

in Galilee. / 10 But when his brethren were gone up, then went he also up unto 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 murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; but he deceiveth the people. / 13 Howbeit no man spake openly of him for fear of the Jews!”

4. We Can See - From These Verses:

- That The Lord Jesus Christ:

- Lived His Entire Life - Knowing That:

- “His Times” Were Under:

- The Sovereign “Hand” Of God His Father!

- And His Belief & Trust:

- In This Truth - Enabled Him:

- To Be Faithful To His Mission:

- No Matter What Opposition:

- He Faced!

- Even If It Was:

- Opposition From His Own Family!

- And - His Own Brothers:

- As We Just Read!

- And The Way He Lived:

- According To This Truth:

- Made A Stark Difference:

- Between His Way & The World’s Way!

- Between The Way Of The Lord & The Way Of The World!

- And That Is Why:

- In 7:1-5 - That Even In The Face Of:

1. ***Opposing Purposes:***

- Jesus Was Able To Keep Pursuing After:

- God’s Plan For The Times In His Life!

- In The First 5 Verses Of This Chapter:

- We Can See A Big Difference:

- In Understanding:

- About The Purpose Of Jesus’ Life!

- According To These Verses:

- His Own Brothers Thought:

- His Purpose Should Be:

- One Of Popularity - And - Prominence!

- From Another Gospel:

- We Know The Names Of His Brothers:

- James & Joseph & Simon & Jude!

- Two Of Whom Would Later:

- Come To Believe In Jesus And Even Be Used By God To Write The Scriptures Known By Their Names!

- These Brothers Would Have Been:

- Half-Brothers - Sons Of Joseph & Mary:

- Since - Jesus Was Uniquely Conceived:

- By The Holy Ghost - As:

- The Eternal Son Of God!

- But - At This Time In Their Lives:

- Though They Had:

- Grown Up With Jesus - And Probably:

- Heard His Words - And:

- Saw His Works!

- At This Point - 7:5 - “Neither Did His Brethren Believe In Him!”

- This Means That:

- They Did Not “Believe” In Jesus:

- The Way He Was Meant:

- To Be Believed In!

- They Did Not “Believe” In Jesus:
 - The Way That Peter & The Other Close Disciples Of Jesus:
 - Believed In Him!
- That We Learned Back In:
 - 6:68-69 - “Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. / And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God!”
- They Did Not “Believe” In Jesus:
 - The Way John Would Have Wanted them To - Which Was The Reason He Wrote This Gospel! As He Says In:
 - 20:31 - “But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name!”
- So - Even Though These Brothers Of Jesus:
 - Did Not Believe In Jesus:
 - In A Saving Way - Yet!
 - They Did Notice That There Was Something Different & Special:
 - About Jesus!
 - And So - When They Urged Jesus:
 - In 7:3 - To - “Depart hence, and go into Judaea, that thy disciples also may see the works that thou doest!”
 - I Don’t Believe They Did This:
 - Out Of Hatred Or Even Jealousy Toward Jesus!
- Perhaps - They Saw Jesus:
 - The Way The Crowd Did:
 - When He Fed The 5,000 Along The Shores Of The Sea Of Galilee:
 - Back In Chapter 6!
 - Perhaps They Were Even:
 - Part Of The Crowd:
 - Who Wanted To “Take Him By Force, To Make Him A King!” (6:14-15)
- And - They Wanted Others:
 - To See Jesus - The Same Way:
 - They Saw Jesus!
 - To Become A Public Figure:
 - To Rescue Them From The Power Of Rome:
 - By Means Of His Powerful Works!
- To Them - Popularity & Prominence:
 - Was The Very Definition:
 - Of Greatness & Glory!
 - And - The “Feast Of Tabernacles” Would Have Been A Great Time:
 - For Jesus To Thrust Himself On The Public Scene!
 - The “Feast Of Tabernacles” - 7:2:
 - Was A Special Time Of Celebration & Commemoration:
 - For The Jewish People - And:
 - Still Is!
 - They Celebrate:
 - God’s Provision:
 - At The End Of The Year’s Harvest!
 - They Commemorate:
 - God’s Protection:
 - In History - Wilderness!
 - So - They Build:
 - Temporary Structures: (Riley)
 - To Live In - Rich & Poor - For 8 Days!
 - This Feast Starts On Tuesday!
- And Jesus’ Brothers Thought:
 - What A Great Time & Opportunity:
 - For Jesus To Make His Works Known!
 - After All - 7:4 - “For there is no man that doeth any thing in secret, and he

- In The Hourglass Of Your Life:
 - Is Under The Sovereign Control And Direction Of The Lord!
- And Now - You Can - Live Each Day Of Your Life:
 - Prudently - According To:
 - The Wisdom Of God:
 - That Is Found In His Word!
 - You Don't Need To:
 - Act In Haste Or Make Rash Decisions!
 - Instead - Be Faithful:
 - In The Place God Has Put You / For The Purpose God Has Given You!
 - And This You Can Do:
 - No Matter What Opposing Purposes:
 - You Might Face:
 - In Your Own Life!
- But - We Can Also See The Difference In How Jesus Lived:
 - In The Face Of - Second:

2. ***Opposing Pressures!***

- That We Find Next In:
 - 7:6-10 - Jesus Answer To His Brothers:
 - "Then Jesus said unto them, My time is not yet come: but your time is alway ready. / The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil. / Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up yet unto this feast; for my time is not yet full come. / When he had said these words unto them, he abode still in Galilee. / But when his brethren were gone up, then went he also up unto the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret!"
 - Jesus Was Able To Keep Pursuing After:
 - God's Plan For His Times In His Life:
 - Even In The Face Of:
 - Mounting Pressures!
 - Like The Mounting Pressure Of:
- His Time!
 - In 7:6 - Jesus Contrasted:
 - His Time With:
 - His Brother's Time!
 - "My time is not yet come: but your time is alway ready!"
 - This Verse Shows Us That:
 - There Was A Big Difference:
 - In Spirit:
 - Between Jesus & His Brothers!
 - Their Spirit:
 - Was Of This World - And:
 - Of This Age!
 - So - They Were In A Hurry:
 - To Accomplish:
 - Their Purposes!
 - They Had Little Patience:
 - Because Their Time:
 - Was Short!
 - However - Jesus' Spirit:
 - Was Of Heaven - And:
 - Of The Ages!
 - So - He Was In No Rush!
 - No Hurry To Accomplish:
 - His Purpose / God's Purpose!
 - He Could Live & Serve:
 - In Faithfulness & In Patience!
 - One Of The Differences Between:

- Jesus & His Brothers:
 - Is That - They:
 - “Knew Nothing Of God’s Agenda!” (Don Carson)
 - But - Jesus Did!
 - Because - For “Every Deed And Action Of The Lord . . . There Is A Definite Moment, Determined From All Eternity, In The Plan Of God!” (William Hendrickson)
- And This Is Why:
 - Jesus Did Not Bow To:
 - The Pressure Of Time!
 - Because - He Knew That:
 - His Times Were All In God’s Hand!
 - But Jesus Also Deals With:
 - In 7:7 - The Mounting Pressures Of:
- His Treatment!
 - 7:7a - The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth!”
 - This Verse Shows Us The:
 - Big Difference In Treatment:
 - Between Jesus & His Brothers!
 - And - To His Brother’s Challenge:
 - To Make Himself Known:
 - He Makes His Own Challenge:
 - About Their Spirit Of Worldliness!
 - You See - The World:
 - Cannot Hate Its Own!
 - Even Though The World:
 - Often Does Fight:
 - Against Its Own!
 - It Cannot & Does Not:
 - Fully Hate Its Own!
 - Because - The World:
 - Deep Down -Understands Its Own!
 - But - That’s Not True:
 - About Jesus!
 - The World Hates Jesus!
 - Because - The World:
 - Cannot Understand Jesus!
 - And - The World Hates Jesus:
 - Especially Because Of:
 - His Truth!
 - 7:7b - “Because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil!”
 - This Is Still Why:
 - The World Hates Jesus!
 - This Is Still Why:
 - The World Rejects:
 - The True, Real Jesus!
 - Because - He Tells The Truth:
 - About Our Works - And:
 - About Our Selves!
 - That They Are Evil - And:
 - Flow From An Evil Heart!
 - Isaiah 64:6 - “But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away!”
 - The World Does Not Want / Does Not Like To Hear This!
 - But - In Spite Of All:
 - The Mounting Pressures:
 - Against Jesus!
 - Of His Time / Treatment / Truth!
 - Jesus Remained Patient & Faithful:

- To His Mission!
- Because - He Knew - More Than Anyone!
 - Even - More Than King David Himself:
 - That - Psalm 31:15 - "My Times Are In Thy Hand!"
- Now - There Are Some:
 - Who See A Contradiction Between Jesus Words & Actions - That We Find In:
 - 7:8-10 - That Jesus Said One Thing, But Does Another!
 - "Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up yet unto this feast; for my time is not yet full come. / When he had said these words unto them, he abode still in Galilee. / But when his brethren were gone up, then went he also up unto the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret!"
- But - Instead Of A Contradiction:
 - We See A Greater Confirmation:
 - Of The Driving Force:
 - Of Jesus Life - Which Was:
 - The Will Of God His Father!
 - In 7:8 - He Says:
 - "I Go Not Up *Yet* Unto This Feast!"
 - Corresponds With - 7:8 - "For My Time Is Not *Yet* Full Come!"
 - So, He Was Not Going To Go:
 - According His Brother's Timetable, But According To His Father's!
- And So - Likely A Few Days After:
 - His Brothers Left - Jesus Himself Left:
 - To Go To Jerusalem!
 - So That - As We Will See:
 - Me Might Fulfill His Father's Purpose:
 - And Not His Brothers'!
 - And Though He Went Up:
 - 7:10b - "Not Openly, But As It Were In Secret!"
 - It Was So That He Might Fulfill His True Purpose & Mission:
 - For Just The Right People, In Just The Right Place, And At Just The Right Time!
- And - If You Are One Of Jesus' Followers Today:
 - This Too Is How You Can Live Your Life!
 - No Matter What Pressures You Face!
 - By God's Grace & Through His Strength:
 - You Can Fulfill God's Will - As Found In His Word - Faithfully & Patiently - Like Jesus!
- So Many Times:
 - The Spirit Of This World / Age:
 - Infects Us - And We Live Our Lives:
 - In Impatience & In A Hurry!
 - We Let The Pressures Of This World:
 - Squeeze Us Into Its Mold:
 - Of Hurry & Worry! **IE:** Jello!
- But - When You Remember That:
 - Your Times Are In God's Hands:
 - You Can Trust In & Rest In:
 - The Wisdom & Will Of God:
 - To Fulfill His Plan For Your Life:
 - Each Day!
- But - Even Before Jesus Arrives In Jerusalem:
 - In 7:10-13 - We Can See Another Difference:
 - In How Jesus Lived!
 - Even In The Face Of - Third:

3. *Opposing Perceptions!*

- When You Live A Life Free From:

- The Hurry & Worry Of This World:
 - The World Will Take Notice!
 - Even As It Did Of Jesus! Because:
- 7:11-13 - "Then the Jews sought him at the feast, and said, Where is he? / And there was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; but he deceiveth the people. / Howbeit no man spake openly of him for fear of the Jews!"
 - In These Verses:
 - We Find 3 Different Perceptions:
 - Of Jesus!
- In 7:11 - There Were Those Who Were:
 - Hostile Toward Jesus!
 - These Were Probably The Same Jewish Leaders:
 - Who We Met In Chapter 5:
 - When Jesus Was Previously In Jerusalem:
 - And Healed The Man At The Pool Of Bethesda!
 - They Were Greatly Offended!
 - So - From 5:18 - "Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God!"
 - So - They Waited For Their Next Opportunity:
 - To Catch Jesus In The Act!
 - Asking - As We Are Told Here:
 - In 7:11 - "Where Is That One!"
 - In A Tone Of Scorn & Disdain!
 - However - We Also Find:
 - In Jerusalem At That Feast:
- In 7:12 - Among Those Who Were "Murmuring" About Him:
 - Those Who Were:
 - Hopeful Toward Jesus!
 - "Some Said - He Is A Good Man!"
 - He Is Good!
 - How True They Were!
 - Because - Oh How Good Jesus Is!
 - Jesus Is Good:
 - In Every Word! (Eternal Life)
 - In Every Work! (Gospel)
 - In Every Will! (Nature)
 - Even More Than They Knew!
 - Truly Good!
 - They Were Not Far From The Kingdom Of God!
 - But - They Needed To Go The Next Step Further!
 - They Need To Believe In His:
 - Ultimate & Infinite:
 - Goodness & Grace!
 - And - So Must You!
 - To Have Your Sins Forgiven!
 - 20:31 - "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name!"
 - However - We Still Find:
 - In Jerusalem At That Feast:
- Also In 7:13 - Those Who Were:
 - Hardened Toward Jesus!
 - "Others Said, Nay: But He Deceiveth The People!"
 - The Spirit Of Their Leaders:
 - Was Starting To Infect Their Own Hearts!
 - But - They Did Know That:
 - When It Came To Jesus:
 - And His Claims:

- There Really Can Be No Other Options:
 - Than These Two!
- Either Jesus Was:
 - A Liar - And A Deceiver:
 - Or He Was Telling The Truth:
 - And Was Indeed:
 - The Lord Of All!
 - He Was Either:
 - Good Or Bad!
- And So - The Crowd:
 - Had To Make A Choice!
 - And - So Do You!
 - What Is Your Perception Of Jesus?
 - The True Jesus!
 - The One Who Is The Way, The Truth & The Life?
 - Hostile? Hopeful? Hardened?
 - Repent Of The Evil:
 - He Came To Confront In Your Heart:
 - And Believe In Him:
 - As Your Savior From Sin!
 - And Only Then:
 - Can You Live As Jesus Did - And:
 - Even As David Did:
 - By God's Grace & Through His Strength - That Is:

Conclusion:

1. In Faith That:
 - Your Times Are In God's Hands!
 - And So - In Christ:
 - No Matter What Opposing Purposes:
 - You Face In Your Life:
 - You Can Live Prudently:
 - According To The Wisdom Of God:
 - And Not The World!
 - No Matter What Opposing Pressures:
 - You Face:
 - You Can Live Patiently:
 - According To The Will Of God!
 - Without Hurry & Without Worry!
 - Because God Is Still In Control! And:
 - No Matter What Opposing Perceptions:
 - You Face - Like Jesus Faced:
 - You Can Persevere:
 - According To The Work Of God:
 - In Your Life!
 - A Work Of Goodness & Of Grace!
 - 2. Jesus Was Able:
 - To Faithfully Fulfill His Father's Plan & Mission:
 - Because He Knew The Truth Of:
 - Psalm 31:15 - "My Times Are In Thy Hand!"
 - And - He Did This For You:
 - And For Your Salvation!
 - And Now - Through Jesus:
 - You Can Live In The Light Of This Truth:
 - Even Until:
 - The Very Last Grain Of Sand:
 - In The Hourglass Of Your Life:
 - Drops!

- Your Times Are Still In God's Hands!
- So - Be Faithful Unto Then!
- And Live Prudently / Patiently / And:
- Persevere - For God & His Glory!

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