

Chino Valley Bible Church

Sunday, July 9, 2017

“The Rock and The Water”

John 7:37

Introduction

We notice in Verse 12, Jesus continues to make people decide. Everyone has the same decision to make: to follow or to reject Him as Messiah. We have one choice with just two options. Either Jesus is Creator or He is crazy. Either He is Good or He is evil. As it was then, the choice remains today: is He divine or diabolical?

The Feast of Tabernacles will begin October 5th this year and as always, will continue seven days. It is a celebration of harvest to remind every generation of God’s deliverance from slavery in Egypt. It, like all seven feasts, points to Jesus as Messiah. The Feast of Tabernacles reminds us of all we have because we are in Christ.

There is a disagreement about “the last day” Is it the seventh and last day of the seven-day Feast? Or, is it the eighth day spoken of in Exodus 33:36? Many see it as the day the priests wash the Temple area with buckets and buckets of water while singing Psalms of praise to God Almighty. On this day of this Feast Jesus makes a bold claim.

Point One: Jesus claims to be The Messiah, Verses 37-39

The last day of the Feast is a Sabbath. Hearts are overflowing with joy. People are happy to be God’s chosen people. According to Isaiah 12:3, the pouring of water symbolizes salvation. In good time, Jesus makes His claim, “*If any man thirst let him come to Me and drink.*” Perhaps this reminded them of Isaiah 55:3: “*Incline your ear and com to Me. Hear and your soul shall live and I will make an everlasting covenant with you...*”

Point Two: Jesus forces a decision, Verses 40-44

Jesus forces people to decide not by brute force, but by who He is. Some see Jesus only as great moral teacher. In John’s day, some thought Jesus was the prophet promised by Moses, Deut. 18:15-16. Peter says, yes! Jesus is this prophet in Acts 3:22-23. Some saw Jesus as the Christ, Verse 41. Others challenged their claim.

And so it goes: a little ignorance prevents some from saving faith, Verse 42. This ignorance causes division—people take sides, Verse 43. For some, the division causes violence, Verse 44.

Point Three: Jesus challenges authority, Verse 45-53

Sometimes the religious and political leaders get it wrong; Verses 45 & 47-48

Sometimes the police get it right; Verse 46

Sometimes it only takes one person to get it right; Verses 50-53

Conclusion

We are often amazed at the arrogance of some people in Church leadership

We are also amazed how casually some people today are about Jesus.

Today we are reminded: Jesus is sovereign in the salvation of all people

Today we vow: Jesus is Lord! We want to be like Him...

Like our Savior, our life is ours to lay down for God.

Like our King, our will is ours to submit to God and God alone

Like our Friend, our family is the family of God.