

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT

JOHN

Chapter 7

The Unbelief of Jesus' Brethren

What is the Feast of Tabernacles? What two liturgical ceremonies celebrated in this feast provide a backdrop to Jesus' teaching in Chapters 7 and 8?

Jesus at the Feast of Tabernacles

When were the Israelites supposed to circumcise newborn boys? What happened if this requirement fell on the Sabbath? What is the meaning of the following passage "If on the Sabbath a man receives circumcision, so that the law of Moses may not be broken, are you angry with me because on the Sabbath I made a man's whole body well?"

Is This the Christ?

What were the two traditions that circulated in ancient Judaism concerning the birth and origin of the Messiah?

Rivers of Living Water

What liturgical ceremony of the feast of Tabernacles does Jesus allude to when He says “come to me and drink”?

What Old Testament passages are referenced when Jesus says “Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water”?

Chapter 8

The Authorities and the Woman Caught in Adultery

Why was the question posed by the Pharisees about the woman caught in adultery a trap?

When Jesus says “Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.” Is He overturning the Mosaic Law?

How does Jesus avoid the trap set by the Pharisees and turn the tables on them?

What is the symbolism of Jesus writing in the ground?

Jesus and the Light of the World

What symbolism is found when Jesus says, “I am the light of the world...” as it pertains to the Feast of Tabernacles and other Old Testament themes?

True Disciples of Jesus

Does being a descendant of Abraham guarantee the blessing of divine sonship in the New Covenant? How is this point illustrated with the example of Ishmael and Isaac? How does imitating Abrahams faith contrast with the response of the Jewish authorities to Jesus' message?

Jesus and Abraham

The Jewish authorities claim to be sons of Abraham, Jesus on the other hand claims that they neither sons of Abraham or God, but are sons of who?

How does the story of Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac foreshadow the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross?

What covenant promise made to Abraham was fulfilled in Jesus?

What is the significance of the statement by Jesus, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."

Chapter 9

Healing of the Blind Man

How does the Church view the use of common things by Jesus to serve a holy purpose?

How does the healing of the blind man by washing, anointing and enlightening foreshadow the sacrament of Baptism?

What is the meaning of the phrase “put out of the synagogue”

Chapter 10

Jesus the Good Shepherd

How does the Church interpret the passage, “And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.”? How does this relate to faith, worship and leadership?

Jesus is Rejected by the Jews

What is the feast of the Dedication?

What is Jesus claiming when He says, “I and the Father are one.”?

What is the meaning that Jesus is conveying when He cites Psalm 82:6 “I said you are gods”?

Chapter 11

The Plot to Put Jesus to Death

What is the Sanhedrin? And why is the raising of Lazarus insulting to the Sadducees?

How is the statement “and the Romans will come and destroy both our holy place and our nation” ironic?

What is the meaning of the statement of Caiaphas
“that one man should die for the people, and that
the whole nation should not perish”?