

**How Thirsty Are You?**

-Believing in Christ despite consequences-

John 7:37-52

*Come to Christ and you will receive new life in the Spirit* (vs. 37-39)

Feast of Tabernacles

* Lasts 7 days, & ends holy gathering on 8th day (Lev 23:36; Num 29:35)
* It celebrates God’s provision of all harvest
* It commemorates divine care during wilderness wanderings (40 years)
* Everyone constructs small huts or booths surrounding the city of Jerusalem and lives in them during feast.
* Water pouring ceremony

**Ezekiel 36:26-27**

*And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

**John 16:7**

*Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.*

**Work of the Spirit**

He convicts of sin and need of cleansing (John 16:8)

He cleanses of sin and gives life (Titus 3:5-6)

He seals our salvation and dwells within us (2 Cor 1:13-14)

He leads us towards righteousness (Rom 8:5-11)

He puts to death our old sinful nature (Rom 8:13-14)

He confirms our salvation despite hardship (Rom 8:16-25)

He helps us pray (Rom 8:26-27)

He controls our words & relationships (Eph 5:18-6:4)

He gifts us to build others up in faith (1 Cor 12:4-26)

*Come to Christ and the world will accuse you of misunderstanding the Bible* (vs. 40-44)

*Come to Christ and the world will accuse you of being deceived* (vs. 45-49)

“The temple police were responsible for the maintenance of law and order within the temple precincts. They were a picked body of Levites, and their commander . . . was an official wielding high authority, next only to the high priest, and he too was usually drawn from one or another of the leading chief-priestly families.”

**F. F. Bruce**

*Come to Christ and the world will accuse you of mental incompetence* (vs. 50-52)

Accusation: The crowds do not know the Bible

Response: Yes, they do!

Accusation: None of the scholars follow Jesus

Response: Yes, they do!

Accusation: No prophet arises from Galilee

Response: Yes, they do!

Conclusion

Those against Christ reveal a double standard. They do not understand the Bible; they are deceived; they are incompetent to teach the Bible.

*CIC 14-01-2024*