

BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH: GOSPEL OF JOHN
BELIEVING JESUS THE CHRIST: 13. THE DEBATE INTENSIFIES
MORNING, FEBRUARY 21, 2021

KEY TEXT: JOHN 7:1-44

INTRODUCTION:

-John seeks to explain the s _____ Jesus did, and show why His c _____ started debates

I/ THE PLAN FOR GLORY: John 7:1-10, 18, 21-24, 33-34

1. The Goal

- Jesus' unbelieving brothers thought He should rebuild from the set-back of 6:66 by going to the Feast in Jerusalem and doing m _____ works: they misunderstand His works (see 2:23-25; 4:45-48; 6:26-27)
- but Jesus came to do the Father's w _____ (See 4:34; 5:17-19; 6:38-40): this determines when the t _____ is right according to God's p _____ (See 7:6-8; 7:30)

2. The Glory of the Cross

- what* Jesus is to do is incomprehensibly g _____ than anything seen before (7:19-24 refers back to John 5): but it will be done by His g _____ a _____ (7:33-34; see 8:21; 14:2-4; 16:7), the c _____

II/ THE PERSON OF CHRIST: WHO IS HE REALLY? John 7:11-17, 25-36, 40-44

1. The Claims

- 7:7: Jesus is "not of this w _____", and yet has come into it (John 1:1-18) in order to t _____ the Father's doctrine (7:16); Jesus does this because He k _____ Him (7:29; compare 17:1-5)
- so Jesus will not modify His claims: they are e _____ to the Gospel

2. The Confusion:

a) the questions raised:

- 7:12: *is Jesus good, or is He a deceiver?* Either we dismiss Him, or we c _____ Him
- 7:15, 47-49, 52: *does Jesus know what He is talking about?* The rulers s _____ at those who believe
- 7:26-27: *isn't Jesus just a Galilean?* (Compare 6:42; see 7:41-43) they know Jesus' h _____
- 7:31: *has He done enough m _____?*

b) the qualifications for understanding: reviewing John's answers so far:

- they must l _____ God and search the S _____ (5:42-44); there is a h _____ problem (6:44; see 3:19); and they must be prepared to s _____ to the Father by believing in Jesus (7:16-18) (Compare Romans 1:18-32; Ephesians 4:17-19)

III/ THE PROMISE OF THE SPIRIT: John 7:37-39

1. The Invitation: John 7:37

- because the Father is pleased to s _____, the t _____ are invited to c _____ and drink

2. The Implications: John 7:38

- the Old Testament promised b _____ through the Spirit: compare Ezekiel 36:25-27; Joel 2:28-32; Isaiah 61:1-2 (see Acts 2:16-21; Luke 4:17-21); Zechariah 14:7-8, 16; Isaiah 12: this is f _____ in Jesus

3. The Interpretation: John 7:39; compare John 1:29-34; 3:1-8, 34; 4:23-24; 6:63

- Jesus will b _____ with the Spirit through Whom comes the new b _____, and by Whom God will be w _____; Jesus promises the f _____ of this work

**BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH: EXODUS
GOD'S PARDON: GODLINESS DEVELOPED
EVENING, FEBRUARY 21, 2021**

KEY TEXT: Exodus 34:29-36:7

INTRODUCTION:

I/ THE GLORY OF GOD IN THE FACE OF MOSES

1. Exodus and the Glory of God

- Exodus 3-4: at the Burning Bush: God is not a phenomenon to observe, but the God to fear
- Exodus 9:16 (compare Romans 9:17): in Pharaoh and the plagues: finally Pharaoh learns who the Lord is!
- Exodus 19-20: on Mount Sinai: the holy demands of God, and the voice of God, are too much for the people
- Exodus 24: with the people: startlingly, they are able to get close in Exodus 24 and live
- Exodus 34:29-35 in the face of Moses: the face of Moses is, however, veiled
- Exodus 40: at the Tabernacle: for a time, even the priests cannot minister when the glory appears

2. In the Light of His Glory and Grace: “created in Christ Jesus unto good works” (Eph.2:10), including...

- a) dread of the Lord: Exodus 33:4-10; 34:27-32: terror drives them to take God seriously – and they find grace!
- b) delight in the Lord: He is Our God! 34:10-24: an exclusive relationship: they celebrate by appearing before God
- c) devotion to the Lord: 34:31-32; compare Eph.2:10; Titus 2:11-14: revealed in obedience and a life that glorifies God
- d) dedication to the Lord's Glory: 34:20; 35:4-29; 36:3-7: they love the place where the Lord will dwell, and give freely

II/ THE GLORY OF GOD IN THE FACE OF JESUS CHRIST: 2 CORINTHIANS 3-4

1. Contrasting The Glory of Christ: 2 Corinthians 3 (the New Covenant glory of the Spirit vs the letter)

-the context here is the new covenant in Christ of which Paul is a minister (3:6) as opposed to the law that kills

-Paul points to Exodus 34 to make this point: even though the Old Covenant in the end could only produce death (for reasons expanded in texts like Romans 1-3, 7 and in Hebrews), it was nonetheless full of the glory of God, so intense that they could not look on it

-but shows the limits of the Old Covenant: it had glory, but no access

-illustrates the problem of Israel's widespread unbelief: still have a veil on their hearts that keeps them from seeing Christ

2. Contemplating the Glory of Christ: 2 Corinthians 3:17; 4:3-6

-as opposed to death, the New Covenant is all about life through the Spirit (a key theme we were seeing in John)

-as opposed to fading glory, the glory in Christ is lasting, and is the full brilliance of God Himself (see 2 Cor.4:6)

-but here is the key: 3:12: we are boldly unveiled before the glory of Christ! in Christ, the veil is taken away: with open faces, we behold the glory of the Lord! We have access!

3. Changed Into the Glory of Christ: 2 Corinthians 3:18; 4:7-16

-this glorious ministry is that of “righteousness” (3:9); thus the impact of unveiled contemplation of Jesus Christ is change

- if their vision of glory brought the fear of the Lord, how we ought to revere the Lord Jesus, confessing Him and working out our salvation with fear and trembling? (Philippians 2:9-14)
- if they were drawn to delight in the Lord, and to worship Him, how much more now that we are not tied to rituals and to a particular place, should we present our bodies as living sacrifices to God? (Romans 12:1-3)
- if they were devoted to the Lord, should not our confession of Jesus drive us to love Him, and thus obey Him? Should we not all the more long to be like Christ – the very definition of our godliness? (John 14:15; Ephesians 4:29-5:2)
- if they were driven to devotion, to love the place where God dwells, how much more should we love the church, and seek to glorify God in the church by Christ Jesus? (Ephesians 2:18-22; 3:10, 20-21; 4:11-16)

-and therefore: *for which cause we faint not* – we do not lose heart!