



# Calvary of Albuquerque

## Seeing Jesus Through the Fog - John 7:1-13

From the Series, Believe:879

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### MESSAGE SUMMARY

There was always a fog surrounding Jesus! It was a fog of uncertainty, of unbelief, and of conflicting opinion. He was misunderstood about both His mission and His message. His friends, His family, and His foes were often bewildered about who He was and what He was doing. That remains true even today. But in this passage our view becomes clearer. Jesus had clearly defined objectives that He reveals here and they are extremely practical for us today.

### OUTLINE

- I. His Unwavering Priority (vv. 1-2)
- II. His Unbelieving Family (vv. 3-5)
- III. His Uncompromising Chronology (vv. 6-9)
- IV. His Uncommitted Assembly (vv. 10-13)



Making it more than a Sermon:

1. Which best describes you: A. Spectator, B. Disciple, C. Disciple-maker, D. Disciple and Disciple-maker?
2. Do you have family or friends who think your beliefs are foolish? How does this affect your relationship with them? What does Jesus' model teach us?
3. Think of the choices you've made in the last year. Were they always the best choice? What constitutes a good choice/bad choice?

### DETAILED NOTES

There is fog on the heart of many concerning Christ. The fog of unbelief: His own brothers don't believe in Him; the fog of hatred: His enemies and their growing animosity toward Him; the fog of religion: believing He is a good man, or a good religious figure; the fog of media: a promotion that He is a guru, illusionist, or attempted to procreate with Mary Magdalene a race to take over the world.

- I. His Unwavering Priority (vv. 1-2)
  - A. After these things - meta tauta
    1. Gap of time representing at least six months (compare John 6:4: Passover with John 7:2: Feast of Tabernacles)
    2. Fill in the gap with Matthew 15-18 (spending time with His disciples)
      - a. Caesarea Philippi (Who do men say that I am?)
      - b. Transfiguration
      - c. Who is the greatest in the kingdom?
      - d. Parables unlocked to His disciples
  - B. He spent two days with 15,000 people; he spent 6 months with His disciples
  - C. Training His disciples to be unleashed; discipleship was His strategy to spread His message. Matthew 28:18-20
    1. Paul followed this model with Titus and Timothy
    2. Paul taught this model 2 Timothy 2:2
    3. We should follow this model
      - a. Mass evangelism, unlimited budget, 1000 converted a night, 35 years, 365,000 new believers, we would be further behind at the end because of the birth rate
      - b. Only believer on earth, lead one to Christ per year, and each year after each believer does so, within 50 years the whole world could be won to Christ.
  - D. The success of a church is not the size of the congregation, but the depth of the discipleship.
  - E. Application: How long have you been a Christian? Where are your disciples?  
1 Corinthians 4: 16; 1 Corinthians 11:1; Acts 2:42
- II. His Unbelieving Family (vv. 3-5)
  - A. Jesus' brothers (half brothers)
    1. Sons of Joseph and Mary
    2. James, Joseph, Simon, Judas - Matthew 13:55

- B. Go Down to Jerusalem - why?
  - 1. They remember he lost many disciples, bolster his popularity ratings
  - 2. They, like other Jews, are waiting for a political messiah; forcing that role and personal benefit
  - 3. They weren't convinced; IF you do these things, they didn't believe John 6:30
- C. Jesus brothers were unbelievers
  - 1. Proximity is no guarantee of spirituality
  - 2. To what extent? Mark 3:21
- D. Application: The hardest group to witness to is your own family.
- E. They eventually believed Acts 1:14
  - 1. James 1 Corinthians 15:7; Pastor of the church in Jerusalem, wrote James
  - 2. Jude wrote Jude
- III. His Uncompromising Chronology (vv. 6-9)
  - A. Jesus is always on a divine timetable - John 7:30; John 8:20; John 13:1; John 17:1; Mark 14:41
  - B. Jesus' whole life was moving toward the cross; six months from this time. Galatians 4:4-5
  - C. Daniel predicted the time of Messiah exactly- Daniel 9:25-26
    - 1. 483 years from the commandment to restore Jerusalem, made by Artaxerxes March 14, 445 BC
    - 2. Sir Robert Anderson counted from that time, 483 years, 360 days per year according to the Babylonian calendar, 173,880 days, arriving at April 6, 32 AD
    - 3. The day Jesus revealed Himself as Messiah: April 6, 32 AD
  - D. Application: Your timing and God's timing may be different. Jesus is always right on time.
- IV. His Uncommitted Assembly (vv. 10-13)
  - A. The Jews were his enemies; they sought to kill Him
  - B. Some said he was a good man; He wasn't, He was God
  - C. Some said he was a deceiver
  - D. Application: Who do you say he is? John 6:69

Greek Terms: meta tauta-after these things

Figures Referenced: Sir Robert Anderson; Charles Spurgeon; C.S. Lewis

Cross References: Daniel 9:25-26; Matthew 13:55; Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 3:21; Mark 14:41; John 6:4; John 6:30; John 6:69; John 7:30; John 8:20; John 13:1; John 17:1; Acts 1:14; Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 4:16; 1 Corinthians 11:1; 1 Corinthians 15:7; Galatians 4:4-5; 2 Timothy 2:2