

The Great Claim of Jesus

John 07: 37-39

(Mt. 3:1-12; Lk. 3:1-18; Jn. 1:19-28)

1. The setting: The day of the Feast

2. The claims of Jesus

- a. I am the source of life
- b. I am the source of abundant, overflowing life
- c. I am the source of the Holy Spirit

37 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink.

38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.”

39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

Man’s Need: The Light of the World

John 08:12-20

1. Jesus made a great claim and promise

- a. The claim:
He is the Light of the world
- b. The promise: Follow Him *and...*
- c. The objection by the Pharisees:
Questioned the validity of His claim

2. Proof 1:

Jesus’ great knowledge of His origin and destiny

3. Proof 2:

Man’s incompetence and inability to know Christ’s origin and destiny

- a. The fact stated
- b. The reason:
Man judges by appearance

4. Proof 3:

Jesus judges not by appearance but in the righteousness and justice of God

12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

13 The Pharisees challenged him, “Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid.”

14 Jesus answered, “Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going.

15 You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one.

16 But if I do judge, my decisions are right, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me.

5. Proof 4:

The law's testimony

- a. Jesus met the legal requirements
- b. Jesus had two witnesses:
Himself and God who sent Him

6. Proof 5:

The Father's presence within

- a. Jesus was mocked
- b. The Father was in Him
(the Incarnation, Mt. 1:23)

7. The tragic conclusion:

Jesus was rejected in the temple

17 In your own Law it is written
that the testimony of two men is valid.

18 I am one who testifies for myself;
my other witness is the Father, who sent me.”

19 Then they asked him,
“Where is your father?”
“You do not know me or my Father,” Jesus replied.
“If you knew me,
you would know my Father also.”

20 He spoke these words
while teaching in the temple area
near the place where the offerings were put.
Yet no one seized him,
because his time had not yet come.