

# Feast of Tabernacles

## John Chapter 7

*Puritan Reformed Church - Pastor David Reece*

*Lord's Day Evening, January 28th, Anno Domini 2024*

**Scripture Reading - Genesis 21**

**Acceptable Sacrifice of Praise - Ps 43, 76**

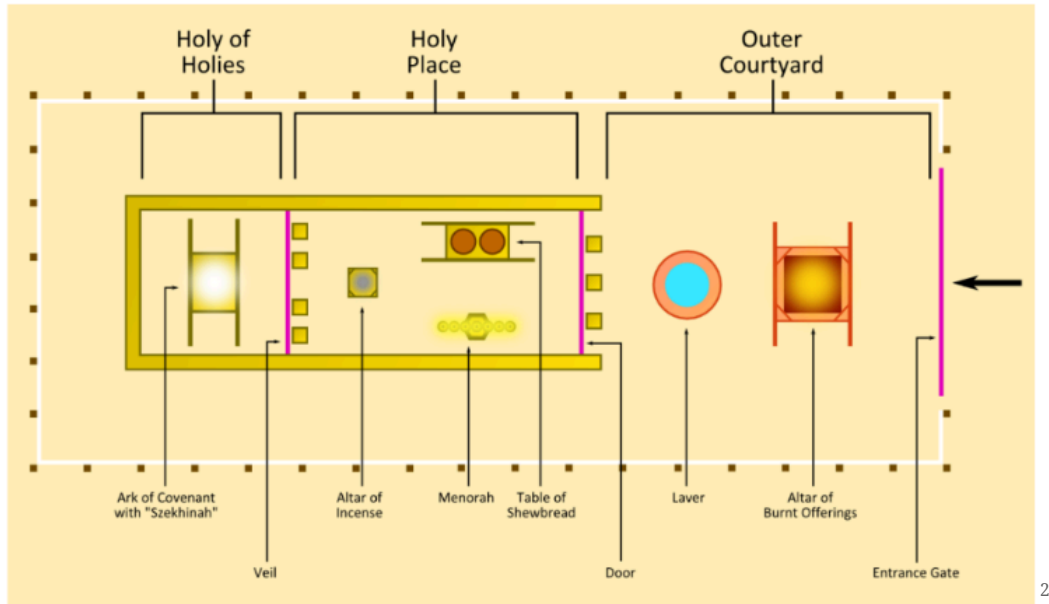
- 1) **Erecting & Entering the Tabernacle** -ppGod with us, The Logos Tabernaciling Among Men & Faith in Christ as the Doorway of Entry into the Tabernacle **(1:1-28)**
  - a) Prologue - 1:1-18
  - b) Prelude to Jesus' public ministry (1:19-51)
    - i) The Testimony of John the Baptist Pointing to Jesus (1:19-28)
- 2) **The Brazen Altar for Sacrifices** (Exodus 27:1-8) - Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world - Christ our Substitute **(1:29-51)**
  - i) John the Baptist's public witness concerning Jesus (1:29-34)
  - ii) Jesus gains his first disciples (1:35-42)
  - iii) Jesus gains two more disciples, Philip and Nathanael (1:43-51)
- 3) **The Brazen Laver of Water** - Cleansing & Spiritual Renewal by Christ **(John 2-3)**
  - a) **Sign 1:** Turning Water in ceremonial cleansing pots into Wine (John 2:1-11)
    - i) Jesus clears the temple (2:12-17)
    - ii) Jesus replaces the temple (2:18-22)
    - iii) Inadequate faith (2:23-25)
    - iv) Jesus and Nicodemus (3:1-21)
    - v) John the Baptist's continuing witness concerning Jesus (3:22-36)
- 4) **The Table of Shewbread Loaded with 12 Cakes and Chalice**s - Spiritual nourishment from the living bread **(John 4-7)**
  - a) Jesus and the Samaritan woman (4:1-42)
  - b) **Sign 2:** Healing the Official's Son (John 4:43-54)
  - c) **Discourse on Authority - Sabbath & RPW** (John 5:1-47)
    - i) **Sign 3:** Healing the Paralytic at Bethesda (John 5:1-15)
    - ii) Jesus' Response to Opposition (John 5:16-47)
      - (1) The Relationship of Jesus to His Father - (John 5:16-30)
      - (2) Witnesses Concerning Jesus (John 5:31-47)

- d) **Discourse on Power - Providence & Salvation** (John 6:1-71)
  - i) **Sign 4:** Feeding the 5,000 (John 6:1-15)
  - ii) **Sign 5 (& I AM 0?):** Walking on Water (John 6:16-21)
  - iii) **I AM 1:** I Am the Bread of Life (John 6:22-71 [esp. 35, 48])
- e) **Disloyalty, Cowardice, Unbelief, & Indecision in the Church (7:1–13)**
- f) **Feast of Tabernacles I - Battle with Unbelief (7:14–53)**
  - i) **Jesus’ Authority, Righteousness, & Mission (7:14–24)**
  - ii) **Who is Jesus Christ? (7:25–36)**
  - iii) **The promise of the Spirit (7:37–39)**
  - iv) **Controversy & The Unbelief of The Leaders (7:40–53)**
- 5) **The Candlestick - Spiritual Illumination by Christ the Light (John 8-9)**
  - a) **I AM 2:** I Am the Light of the World (John 8:12)
  - b) **Sign 6:** Healing the Man Born Blind (John 9:1-7)
- 6) **The Mediator - Christ as Shepherd, Priest, King, and Servant (John 10-13)**
  - a) **I AM 3:** I Am the Door of the Sheep (John 10:7, 9)
  - b) **I AM 4:** I Am the Good Shepherd (John 10:11, 14)
  - c) **I AM 5:** I Am the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25)
  - d) **Sign 7:** Raising Lazarus from the Dead (John 11:1-45)
- 7) **The Altar of Incense for Prayer - teaching disciples to pray in the name of Christ (John 14-16)**
  - a) **I AM 6:** I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life (John 14:6)
  - b) **I AM 7:** I Am the True Vine (John 15:1, 5)
- 8) **The Ark of the Covenant - High Priestly prayer (John 17)**
- 9) **The Mercy Seat - the blood of Christ applied (John 18-19)**
- 10) **The High Priest Exiting the Holy of Holies to Declare that the Sacrifice has been Received & Accepted by God & to Pronounce Peace & the Forgiveness of sins to Israel - Christ's exit, declaration of God's peace, and restoration of disciples (John 20-21)**<sup>1</sup>

**Purpose Statement - John 20:30-31** - “30 And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”

---

<sup>1</sup> Modified Synthesis from - <https://kaysercommentary.com/Sermons/BibleSurvey/40John.md#fn3> - Accessed 2023/07/04 - & D. A. Carson, The Gospel according to John, The Pillar New Testament Commentary (Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans, 1991), 105–108 - with a synthesis of work from Phillip Kayser, D.A. Carson, and David Reece



## TEXT OF JOHN

### IV. The Table of Shewbread Loaded with 12 Cakes and Chalices - Spiritual nourishment from the living bread (John 4-7)

- a) Jesus & the Samaritan Woman - 4:1-42
- b) Sign 2: Healing the Official's Son - 4:43-54
- c) Discourse on Authority - Sabbath & RPW - 5:1-47
  - i) Sign 3: Healing the Paralytic at Bethesda - 5:1-15
  - ii) Jesus' Response to Opposition - 5:16-47
    - (1) The Relationship of Jesus to His Father - 5:16-30
    - (2) The Witnesses Concerning Jesus - 5:31-47
- d) Discourse on Power - Providence & Salvation - 6:1-71
  - i) Sign 4: Feeding the 5,000 (John 6:1-15)
  - ii) Sign 5 & I AM 0?: Walking on Water (John 6:16-21)
  - iii) I AM 1: I Am the Bread of Life (John 6:22-71 [esp. 35, 48])
- e) Disloyalty, Cowardice, Unbelief, & Indecision in the Church (7:1-13)

**7:1** After these things Jesus walked in Galilee; for He did not want to walk in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill Him. **2** Now the Jews' Feast of Tabernacles was at

<sup>2</sup> Image created and provided by Pastor Phillip Kayser

**hand. 3 His brothers therefore said to Him, “Depart from here and go into Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing. 4 For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world.” 5 For even His brothers did not believe in Him.**

- 1) Home Region
- 2) Avoiding the concentration point of his enemies in Judea/Jerusalem, though he is of the tribe of Judah.
- 3) His enemies sought to kill him because of the controversy about Works of Necessity & Mercy Sabbath & the Profession of the Sonship of Christ from Ch 5
- 4) The disloyalty & unbelief of the brothers - pushing for decision and risk taking by others without alignment (no skin in the game, no credibility about alignment of interest)
- 5) Always finding something to complain about and demand more from the one who is taking the action and bearing the burden - “Oh, you should take more risk, oh, you should be more open.”
- 6) No offer to help, no serious counsel - just unbelief begetting a dismissive heaving of burdens onto Jesus.

**6 Then Jesus said to them, “My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready. 7 The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it that its works are evil. 8 You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, for My time has not yet fully come.” 9 When He had said these things to them, He remained in Galilee.**

- 7) The Time of action given to Jesus by the Father - think back to Mary asking Jesus to turn the water to wine, and Jesus saying, “No not yet ... okay, now.”
- 8) The biological brothers of Jesus do not look to the appointed times of God, but rather they look to their own pleasure. They do not understand what is happening (the times) and they do not understand what the Law would teach (righteous action for the scenario).
- 9) The unbelief of the brother’s and their misplaced loyalties with the apostate church and world rather than to Christ are brought to the fore.
- 10) The World cannot hate them - The World hates Jesus
  - a) The Preaching of the Law brings hatred against Jesus
- 11) He separates from them and sends them on their way. He waits to go without them. To keep companions in your work who do not understand it and do not seek to help is worse than to travel alone or in a smaller band.

**10 But when His brothers had gone up, then He also went up to the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret. 11 Then the Jews sought Him at the feast, and said, “Where is He?” 12 And there was much complaining among the people concerning Him. Some said, “He is good”; others said, “No, on the contrary, He deceives the people.” 13 However, no one spoke openly of Him for fear of the Jews.**

12) Rather than going with the large crowd gathered in John 6 or with His brothers in John 7, Jesus travels by with his loyal disciples to the point of Danger.

a) Put not your hope in numbers or strength, but trust God and credible covenanted brothers rather than flesh and blood relations & strength.

13) Jesus enters the point of conflict with surprise.

14) The Leaders of the People/Church sought Him out, but his secret entrance evaded them until He was in a position to embarrass them.

15) Jesus was the talk of the town, and the object of wrath of the leaders, and this talk and search made His appearance in the midst of the people all the more stir creating.

## **f) The Feast of Tabernacles I - Battle with Unbelief (7:14–53)**

### **i) Jesus' Authority, Righteousness, & Mission (7:14–24)**

**14 Now about the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and taught. 15 And the Jews marveled, saying, “How does this Man know letters, having never studied?”**

**16 So<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered them and said, “My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. 17 If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. 18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. 19 Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill Me?”**

16) The Feast of Tabernacles / Booths / Ingathering - The End of the Harvest - 70 Bulls

17) Doctrine - Authority

18) Glory & Mission

19) Universal Guilt & The hatred of the Light

---

<sup>3</sup> NU & TR do not have “So”

**20 The people answered and said, “You have a demon. Who is seeking to kill You?”**

**21 Jesus answered and said to them, “I did one work, and you all marvel. 22 Moses therefore gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath. 23 If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath, so that the law of Moses should not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath? 24 Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.”**

20) Since John 5 there had been a continuous effort to seize and kill Jesus.

21) The Big Lie - Bold Lying - Blame Shifting - Attack without answering

22) Jesus returns to the argument about the Sabbath - this reminds people of the original cause of the debate. He adds new arguments to the defense of the works of mercy.

a) From the Lesser to the greater. Reality greater than Sign.

23) Jesus Rebukes susceptibility to Propaganda - Commands Righteous Judgment

a) Process, Conflict, Slowness to Judge - Biblical Conflict Resolution

b) Source of Authority:

i) Individual - Regulative Principle (RP) of Life,

ii) Household - Biblical Patriarchy,

iii) Church - Sola Scriptura, RP of Worship, RP of Government,

iv) State - Theonomy

c) Valid Reasoning

i) Immediate Inference - 3 Valid Types

ii) Syllogistic Reasoning - 24 Valid Frames

## **ii) The Leaven of the Doctrine & Increased Controversy (7:25–36)**

**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.”**

- 24) Righteous Arguments and Accurate testimony about History - The people remember things contrary to the Big Lie, some of them start to see through some of the falsehood of the propaganda of the authorities.
- 25) Defiance and Boldness in Public but smart ways - this results in people doubting the legitimacy of the authorities.
- 26) The people move to the next objection - but it is a more serious objection that can be answered.

**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 I know Him,<sup>4</sup> 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?”**

- 27) You know where I am from - the Father - Spiritual origin rather than Physical Origin, but also yes I am from Bethlehem.
- 28) God preserves us until His appointed Time
- 29) This boldness is used to gather the Elect

**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<sup>5</sup>, “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’?”**

- 30) Success increases opposition and Confusion while also increasing clarity for some. There is both a gathering and a sturgeon up that occurs.

---

<sup>4</sup> NU & TR - “But I ...”

<sup>5</sup> NU & TR - “Then Jesus said to them, ...”

### iii) Rivers of Living Water - The Promise of the Spirit (7:37–39)

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.

### g) Controversy & The Unbelief of The Leaders (7:40–53)

40 Therefore many from the crowd, when they heard this saying, said, “Truly this is the Prophet.” 41 Others said, “This is the Christ.”

But some said, “Will the Christ come out of Galilee? 42 Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from the town of Bethlehem, where David was?” 43 So there was a division among the people because of Him. 44 Now some of them wanted to take Him, but no one laid hands on Him.

45 Then the officers came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, “Why have you not brought Him?”

46 The officers answered, “No man ever spoke like this Man!”

47 Then the Pharisees answered them, “Are you also deceived? 48 Have any of the rulers or the Pharisees believed in Him? 49 But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed.”

50 Nicodemus (he who came to Jesus [Lit. Him] by night, being one of them) said to them, 51 “Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing?”

52 They answered and said to him, “Are you also from Galilee? Search and look, for no prophet has arisen out of Galilee.”

53 And everyone went to his own house.