the Messiah, then when the Messiah comes will He:

- i. Do more miracles?
- ii. Teach with more insight and authority?
- iii. Love more remarkably?
- iv. Suffer with more courage?
- v. Atonement for more sinners?
- vi. Rise from the dead more triumphantly?
- vii. Ascend to heaven in greater glory?
- viii. Present a greater Gospel?
- ix. Change more lives?
- x. Heal more people or more addicts?

CERTAINLY NOT!

Arise, shine for the Light has already come!

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