

The Importance and Priority of Preaching/Communicating the Gospel John 7:14-44 (Part 1)

Introduction

1. The importance of the Word (7:14-24)
 1. Jesus the teacher: Background (7:14-15)
 1. When did this happen? (7:14)
 2. Who gathered there?
 3. Where did these events take place?
 4. What were the circumstances around Jesus' visit? (7:8,10,14)
 2. Jesus recognized as a great teacher (7:15)
 1. Jesus was uniquely learned in the Scriptures (7:15a; Lk.2:46-47; Mk.1:21-22)
 2. Jesus was uniquely learned apart from formal training
3. The origin of His teaching (7:16; 8:26,40; 12:49-50; 14:24b; 17:8a)
4. The authenticity of His teaching: Test 1 (7:17)
 1. Judging the truthfulness of Jesus' words is not principally, an intellectual matter (Jn.8:43-44)
 2. The authenticity of Jesus' words is realized through transformed minds (1Cor.1:18,24; Matt.16:16-17)
 3. God revealing Himself to us in the Gospel that we have the "will to do God's will" (ESV) (7:17)
5. The authenticity of His teaching: Test 2 (7:18)
 1. The Jewish leadership (7:18, 31-32; 11:47-48,53)
 2. Jesus (Jn.7:18; 17:4; Lk.22:42)
 1. Jesus was always seeking the honour of the Father
 2. The ministry of the Jewish leadership was a testimony not to truth but to preservation of privilege
6. Applying truth to tradition (7:19-24)
 1. The issue (Jn.5:1-15)
 1. Jesus had healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (Jn.5:1-15)
 2. Jesus had healed the man on a Sabbath (Jn.5:1-15; 7:21)
 3. The Jewish response (Jn.5:10-11,16)

1. Violating the Sabbath (5:10-11)

2. The result (Jn.5:16)

2. Jesus' response

1. Moses gave you the law (Jn.7:19)

2. Moses gave you circumcision (7:22)

3. The legal requirement for a new born son (Lev.12:3)

4. Circumcision will take place on the Sabbath, in some instances (7:23)

5. Question?

6. Conclusion

2. The priority of the Word in ministry (7:14,16,17,26,28,37)

1. Note the emphasis that Jesus placed on teaching (7:14-44)

2. Note how Jesus looked for opportunities to maximize the impact of His teaching

3. Note how Jesus used the opportunity of the feast to teach that He was the fulfillment of the feast (7:37-38; Jn.4:10)

4. Note that Jesus taught irrespective of the consequences (7:1,20,30,32,44)

5. Note why Jesus taught (7:16,18,28,29,33)

6. Note Jesus' burden to communicate the message (7:26,28,37)

3. Application

1. Christian music does not take priority over the Word

2. The sacraments are not to take priority over the Word

3. "Seeker friendly" philosophies do not take priority over the Word

4. To pander to human techniques; business practices and the latest human philosophy for church growth or practice; is a violation of the Word

5. To remove the miraculous from the Word in order to make the Word more acceptable to the modern ear, is blasphemous

6. To put social concern or tradition before the verbal communication of the gospel is to undermine the importance of the Gospel

7. Lastly, Jn.17:8,6,20; Matt.28:19-20)