



DECEMBER 17, 2017

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The Claims of Christ

John 7:14-24

I. The Teaching of Christ was Not Like Any Other Man (vv. 14-16)

- A. Jesus taught at the _____ (v. 14)
- B. Jesus never studied in any formal _____ (v. 15)
- C. Jesus' teaching was not His _____ (v. 16)

II. The Knowledge God Longs to Give Comes Through Obedience (v. 17)

- A. Jesus _____ Himself to those who keep His commandments (Jn. 14:21)
- B. The Holy Spirit affirms us as we _____ (Rom. 8:12-16)
- C. God's Word promises that if we _____ Him, we will find Him (Deut. 4:29; 1 Chr. 28:9; Psa. 119:2; Jer. 29:13; Jms. 4:8; Lk. 15:20; Matt. 7:7)

III. The Self-Exaltation of Any Speaker Opposes the Humility of Christ (v. 18)

- A. False teachers seek their own _____ (Isa. 56:11; Ezek. 34:2-3; Rom. 16:18; Phil. 3:19; 1 Tim. 6:5; Titus 1:11; 2 Pet. 2:3)
- B. Jesus never sought His own _____ (Jn. 5:41; 8:50; Matt. 20:28; Matt. 11:29; 2 Cor. 10:1; Phil. 2:6-8; Lk. 9:58; Jn. 13:4-5)

IV. The Laws of Men Never Never Outshine the Laws of God (vv. 19-24)

TAKE HOME

- How does the _____ of Christ's teaching encourage you today?
- Are you _____ more so that you can see more of God?
- Do you realize that whenever you are _____ yourself you are acting in a way similar to a false teacher?

STUDY QUESTIONS

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a Small Group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please call the church office at (661) 259-2913.

1. Read John 7:14-16. Why did the Jews marvel at Jesus’ teaching? What was different about the teaching of Christ? (Matt. 7:28-29; 13:54; Mk. 1:22; Jn. 7:45-46)

2. How was Jesus different in His teaching from Old Testament prophets? (Jn. 5:24; 6:32; 8:51; Matt. 5:21-22; 38-39; 43-44)

3. Why did Jesus say His teaching was not His own? What does this mean? Who did Jesus’ teaching belong to? Why is this significant? (Jn. 4:34; 5:30; 6:38; 7:28-29, 33)

4. Read John 7:17. Who does Jesus reveal Himself to? How does John 14:21 say this same thing?

5. Read Romans 8:12-16. How does this passage teach that the Holy Spirit affirms that those who walk in the Spirit are indeed the children of God?

6. Where does God’s Word say that if we seek Him we will find Him? How does this affirm what is being said here in John 7:17? (Deut. 4:29; 1 Chr. 28:9; Psa. 119:2; Jer. 29:13; Jms. 4:8; Lk. 15:20; Matt. 7:7)

7. Read John 7:18. What do false teachers seek? List some characteristics of false teachers. (Isa. 56:11; Ezek. 34:2-3; Rom. 16:18; Phil. 3:19; 1 Tim. 6:5; Titus 1:11; 2 Pet. 2:3) What does Jesus seek according to v. 18?

8. Read the take home questions. Which one challenges you or encourages you the most? Why? How will you live differently this week in light of this passage?

“God will not grant light on His Word unless we are truly anxious to walk according to that light. If the motive of the investigator be pure, then he will obtain an assurance that the teaching of Scripture is ‘of God’ that will be far more convincing and conclusive than a hundred logical arguments.”

- A.W. Pink, *Exposition of the Gospel of John*