

Living Godly in the Family of God

Volume Two
John 5-8

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Acknowledgment

My wife, Beverly Allen, has devoted herself to ChristAssembly.org. Most days her body gives her trouble, but she spends time helping ChristAssembly.org. She brings her doctoral training in biochemistry and molecular biology to her work and greatly improves the quality of ChristAssembly.org. She has spent many hours creating graphics, reviewing articles and books, and providing careful proof reading, even when she does not feel her best.

We have been married more than forty years and Jesus used her life to make my life so much better in so many ways. Her constant love and support improve my life daily. She also provides honest feedback and careful analysis. I love my wife and want everyone to know that she spends her time serving Jesus behind the scenes at ChristAssembly.org.

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1

Learning about Godliness and Healing Today

Because God is love, Jesus as God had compassion upon the world. He expressed that compassion to many individuals and groups. At the pool called Bethesda, Jesus had compassion upon a paralytic man who had waited by the water for healing. He had been laying on his pallet (Pallet Man) and waiting for thirty-eight years. Jesus asked him, “Are you willing to get well?” Pallet Man missed the healing because someone else always got into the water before him. He did not understand that Jesus was God and could instantly heal him where he lay. Jesus commanded Pallet Man: “Get up, pick up your pallet and walk.” If Pallet Man was willing to follow that simple command, his life would be changed instantly. Pallet Man obeyed Jesus and walked for the first time in thirty-eight years. He picked up his pallet and walked. That healing changed Pallet Man’s life immediately. Jesus healed him on the Sabbath.

Jesus deliberately healed Pallet Man in front of crowds of people in Jerusalem. The Jews thought that Jesus broke the Law of Moses by healing Pallet Man on the Sabbath and ordering Pallet Man to carry his pallet. Jesus then explained to them that His Father was working until now, and so Jesus was working.

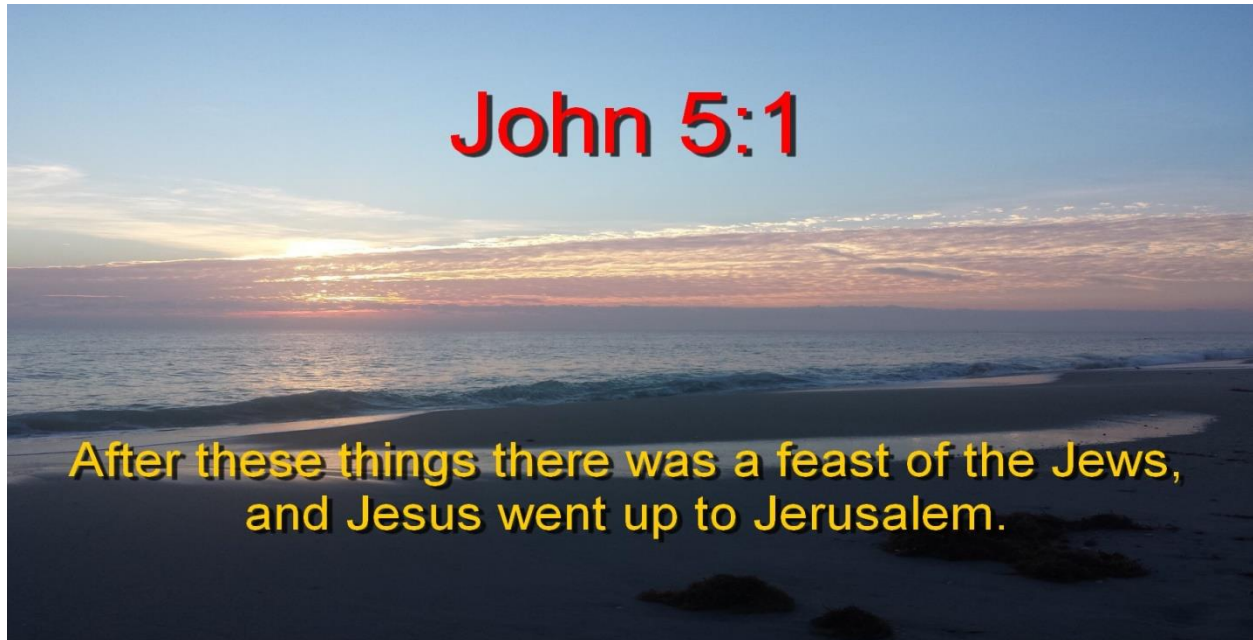
The Jews were seeking to kill Jesus because He was not only breaking the Sabbath, but He also made Himself equal to God by calling Himself the Son of God. Jesus then replied that He did only what He sees His Father doing. The Father loves the Son and shows the Son all things. Jesus promised that the Jews would see even greater works than the healing of Pallet Man and would marvel.

Jesus also warned the Jews that everyone who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father. Jesus opposed their charge of blasphemy and

proved that He was God in the flesh. He also elaborated upon salvation, judgment and resurrection. Jesus worked specific works of powers to illustrate great spiritual truths. Pallet Man would be associated with those doctrines forever.

Day One Hundred Sixty Seven

Feast of the Jews Today



Why did Jesus return to Jerusalem for the feast of the Jews? Under the Law of Moses the Jews were required to go to Jerusalem three times per year for different feasts. Jesus fulfilled the Law for us and did not break the Law.

Jesus left Jerusalem previously with great opposition forming against Him. He cleansed the temple and spoke out against the religious leaders. The zeal for the house of God consumed Jesus. The religious leaders demanded a sign from Him for His actions in cleansing the temple. Jesus gave them the sign of destroy this temple and in three days He would raise it up.

Many people believed in Jesus as He performed signs in Jerusalem. Yet, Jesus did not entrust Himself to them, for He knew all men and He knew what was in man.

Jerusalem

1. **Feast.** Jesus had moved out of Judea, but the Law required all Jews to assemble in Jerusalem (in Judea) for three feasts each year: the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of First Fruits, and the Feast of Harvest.

2. **Fulfill.** Jesus stated that He did not come to abolish the Law, but to fulfill the requirements of the Law.

3. **Knew.** Jesus never feared for His life, because He knew how and when He would lay down His life and take it again.

4. **Chosen.** Jerusalem was the capital of Israel and God's chosen city, where the first and second temple were built.

5. **Died.** Jesus also said that the prophets died in Jerusalem. Just before He died there, Jesus wept over Jerusalem, but those events happen later. You may recall that Jesus had already been to Jerusalem and cleansed the temple.

6. **Glory.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we trust God to lead us from place to place as we do His will, without fear of death. We go to Jerusalem, or anywhere God sends us. We must remember that Jesus died doing God's will. Because He died, we live. Because He rose from the dead, we will be resurrected too. Because He went to glory, we will join Him in glory.

7. **Calls.** We rejoice today because we follow Jesus each day. He calls us by name and we hear His voice. Jesus loves to lead us from place to place.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by following the commandments of God, but not the Law of Moses.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we live in the freedom of Christ having fulfilled the Law, which could never save anyone.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we do not impose burdens upon one another to keep the Law of Moses.**

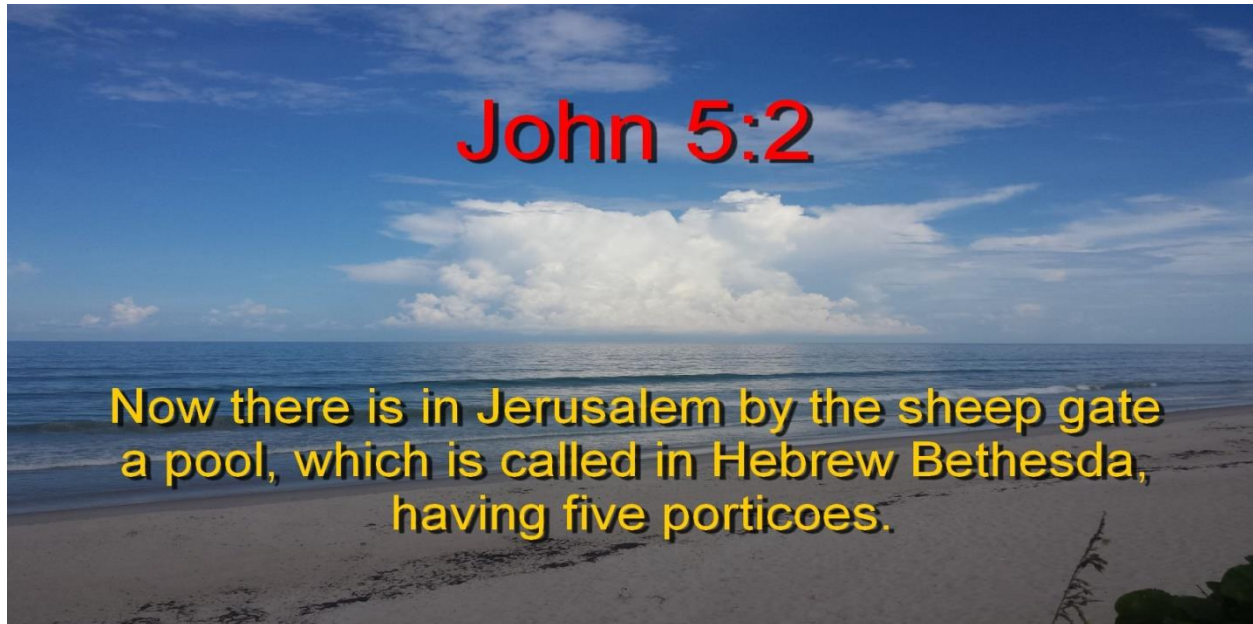
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by living in the freedom of Christ in our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejecting attempts to impose the Law of Moses upon you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Sixty Eight

A Pool Today



What was Bethesda? Bethesda was a pool in Jerusalem. Walls surrounded Jerusalem. The pool of Bethesda had five porticoes (a structure consisting of a roof supported by columns).

During His last visit to Jerusalem, Jesus cleansed the temple and performed signs. Many people believed in Him because of those signs.

The religious leaders sought a sign from Him, because zeal for His Father's house compelled Him to drive out the money changers and the animals offered for sale. Jesus acted emphatically in opposition to established practices of the religious establishment.

Bethesda

1. **Reality.** John wrote about reality and provided specific details about people, places and events.
2. **Bethesda.** John described Bethesda, a pool by the sheep gate with five porticoes.
3. **Details.** Why does John provide such details? God inspired John to produce a perfect document concerning Jesus, the Son of God.
4. **Understand.** The details about the physical world of Bethesda help us understand the miracles of Jesus.
5. **Truth.** In our lives, we rely upon supernatural power and absolute truth to live in our physical world.
6. **Temporal.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we count upon God to help us live in the physical world. Yet, we know what we see is temporal, and the unseen is eternal.
7. **Sent.** We rejoice today because Jesus knows every detail about Bethesda. Jesus comprehends perfectly every language ever spoken. By His grace, we live in Him, and we are sent by Him to share His loving Gospel and make disciples.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by appreciating the details He provided in the Bible.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that the details provide deeper insight into the words and works of Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we see the world where Jesus walked by the pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem.**

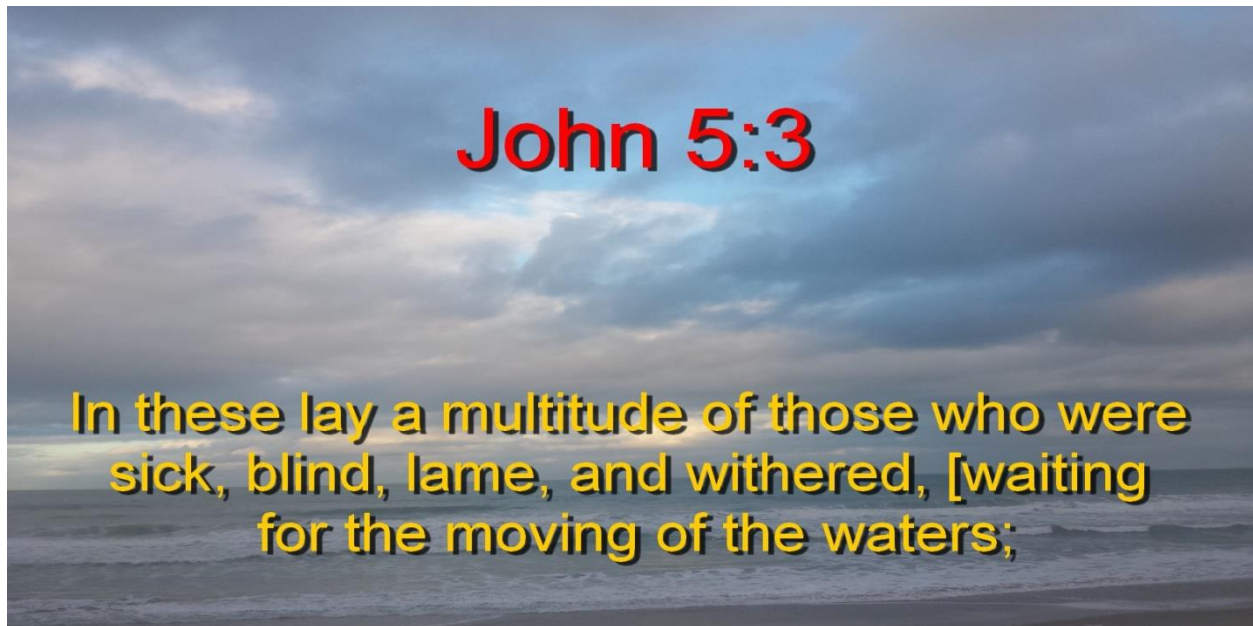
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we see Jesus walking among men, with the detailed description of His environment. Will you live Godly in the family of God today as you see the details in the Bible that help us understand Jesus better and love Him more?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Sixty Nine

A Multitude Today



Do we have the original autograph John produced as the Gospel of John? The English Bibles we read are translations of ancient manuscripts. We only have copies of the original autographs written by Moses, David, John, and many other writers in the Bible.

Some people study the Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek manuscripts to understand the differences between various copies of certain books of the Bible. They also study translations into other languages and the ancient writings of people commenting on the Bible.

In the story of Bethesda in John 5, the best manuscripts of the Gospel of John do not contain the words about the angel stirring the waters. The story may be true, but we have reason to doubt that John included the material in John 3:5b (the b means the last half the verse in this case) and John 5:4. The New American Standard Bible indicates that material was probably not original by enclosing that material in brackets [words].

Sick, Blind, Lame and Withered

1. **Truth.** We noted that John provided historical details regarding the spiritual truth God revealed to him.

2. **Multitude.** Now we see John link the five porticoes to a multitude of people with various physical problems. They were sick, blind, lame, and withered.

3. **Greek.** All common English translations of the New Testament rely upon Greek manuscripts. The autographs of John, who wrote in Greek, have not been found.

4. **Copies.** We have many copies of all or parts of the New Testament. They originated in different places. Studies of those manuscripts have shown some manuscripts have added material. John 5:3b-4 contains such extra material. The editors of the New American Standard Bible use brackets [] to identify extra material.

5. **Picture.** John has now provided a clear picture of the multitude gathered by the pool--waiting for healing.

6. **Waiting.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we will encounter needy people waiting for healing. As we look upon them, we can remember the multitude at Bethesda.

7. **Release.** We rejoice today because Jesus came to proclaim release to captives, recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to announce the favorable year of the Lord. Jesus also came to preach the Gospel to the poor. Having accomplished all the work given to Him by God the Father, Jesus sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by appreciating the love of Jesus for the sick, blind, lame and withered people.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God we love the people that Jesus loved like Jesus loved them.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we love one another with the love that Jesus had for us, with all our infirmities.**

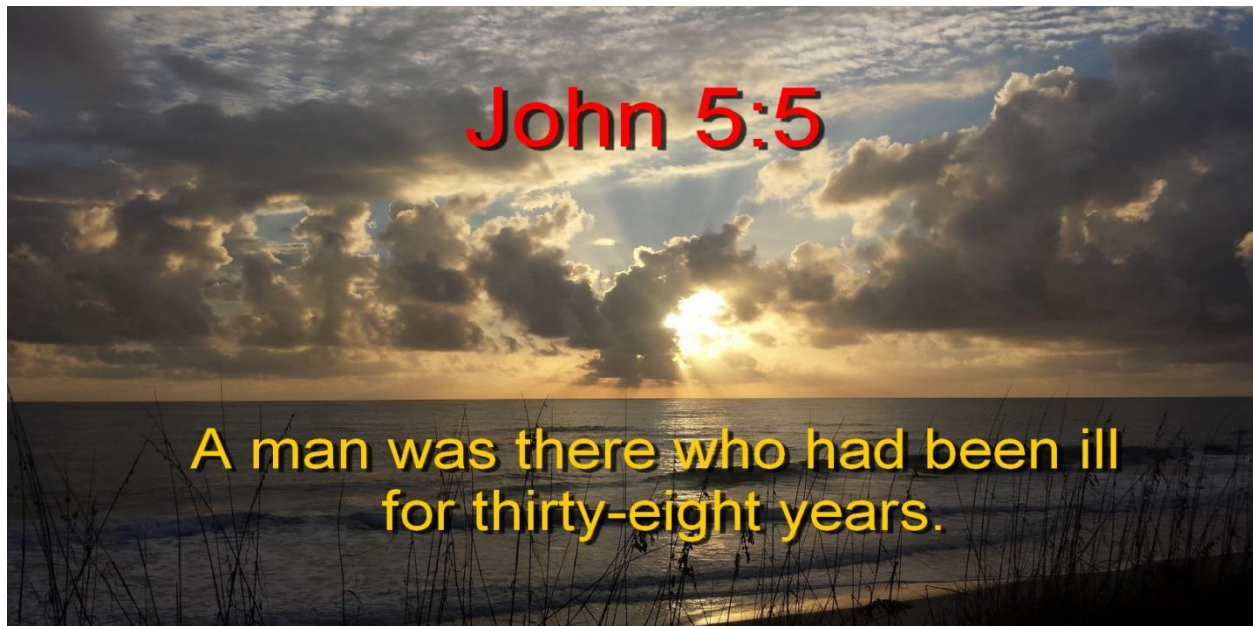
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we display the love of Jesus for the sick, blind, lame, and withered around us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by spending time with the sick, blind, lame and withered?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Seventy

Thirty Eight Years Today



Why was a man laying by the pool of Bethesda? He had been ill thirty-eight years and sought healing. People came to Bethesda seeking healing.

Sometimes people remain ill for many years. Their chronic illness causes problems for them every day. In this case, the man sought healing.

Jesus healed many people. He had infinite power to make the lame walk, the blind see, the deaf hear, and the mute speak. He also had all power over demons and cast many of them out of people. Wherever Jesus went, things got better when He was there.

III

1. **A Man.** Among the multitude of the sick lay a man who had been ill for thirty-eight years.

2. **Illness.** At times in our lives, illness can linger for years, even decades. We may grow discouraged and want to give up.

3. **Hoping.** This man was waiting thirty-eight years for healing, but he was still hoping for healing, lying near the pool.

4. **Compassion.** Jesus never promised He would heal every physical illness, but He always has compassion upon His children.

5. **Display.** In the Gospel of John, Jesus works miracles to display His glory and build faith in Him as Savior.

6. **Trust.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we wait patiently and trust Jesus to do His will in our lives each day, no matter how we feel physically each day.

7. **Special.** We rejoice today because the mercies of God are new each day. Whether we feel ill or healthy, Jesus has a way each day to use our lives to His glory. Sick people bear special testimony for Jesus as they endure illness, but never losing their hope in Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus healed a man who had been ill for thirty eight years.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we know that God does not heal every illness and sometimes He heals after years of illness.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to care for us when we are ill, even if He does not heal us immediately.**

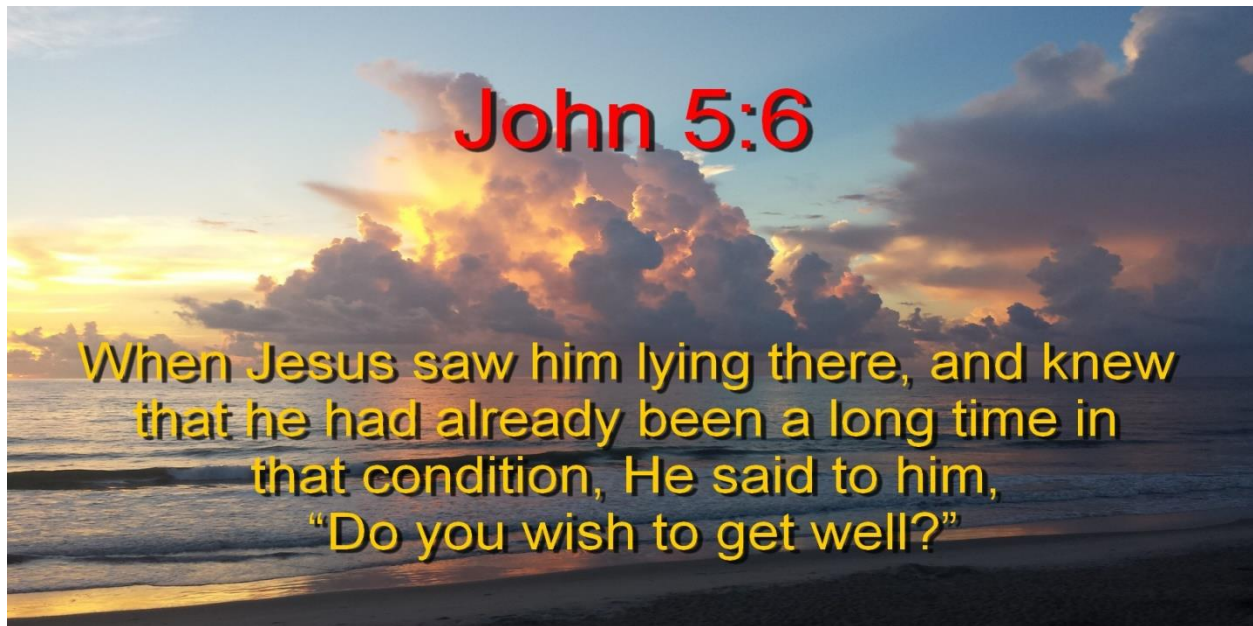
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus cares for us always, even if He does not heal us immediately. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to take care of you today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Seventy One

Do You Wish To Get Well Today



Why do people make excuses? In some cases, people make excuses for not hearing Jesus. Jesus asked a simple question: "Are you willing to get well?" Instead of a yes or no answer, the man started to make excuses why he was not healed. He described how he could not get into the water before others and so was not healed. He did not listen to the question.

At times our own failure to know Jesus is talking with us leads us to big problems. When Jesus asks you, "Are you willing to get well?", we should answer that question and not make excuses or explanations.

Jesus loved people deeply. He has unlimited patience, although He uses it according to the plan of God. Because Jesus has patience, He helps us understand His questions. He will heal this man even if the man does not immediately comprehend that Jesus has all power to perform healings immediately.

Jesus Knew

1. **Waiting.** The man had been waiting for healing for thirty-eight years. Jesus saw him lying there, among a multitude of sick people.

2. **Condition.** Jesus knew the man had been lying in that condition for a long time. As God, Jesus knew all things about the man.

3. **Obvious.** Jesus knows all about the man, but still asks the man a question. Why would Jesus ask such an obvious question?

4. **Attention.** "Are you willing to get well?" Jesus asked a very precise, yes or no, question. Jesus asked the question to focus attention upon the man reaching out for help with his condition. Many people in the multitude apparently heard the question. That question remains true today.

5. **Healing.** Jesus has now focused upon the physical condition of the man and started the man thinking about healing. We will see how Jesus keeps the focus upon healing the man by the power of God flowing from Jesus to the man. Jesus and that man in the multitude will become the center of attention.

6. **Individuals.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus always sees the multitudes, but has great concern for individuals. He knows your name and your history. Even so, He loves you.

7. **Listening.** We rejoice today because Jesus spends individual time ministering to our needs today. "What do you want Jesus to do for you today?" We often think about what we can do to serve Him, but we should also hear Him asking us about what we want. We can learn much from reading our Bibles and listening to Jesus today.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening carefully to the questions that Jesus asks us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we answer the questions Jesus asks us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we encourage others to listen to Jesus and not make excuses.**

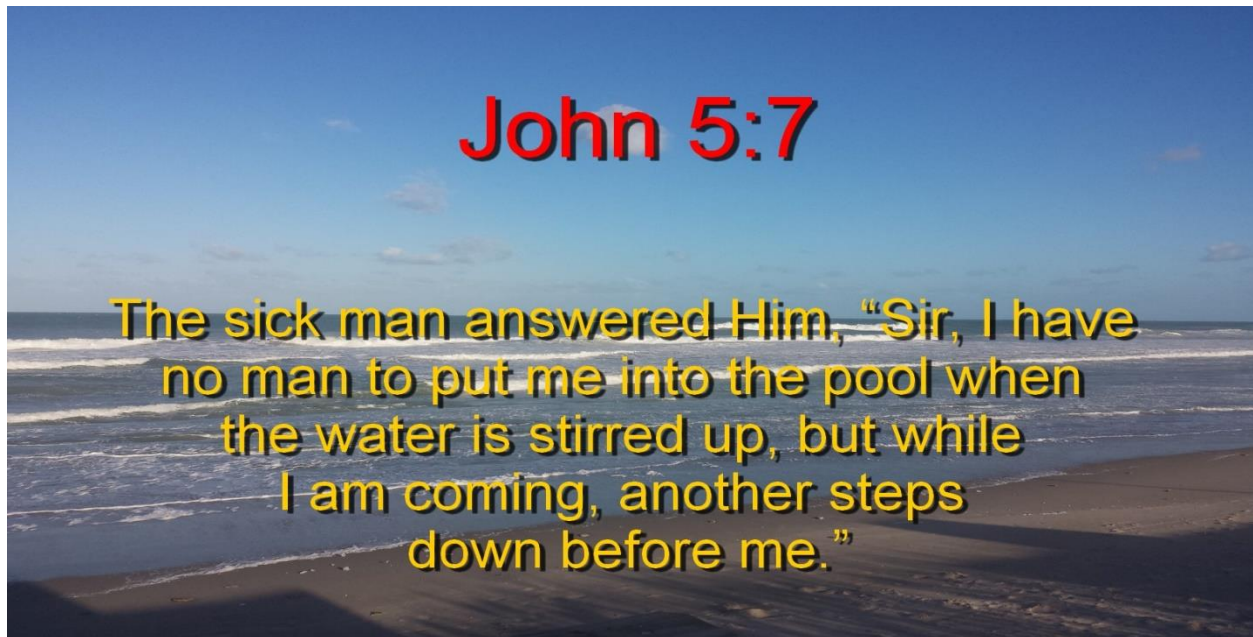
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus and answering His questions. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by listening to Jesus and not make excuses?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Seventy Two

I Have No Man Today



What did Jesus ask the lame man? Jesus asked him if he wanted to get well. In reply the lame man told Jesus his story. The lame man called Jesus "Lord." He used a term of respect.

The lame man further explained that he had no man to help him. He was lame so he needed help for someone else to get into the water. While he was trying to get into the water, someone else stepped in before him.

The lame man ignored the yes or no question from Jesus. So often in our lives, we ignore what Jesus says to us and we make all kinds of excuses and let Jesus know why still have problems.

Jesus, as always, was very patient. He let the man finish all the reasons he could not be healed. Jesus came to heal that man, but the lame man did not recognize Jesus as Messiah. He was going to learn more about Jesus.

Before Me

1. **Disappointments.** Jesus asked the sick man a simple, yes or no, question: "Do you wish to get well?" The sick man did not give a yes or no answer. Instead, he revealed his mind about healing and his great disappointments from the past.

2. **Others.** The sick man had his own ideas about healing and apparently watched others healed before him because they entered the water first. Imagine his great frustration year by year, because they all were healed "before me."

3. **Before Me.** "Before me" thinking can bring many spiritual problems into our lives. We can be envious, bitter, frustrated, despondent, depressed, and lose heart. Thirty-eight years means many people were healed "before me."

4. **Desire.** Back to Jesus for a moment. He only asked about the man's willingness to be healed. The man thought the only way to be healed was to get in the water first. He had no idea that Jesus could heal him where he lay in an instant, with just a command.

5. **Beyond.** So often in our lives we ignore what Jesus asks of us because we suffer from "before me" thinking that hinders us from listening to Jesus. Jesus promised to do far beyond all we ask or think, according to the power working within us.

6. **Power.** Living Godly in the family of God means we stop "before me" thinking and start listening to Jesus who will help us with our needs, according to His divine power, poured out within us in love.

7. **Testify.** We rejoice today because the love of Jesus means He seeks to free us from "before me" thinking. We learn to live by faith in His loving displays of power in our lives so that we testify of His greatness.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus with both ears.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we avoid “before me” thinking and acting.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we enjoy the power of Jesus to solve problems in ways we never dreamed possible.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we avoid “before me” thinking. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to bring great solutions beyond our thoughts?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Seventy Three

Get Up Today



Why call the lame man at Bethesda Pallet Man? I call this man "Pallet Man" because the pallet played such a big role in the healing of the lame man. Jesus commanded Pallet Man to get up, pick up your pallet and walk. Three related commands changed Pallet Man's life forever.

I read this story of Pallet Man at the beach one day with a man. He stopped and said he was Pallet Man. He had a terrible accident that broke his neck. He could still walk after long rehab, but had terrible pain for ten years. He met a neurosurgeon who operated upon him and set him free from the pain he had suffered daily for more than ten years. He was so happy that God used a surgeon to deliver him from daily pain.

Pallet Man reminds all of us to listen to Jesus and obey Jesus. Jesus did not heal everyone, but He gave eternal life to everyone who believed in Him for salvation as a free gift. Healing physical bodies cannot compare to the supreme gift of eternal life.

Get up!

1. **Problems.** We observed "before me" thinking and the problems with such thinking.

2. **Commands.** In part, Jesus worked miracles recorded in the Bible for our benefit today. Jesus looks right through our thoughts and attitudes and commands our actions. He never commands us to do impossible things, although they may be impossible without Him.

3. **Instantly.** "Get up!" The man suffered for thirty-eight years and then Jesus healed him instantly. Jesus demonstrated His divine power for all to see. After thirty-eight years, many people must have known this man.

4. **Suddenly.** "Pick up your pallet and walk." Normally, muscles lose their strength when not used. Here, Jesus commands the man to pick up his pallet. Not only does this man suddenly have strength to walk, he has enough strength and balance to walk and carry the pallet as well.

5. **Demonstrated.** Jesus did not just heal the man; Jesus demonstrated His unlimited knowledge, His great compassion, His divine love, and His absolute power. By His works, He showed everyone that He was God in the flesh, the unique Son of God.

6. **Expect.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect Jesus to help us and build our faith in His powerful love.

7. **Actions.** We rejoice today because Jesus works in our lives, even when we have lost hope and never even imagine all the things Jesus can do today to help us. Jesus loves us, and His words and actions testify to His love for us each day.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by obeying the commands of Jesus promptly.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we thrive upon the daily power of Jesus Christ in our lives.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise God for His marvelous works in the lives of our friends.**

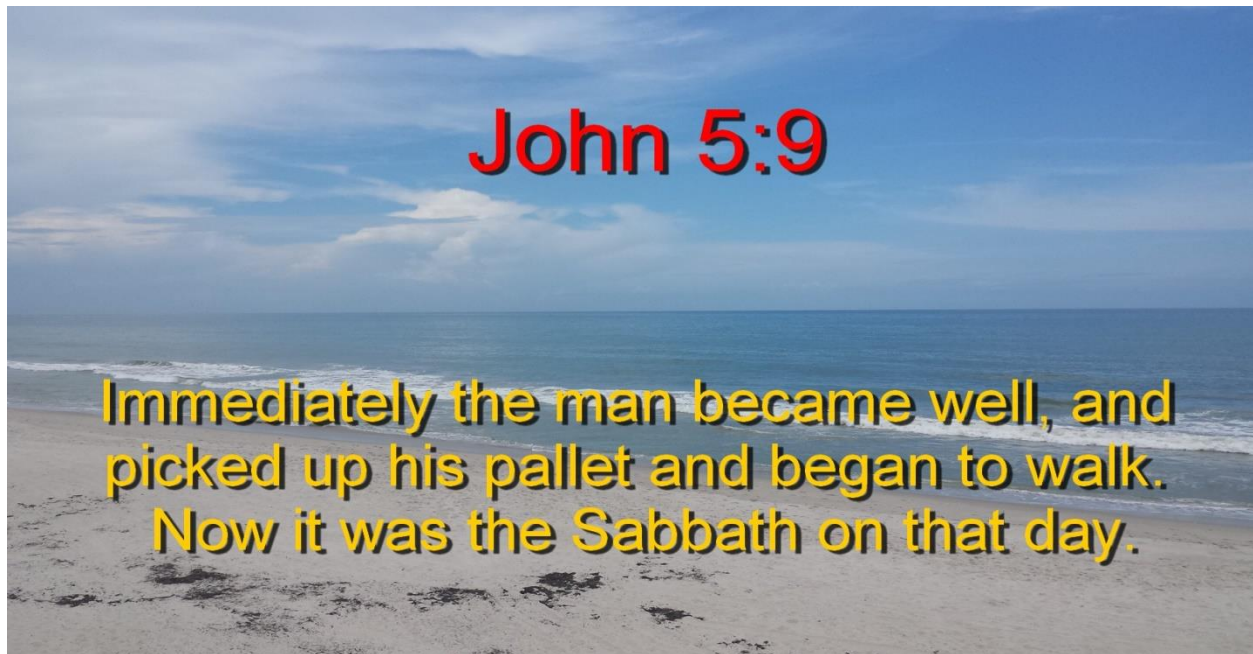
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by thriving upon the power of Jesus Christ in our lives each day. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by feeling His power at work in your life today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Seventy Four

Became Well Today



When did Jesus heal Pallet Man? Jesus healed Pallet Man immediately. As soon as Pallet Man finished his explanation why he could not be healed, Jesus healed him instantly. Pallet Man became well, picked up his pallet, and began to walk.

Pallet Man had not walked in thirty-eight years. The miracle of Jesus changing the muscles, ligaments, tendons and everything involved in walking was instantaneous and marvelous.

Pallet Man obeyed the commands of Jesus immediately and precisely. Jesus healed the man on the Sabbath day, the day of rest. We will see that Jesus did the works of His Father on the Sabbath day, just as the Father did works on the Sabbath day. Some people were about to get very angry that Jesus healed Pallet Man on the Sabbath. Those angry people did not know God.

Immediately Well

1. **Commands.** Jesus commanded the man to get up, pick up his pallet, and walk. Notice the three specific commands.

2. **Speaking.** Speaking the words manifested the divine power at work healing the man. The healing was immediate. You may recall that God spoke and the world came into existence.

3. **Well.** The man became well. This term for "well" plays an important part in this story. Jesus had completely healed the man, just as He completely healed others. The walking man proved the power and love of God.

4. **Obedied.** Notice the man obeyed Jesus on all three commands: he got up, picked up his pallet, and walked.

5. **Sabbath.** Jesus healed the man and issued those specific commands on the Sabbath, a day of rest under the Law of Moses.

6. **Obey.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we obey the specific commands of Jesus immediately and completely. We demonstrate our faith and love for Jesus by obeying Him. The Bible provides many commands of Jesus which we should obey, and so live happier lives.

7. **Burdensome.** We rejoice today because we love Jesus and He loves us. His commands express His perfect will for our lives. If we love Him, He said we should keep His commandments. He also promised that His commands are not burdensome.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by obeying the commands of Jesus immediately.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we believe that following the commands of Jesus will bring great changes into our lives.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in obedience to God and His commands and see our lives grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.**

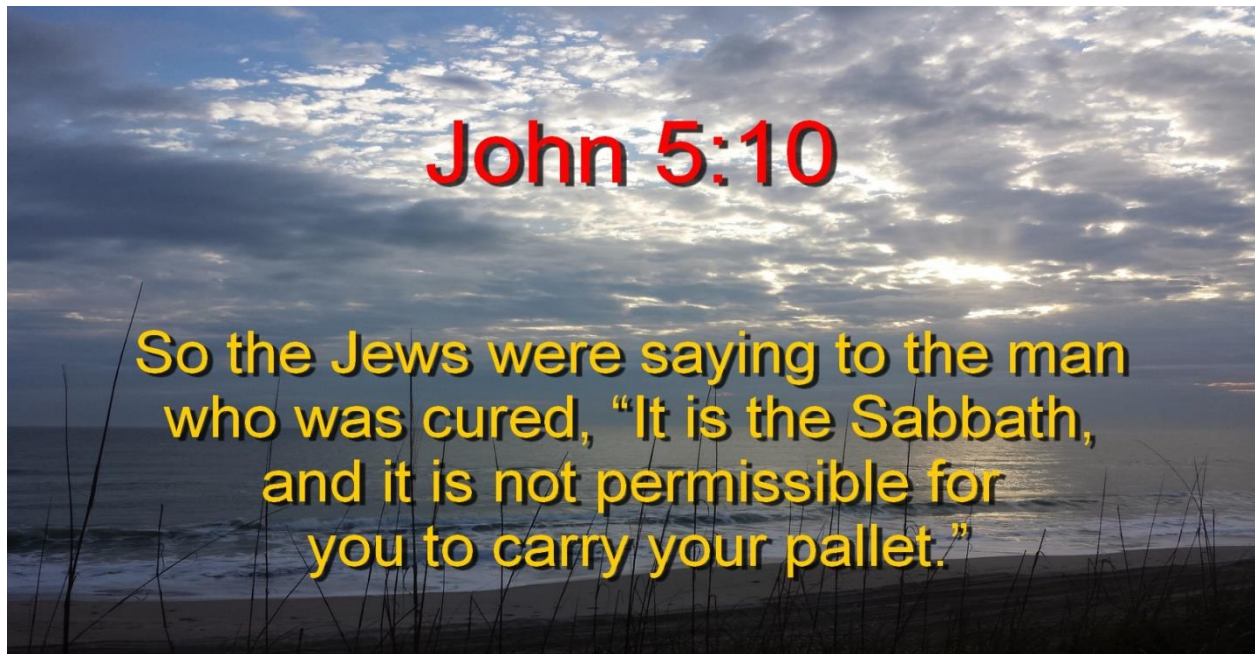
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by obeying the commands of Jesus, even when they conflict with the traditions of men. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by obeying Jesus today, despite what people might think about you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Seventy Five

It Is the Sabbath Today



Why did Jesus often face opposition from the religious leaders of the Jews? They loathed Jesus and also were jealous of the crowds and power of Jesus. Jesus healed Pallet Man and the Jews were angry.

The Jews said to Pallet Man that is not permissible to carry his pallet on the Sabbath. Those Jews thought that the Old Testament Law prohibited carrying a pallet on the Sabbath.

Jesus never broke the Law of Moses and never commanded anyone else to break the Law of Moses. So, when Jesus commanded Pallet Man to pick up his pallet and walk, Jesus did not break the Law of Moses. We will see how man's interpretations of God's Law blinded them to seeing God standing right before them. Jesus was God in the flesh, and they should obey Him, not oppose Him.

Not Permissible

1. **Rejected.** The Jews rejected Jesus as Messiah because they never knew the God of the Old Testament (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit--one God, three divine Persons).
2. **Never Knew.** Because the Jews never knew God, they did not understand the Old Testament and its power. The Old Testament testified about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God. If you knew God the Father, then you would have known Jesus, God the Son.
3. **Interpreted.** The Jews interpreted the Law to prohibit carrying a pallet on the Sabbath. Those Jews did not consider the other circumstances surrounding the healing, or the One doing the healing.
4. **Command.** Remember the specific command of Jesus: "pick up your pallet and walk." As proof of His love, divine identity, and His power to heal, Jesus issued the pallet command.
5. **Misinterpreted.** Jesus never broke the Law, but frequently proved the Jews misinterpreted the Law. Jesus was Lord of the Sabbath and taught that the Sabbath was made for man, and man was not made for the Sabbath.
6. **Help.** Living Godly in the family of God means we must be very careful when we interpret Scripture. We must read the Bible and trust God to help us interpret the Bible. The Holy Spirit helps us interpret the Bible correctly.
7. **Freedom.** We rejoice today because we do not live under the Law. Jesus fulfilled the Law and satisfied the requirements of the Law for us. We live in the freedom of obedience to Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by obeying Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by never letting the traditions of men interfere with our obedience to Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by abandoning all traditions that interfere with our obedience to God.**

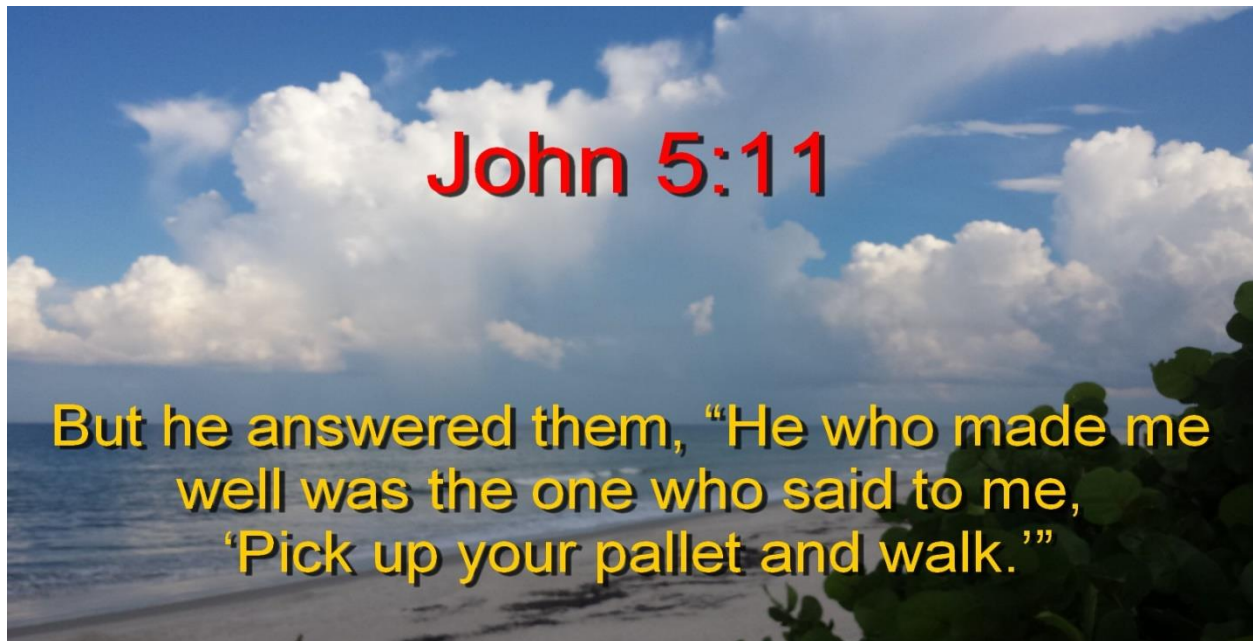
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by obeying Jesus, even when other people will criticize us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today obeying Jesus, even if other people oppose your obedience?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Seventy Six

Made Me Well Today



How did Pallet man answer the Jews who told him he was breaking the Law of Moses by carrying his pallet? Pallet Man gave the best answer: He who made me well commanded me to pick up my pallet and walk.

Pallet Man told the simple truth that Jesus had healed him and commanded him to pick up his pallet and walk. Jesus did not break the Law of Moses and neither did Pallet Man.

Jesus worked miracles and people looked for reasons to attack Jesus. Their interpretations of the Law of Moses left no room for God's activity. Their outward obedience to the Law of Moses did not reflect an inward love for God. In their minds, they did not need the grace or mercy of God, for they considered themselves righteous in their own eyes. They were terribly mistaken and misguided.

He Answered

1. **Attention.** Jesus healed people who became the immediate focus of attention for the religious leaders.

2. **Accusation.** When the religious leaders confronted Pallet Man, he had a simple and profound answer. He quoted Jesus to defend against the accusation of the religious leaders that he had broken the Law of the Sabbath. Not every accusation by religious leaders is true.

3. **Precisely.** We can be like Pallet Man and quote Jesus precisely and timely. Pallet Man quoted Jesus precisely using the very words of Jesus. Pallet Man also quoted Jesus at just the right time--immediately upon hearing the charge.

4. **Obey.** This account illustrates the principle that if we obey the command of Jesus, we do not sin and we do not disobey the Scripture.

5. **Proof.** We may annoy religious leaders by quoting Jesus, but Pallet Man was walking proof of the power of Jesus and the veracity of His words. The religious leaders were never able to heal the man, but Jesus issued the command on the Sabbath and the man picked up his pallet and walked. Standing there, Pallet Man condemned the religious leaders and their false teaching about the Sabbath.

6. **Quote.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we obey Jesus and quote Jesus. We live as proof of the power of God in our lives.

7. **Listen.** We rejoice today because we listen to the voice of Jesus and obey His words. We live as demonstrations of His loving power.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by living as proof of the power of Jesus Christ in our lives.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to help us defend ourselves from claims that following Jesus breaks religious traditions.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by distinguishing human interpretations of the Bible from the Bible itself.**

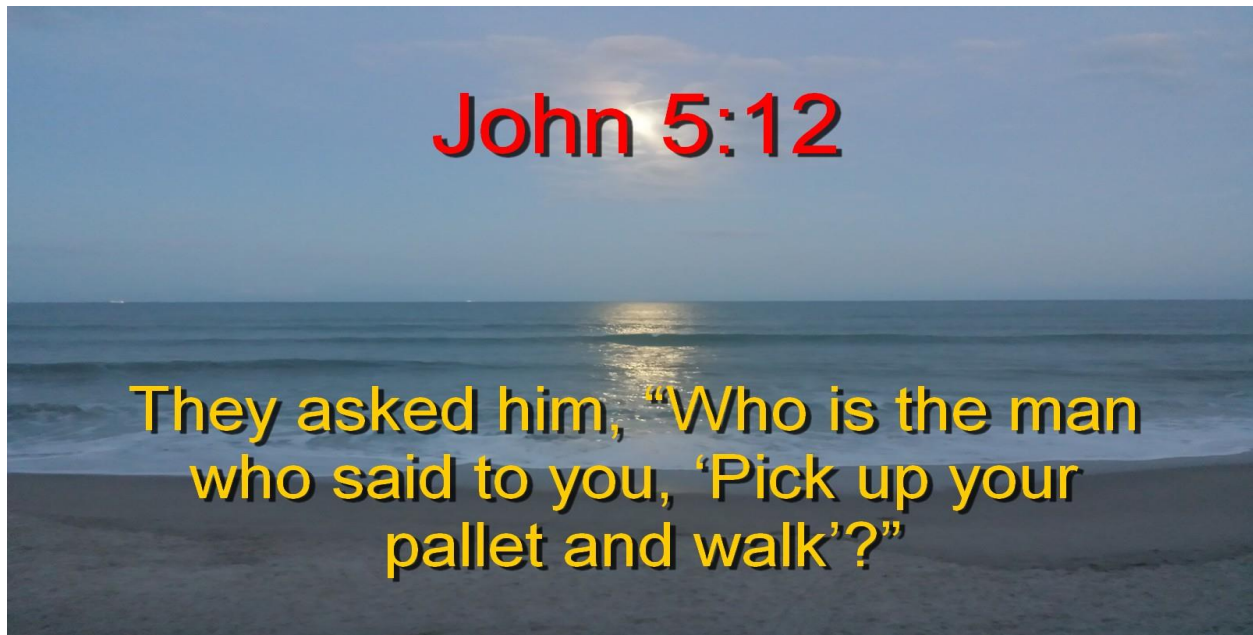
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we ignore the traditions of men when they conflict with the Bible. Will you live Godly in the family of God today quoting Jesus correctly to defend against charges of breaking the laws of God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Seventy Seven

They Asked Him Today



Does Jesus perform miracles in our lives each day? Although Jesus may not do miracles in our lives each day, He certainly displays His divine power in our lives all the time. We have become new creatures who enjoy the indwelling presence of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in our lives each day.

We have joy, peace, hope and all the fruit of the Holy Spirit as we walk with Jesus in the light each day. We have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

When people see us living abnormal lives from their perspective, and they understand the power of God within us, they often oppose the work of Jesus and seek to destroy our testimony for Jesus. As they confront us with false claims of piety, we must turn to Jesus and speak of Him to refute those who charge us with impropriety in following Jesus.

Who Is The Man?

1. **Healed.** Jesus healed Pallet Man and infuriated the religious leaders because Jesus healed on the Sabbath.

2. **Identity.** Notice that the religious leaders asked a question about the identity of the man who healed Pallet Man.

3. **Who?** "Who is the man?" stands as a question for all ages. Everyone who seeks God shall find Him. An honest question will produce honest answers from God.

4. **Not Many.** Jesus obviously did not draw attention to Himself with the healing. Not many people knew that Jesus had performed His miraculous work.

5. **Plan.** Jesus followed a plan. Pallet Man would be walking proof of the power and love of Jesus. Pallet Man would testify how Jesus healed him, and recount His very words.

6. **Proclaim.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we are living proof of the power and love of God and proclaim His very words.

7. **Testify.** We rejoice today because Jesus saved us and sent us to testify of His very words and His loving acts.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by living as proof of the power of God in our lives.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we give all the glory to Jesus for His marvelous power changing our lives each day to be more like Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we testify together to the power of Jesus working in all of us to unify our testimony for Jesus to the world.**

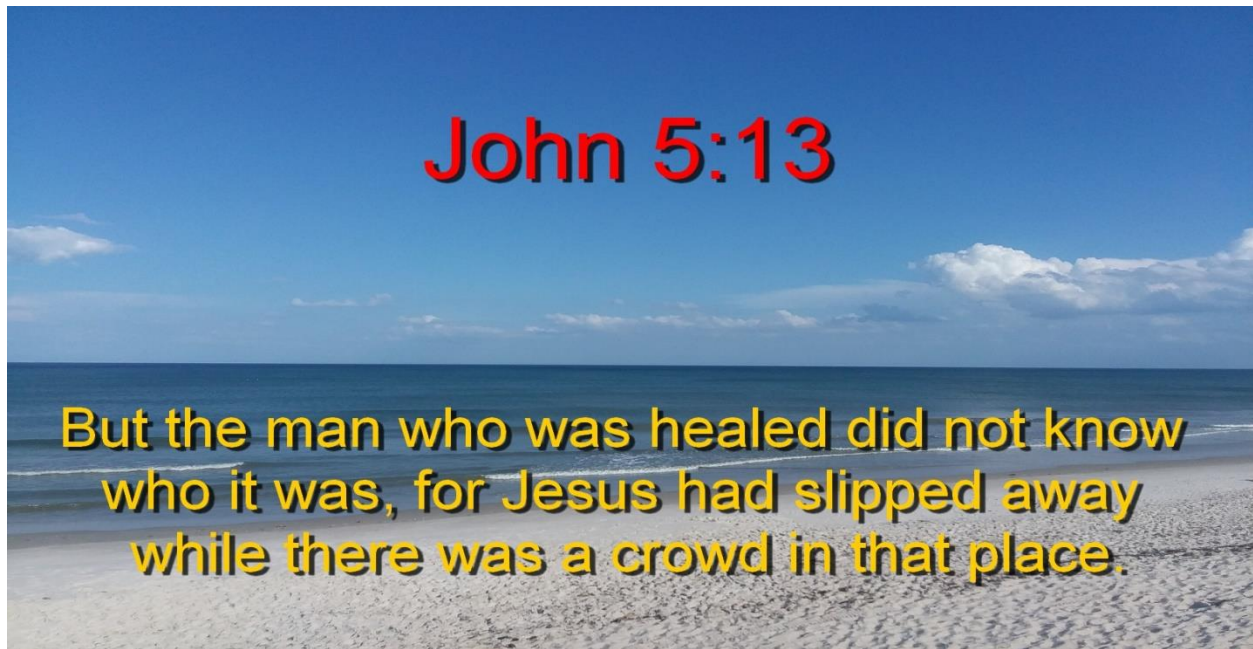
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by displaying the power of Jesus Christ in our lives today. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by giving God glory for His works of power in your life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Seventy Eight

He Did Not Know Today



Can you imagine Jesus healing a man without telling Him His name right away? Jesus did not tell Pallet Man His name right away. He certainly revealed Himself as God to Pallet Man by healing Pallet Man and commanding Him to walk with the authority of God.

Jesus did not need to identify Himself to Pallet Man right away. In this case Jesus slipped away. Surely Jesus knew that commanding Pallet Man to take up his pallet on the Sabbath would spur religious opposition from the religious leaders.

Jesus made the healing well known by healing Pallet Man in front of many people at Bethesda. Large crowds filled the porticoes waiting for healing. Even so, Jesus did not draw attention to Himself, but to His works for God the Father. Pallet Man stood as living proof of the power of God. Jesus slipped quietly away after the healing.

Slipped Away

1. **Prophecy.** Jesus fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that He would not quench a smoldering wick nor cry out and raise His voice.

2. **Walking.** Even Pallet Man did not immediately know who healed him, but he was walking proof of the miracle.

3. **Healed.** Jesus healed Man Born Blind in John 9, and he knew Jesus had healed him. Jesus left after healing him, but later found him.

4. **Hostile.** In Nazareth, His hometown, Jesus preached in their synagogue and they sought to kill Him. Yet, like passing through a grain field, Jesus passed through the hostile crowd. Jesus avoided many hostilities, until His hour came.

5. **Stand.** Jesus performed many miracles and showed that His works proved God the Father sent Him. Yet, Jesus planned for Pallet Man and Man Born Blind to testify about their healings without Him standing beside them. Pallet Man could stand on his own two feet, by the power of Jesus.

6. **Speak.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we speak of the power of His awesome acts and tell of His greatness

7. **Powerful.** We rejoice today because Jesus has not left us alone, but He performs powerful works in our lives which He prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by praising God for His works of power, which does quietly in all our lives.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we recognize the quiet power of God at work in our lives.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we testify to Jesus about His quiet power.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by enjoying the quiet power of the Jesus in our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by telling others of the quiet power of God at work in your life today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Seventy Nine

Found Him Today



John 5:14

Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "Behold, you have become well; do not sin anymore, so that nothing worse happens to you."

Did Pallet Man meet Jesus again? Jesus found him and spoke to him in the temple. He told the man that he became well, but that he should sin no more, so that nothing worse happens to you.

Jesus implied that sin causes some illness. Notice that Jesus did not say that sin causes all illness. At times, some illness may not result from sin of a man or his parents. Some sickness results in the glory of God.

Jesus always healed people for spiritual reasons. Jesus intended for people to know Him as Savior and Messiah. Healing physical bodies was never enough for Jesus. He sought their salvation.

Nothing Worse

1. **Found.** Jesus found Pallet Man. Jesus also found Philip and Man Born Blind. Jesus promised to never leave or forsake His children. Jesus always finds every believer.

2. **Books.** Jesus loves talking to His children. Some people are not very talkative. Jesus left all the books of the Old and New Testaments written by Him and about Him, for our benefit. He loves to talk to us through the Bible.

3. **Exhorts.** In our lives, when religious leaders wrongly attack us, and we feel alone and persecuted, Jesus always talks to us. He comforts us and exhorts us.

4. **Reminded.** Jesus reminded Pallet Man that he had become well. We know that Jesus made him well. Jesus spoke the words and he stood up, took up his pallet and walked, just as Jesus commanded.

5. **Worse.** Jesus also exhorted Pallet Man to sin no more so that nothing worse befalls him. As Man Born Blind will show later in John, not every illness results from sin. But, some illnesses arise from sin, like partaking of the Lord's Supper without proper spiritual preparation.

6. **Comfort.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we always trust Jesus to comfort us and exhort us. We expect some people, including some religious leaders, to attack us when they see the power of Jesus at work in our lives.

7. **Conquerors.** We rejoice in the love of Jesus today because He found us and cares for us forever. He also exhorts us to avoid sin so that we do not suffer bodily sickness resulting from sin. By His power, we are more than conquerors.

Summary for Today

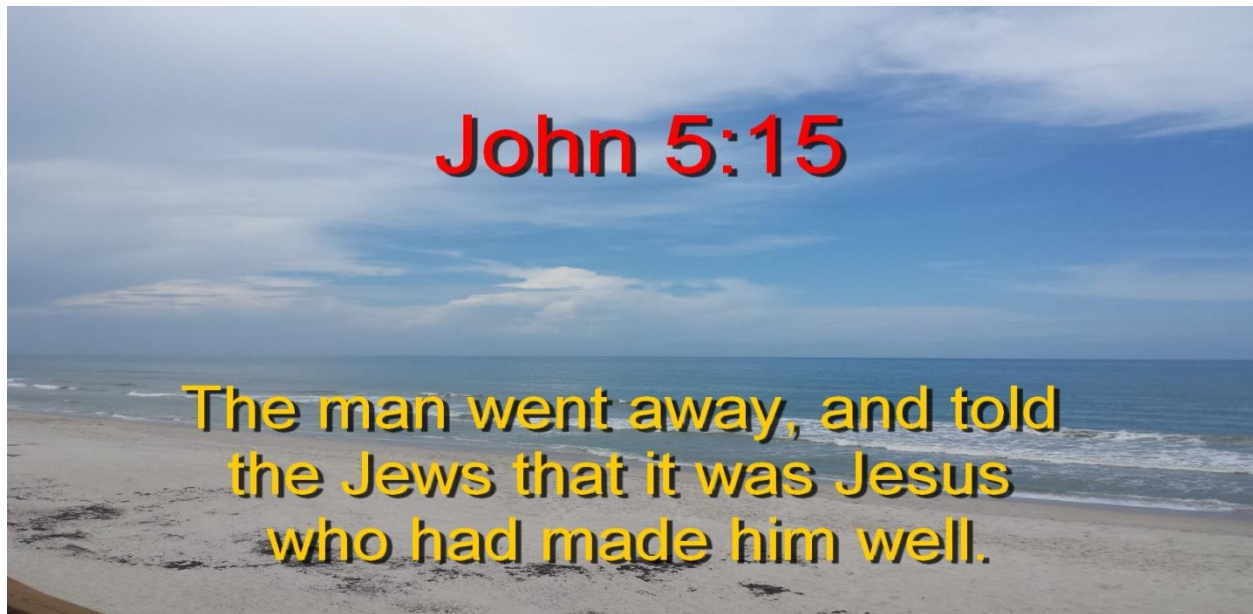
- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus found us and will never leave us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we hear Jesus telling us to sin no more.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by realizing that some illness results from sin, but not all illness results from sin.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we strive to sin no more, so that we may walk closely with Jesus, our Savior. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by striving to sin no more?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Eighty Went Away Today



What did Pallet Man tell the Jews? Pallet Man told the Jews that Jesus had made him well.

Jesus healed Pallet Man on the Sabbath. The Jews objected because they thought the Law of Moses prohibited healing on the Sabbath. Their interpretation of the Law of Moses showed they never knew God. If they had known God the Father, then they would have known God the Son when He appeared.

The Jews were also angry with Jesus because He called God His Father, making Himself equal with God. Jesus was God, and so He was equal with the Father. God the Father sent God the Son into the world to bring salvation to people who would believe in Jesus for salvation.

Pallet Man did not know who had healed him. Jesus left just after healing him. Jesus later found Pallet Man in the temple and identified Himself and warned Pallet Man not to sin anymore, so that nothing worse

would happen to him. So then Pallet Man went and told the Jews Jesus had healed him.

Told the Jews

1. **Man**. At first, Pallet Man did not know Who healed him. When the Jews objected to him carrying his pallet, he told the Jews that He who healed him commanded him to pick up his pallet.

2. **Sin**. After Jesus found Pallet Man in the temple, Jesus identified Himself to Pallet Man. Jesus healed Pallet Man quietly, but He also wanted to warn Pallet Man about sinning more.

3. **Went**. Having learned that it was Jesus, Pallet Man then went away and told the Jews it was Jesus Who healed him.

4. **Well**. Jesus made Pallet Man well. Jesus spoke of the healing of his physical body.

5. **Faith**. Jesus met a blind man and asked him too what he wanted Jesus to do for him. The blind man told Jesus he wanted to see again. Jesus said that his faith made him well, but Jesus used the spiritual word for salvation to describe his healing.

6. **Spiritual**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we understand the difference between physical healing and spiritual healing.

7. **Salvation**. We rejoice today because Jesus promised us spiritual healing in Him for all eternity, a far greater treasure than physical healing only for a time on earth.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by telling people that Jesus made us well.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as proclaiming the great things Jesus has done in our lives.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by encouraging one another to speak up about the power of Jesus Christ at work in our lives.**

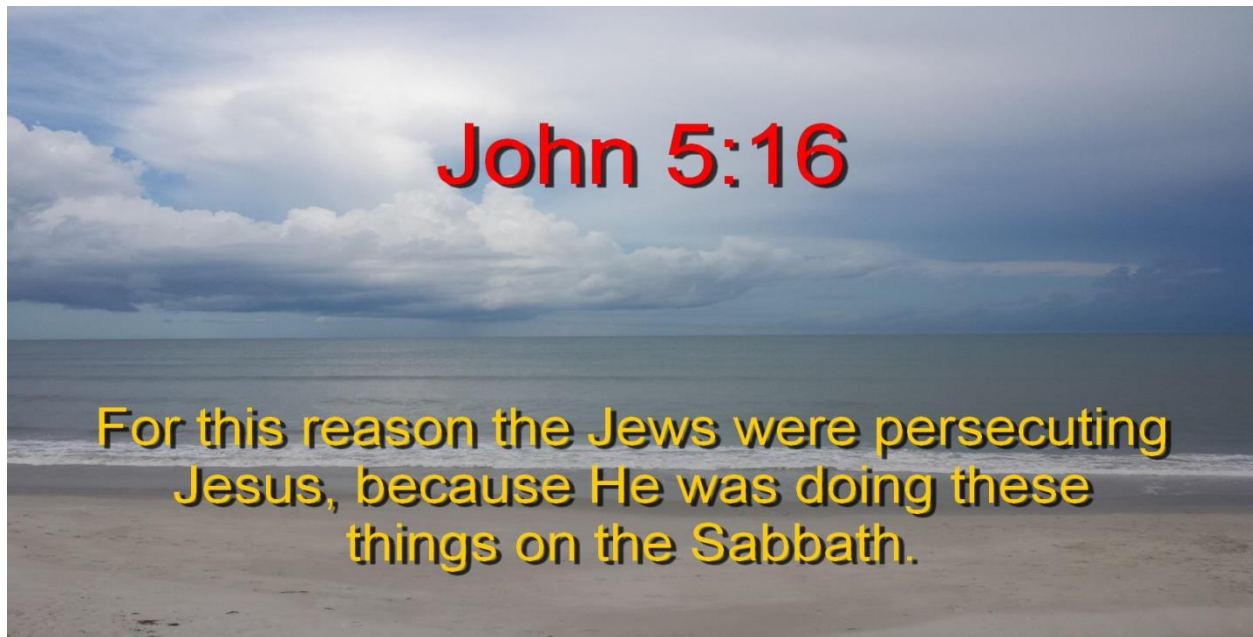
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by telling other people about the spiritual powers of Jesus Christ. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by telling others that Jesus healed you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Eighty One

Persecuting Jesus Today



Why were the Jews persecuting Jesus? They persecuted Him because He healed Pallet Man on the Sabbath and told him to pick up his pallet and walk. The Jews interpreted the Law of Moses to prohibit God doing good works on the Sabbath.

Jesus did not live by the traditions of men. As eternal God, He inspired the Old Testament and gave the Law to Moses. Jesus never broke the Old Testament commands of God.

Jesus healed Pallet Man on the Sabbath because the man had been lame for thirty-eight years. The Jews wanted to pick a fight with Jesus, but Jesus wanted to offer the free gift of eternal life to everyone. Only some people would accept that free gift.

On the Sabbath

1. **Healing**. Jesus healed Pallet Man on the Sabbath. The Law of Moses declared the Sabbath a day of rest for all the people.

2. **Lord**. Jesus declared Himself the Lord of the Sabbath. He taught that the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.

3. **Traditions**. The religious leaders of Israel, the elders, Pharisees, Sadducees, and others held fast to various traditions of men. Rabbis had interpreted the Old Testament and established a wide variety of laws not found in the Bible.

4. **Work**. God rested from His work of creation on the seventh day. So, people expanded upon the idea of the Sabbath so that God never did any work of any kind on the Sabbath. Of course, the Bible never said that God did not do any work on the Sabbath, but that God rested from the work of creation, because He had finished it in six days

5. **Controversies**. The religious leaders began a series of controversies with Jesus about His divine activity on the Sabbath days. They appointed themselves the judges of all behavior, instead of carefully reading the Bible to understand the commands of God in the Bible.

6. **Commands**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we do not make up new commands based upon traditions and then follow them as if God gave them.

7. **Grace**. We rejoice today because does not limit His gracious work to six days a week. He heals people and saves people every day, seven days a week, every day for millennia.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by never confusing man-made traditions with the commandments of God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we avoid religious traditions that lead us away from God's word.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we rejoice in Jesus working among us seven days a week.**

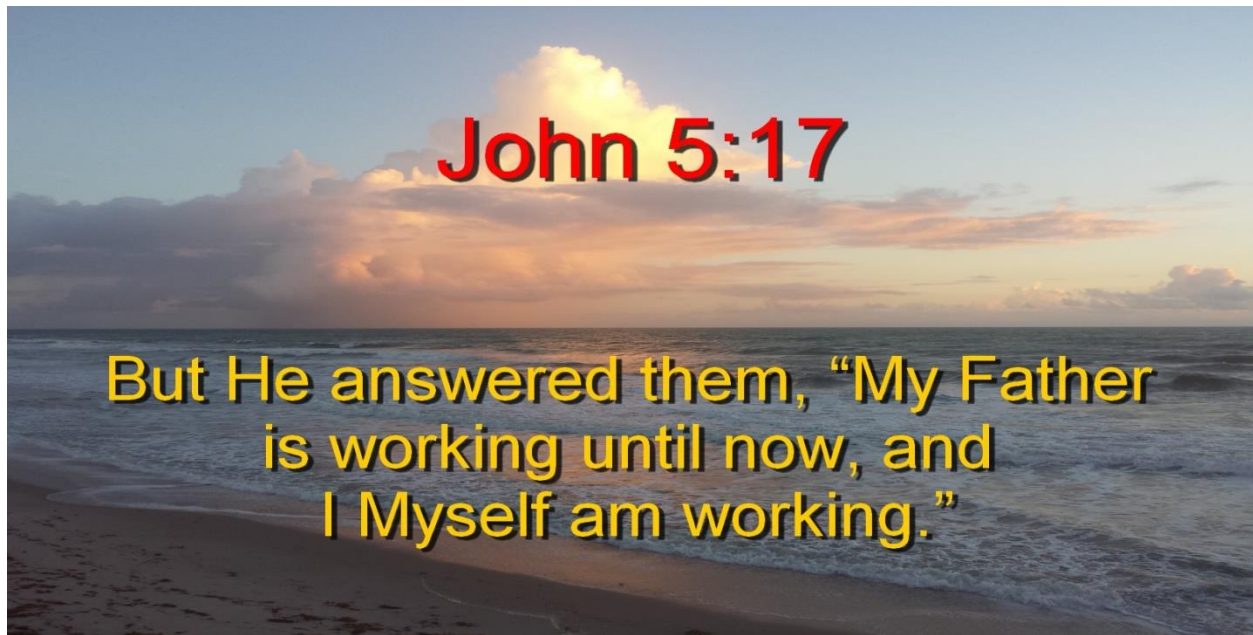
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus works daily in our lives, not just six days a week. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and do God's will seven days a week?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Eighty Two

Working Today



How did Jesus answer the charge that He broke the Sabbath? Jesus explained that His Father was working until now, and Jesus Himself is working.

The religious leaders completely misunderstood the Sabbath and its purpose. They did not understand that Jesus was Lord of the Sabbath, because He was God in the flesh.

God made the Sabbath for man to rest. Man was not made for the Sabbath. Jesus healed people of the Sabbath, just as His Father worked on the Sabbath and helped people in myriad ways on the Sabbath.

Until Now

1. **Answered**. Jesus answered the Jews who persecuted Him. He could have used His infinite power to destroy them immediately for their blasphemy.
2. **Father**. Because the Jews as a group did not know God the Father, they did not recognize Jesus when He took flesh and lived among them.
3. **Works**. Jesus explained that His Father worked on the Sabbath. He opened His hand and gave everyone their food. He also provided for the needs of His children and healed them.
4. **Until**. The Jews did not recognize that God the Father continued to work after creating the world in six days. They objected to Jesus working on the Sabbath to heal people because they did not understand that God the Father worked seven days a week to do good works.
5. **Relationship**. Jesus expressed the relationship between Himself and God the Father. By calling God His Father, Jesus made a clear claim to deity.
6. **God-Man**. Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus was fully human and fully God at the same time.
7. **Divine**. All the fullness of the Godhead indwelt Jesus, because He was God in the flesh. He did the works of His Father among men.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus did the works of His Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God that God the Father continued His work even while Jesus continued His work on earth, doing the works of His Father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to do the good works which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by doing the works which God the Father and Jesus have given us to do. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by accomplishing the work which God has given you to do?

HALLELUJAH !

2

Learning about Godliness and Equality Today

After Jesus healed Pallet Man, the Jews sought to kill Him because He healed on the Sabbath (allegedly breaking the Law of Moses) and called Himself the Son of God, making Himself equal to God.

Jesus explained to the Jews why they were wrong. When attacked, Jesus responded with loving truth that explained everything. When people hear the truth, they must make a decision about what to do with the truth. They can believe it or not. Jesus presented perfect explanations of the truth time after time for everyone to hear.

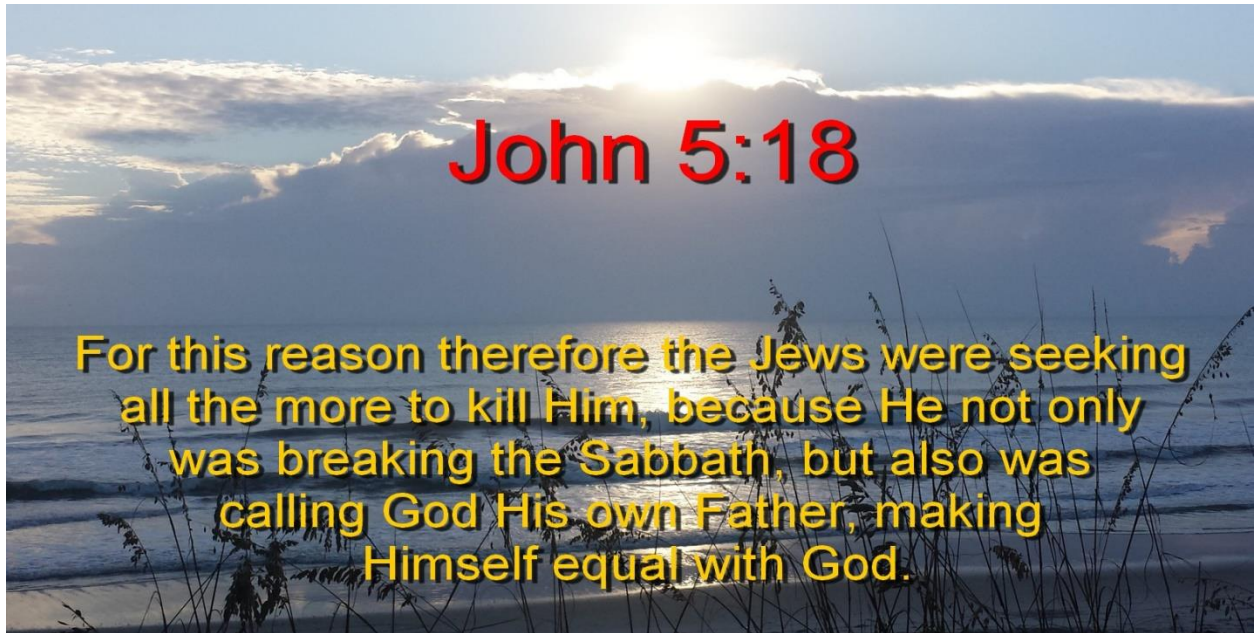
First, Jesus explained that He only did what He sees His Father doing. In one perfect sentence, Jesus disproved charges against Him. He reaffirmed He is the Son of God and He rejected that He broke the Law of Moses because God was working on the Sabbath.

Jesus also prophesied that they will see greater works of power than healing Pallet Man. Jesus will raise the dead.

Jesus warned His opponents to consider their coming judgment. Jesus declared that the Father gave all judgment to the Son of God, so that everyone will honor the Son. He who does not honor the Son of God does not honor God the Father Who sent God the Son.

Day One Hundred Eighty Three

To Kill Him Today



Why were the Jews seeking to kill Jesus all the more? They sought to kill Jesus not only because they claimed He was breaking the Sabbath, but He also made Himself equal to God by calling God His own Father.

The Jews as a group did not know God the Father. Because they did not know God the Father, nor love Him, they did not know Jesus or love Jesus. Jesus was the Son of God.

By declaring that He was the Son of God, He claimed to be equal with God. The Jews understood precisely the words Jesus spoke about His deity. He was God in the flesh. The Jews could not conceive that a human being could also be God. They did not understand that Jesus was God in the flesh.

Equal with God

1. **Charges.** The Jews sought to kill Jesus after He healed Pallet Man. They offered two charges against Jesus: (a) Jesus broke the Sabbath; and (b) Jesus called Himself equal to God.

2. **Sabbath.** Jesus declared that His Father worked on the Sabbath and so did He. Jesus healed people on the Sabbath.

3. **Deity.** Jesus asserted His deity here in two related ways. First, He called God His Father, claiming to be the Son of God. Never let anyone tell you that Jesus never claimed to be God. The Jews here knew Jesus just claimed to be God. Second, Jesus claimed He had every right to work on the Sabbath because He was God, just like His Father worked on the Sabbath.

4. **Response.** Notice the extreme response of the Jews to the miracle of Pallet Man. Instead of praising God, they sought to kill God (Jesus).

5. **Ignored.** Notice too the Jews ignored the truth Jesus shared with them. He explained why He healed on the Sabbath, because His Father worked on the Sabbath. The Jews hated the truth.

6. **Violently.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe Jesus always told the truth, even when people reacted violently to the truth. Jesus had absolute courage.

7. **Truth.** We rejoice today because Jesus set the example for us. We tell the truth about Jesus and testify of His loving power to help us and save us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus for being equal to God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as fellowship with both God the Father and God with Son.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as enjoy Jesus, the Son of God has always been equal with God, for He has always been God.**

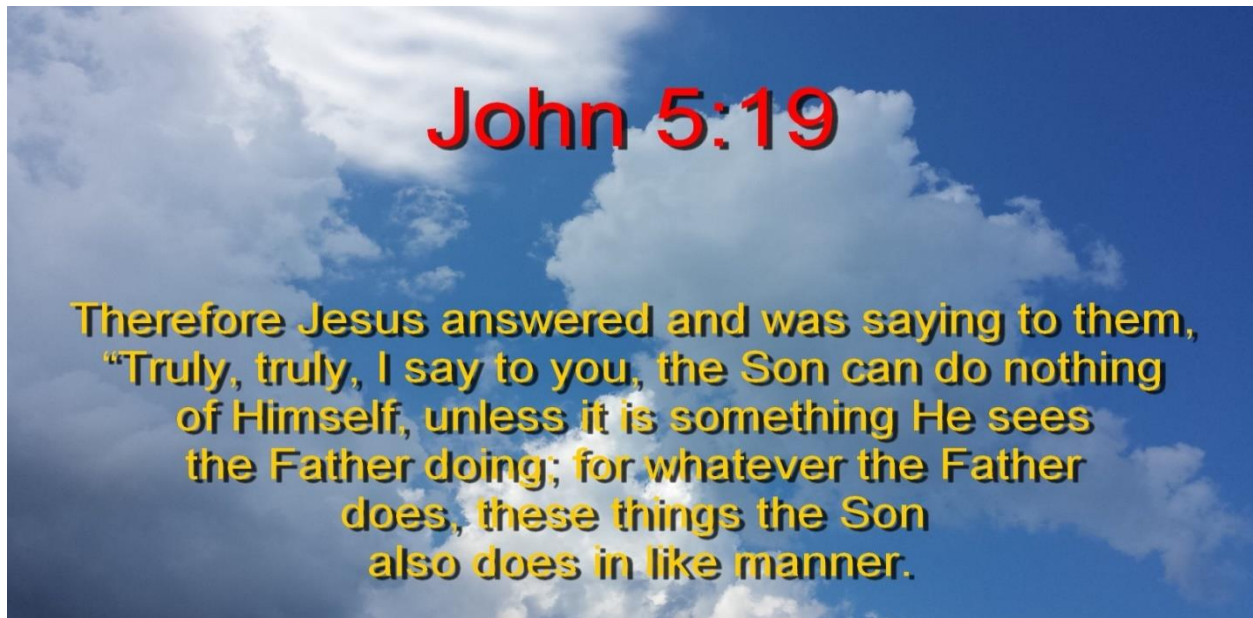
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus as the Son of God, eternal God Who took flesh for us and give up His soul for our salvation. Will you live Godly in the family of God today as you praise Jesus as the Son of God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Eighty Four

Nothing of Himself Today



What did Jesus do? Jesus did what He saw His Father doing. Jesus did nothing of Himself. Whatever the Father does, so also the Son does in like manner.

Notice how the Son reflects the works of the Father. They act in perfect harmony of wills and works. Jesus works just like His Father works.

When Jesus healed Paret Man, He watched the Father heal people also. Jesus healed Paret Man in the same manner that the Father healed people. Jesus meant that the Father healed people on the Sabbath, and so Jesus healed people of the Sabbath.

He Sees the Father Doing

1. **Equal.** The Jews wanted to kill Jesus because He healed on the Sabbath and claimed to be equal with God.

2. **Connection.** The word "Therefore" signals a close, logical connection between the charges of the Jews and the answer of Jesus to those charges.

3. **Father.** Jesus expounded upon His claim of equality with the Father. Jesus indicated He did on the Sabbath only what He witnessed His Father doing on the Sabbath. The Jews did not know God the Father, and had no idea what God the Father was doing on the Sabbath.

4. **Harmony.** Jesus also explained He acted in perfect harmony with God the Father. Jesus only did what God the Father did. Remember the miraculous power of God at work in healing Pallet Man.

5. **Heals.** Jesus also claimed He did His Father's works "in like manner." The Father heals on the Sabbath, and Jesus does the same healing on the same day. The Jews wanted people to suffer and die on the Sabbath, because they believed God ignores suffering and illness on the Sabbath.

6. **Sees.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus heals seven days a week, because He loves people, and does in like manner what He sees His Father doing.

7. **Attributes.** We rejoice today because Jesus does what He saw His Father doing. They act in perfect harmony, and exercise all the same powers, and possess the same divine attributes.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by watching Jesus work, doing the same things His Father does.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God watching Jesus do the works of His Father in the same manner that His Father does them.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by glorifying God for the perfect harmony of will and works between God the Father and God the Son.**

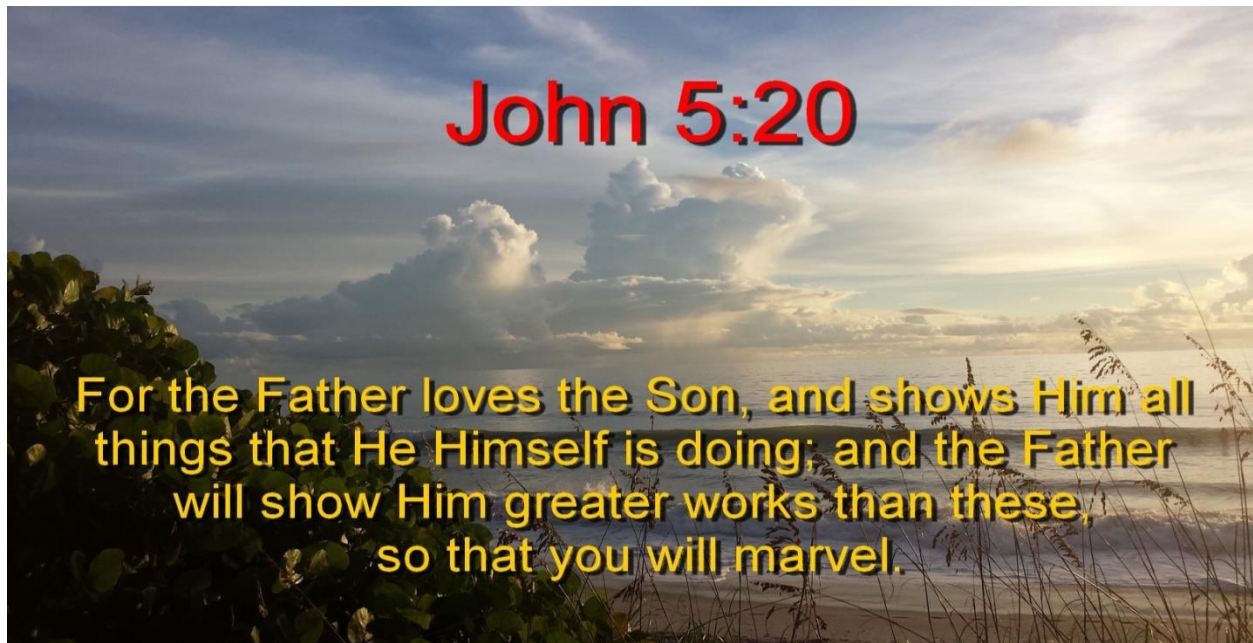
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by watching Jesus work in the lives of the family of God today. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by doing the works of Jesus and His Father today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Eighty Five

The Father Loves the Son Today



Why does the Father show Jesus all the things that the Father is doing? Because God the Father loves God the Son, Jesus. Jesus always does the works of His Father.

Jesus explained that not only was He equal with the Father, but God the Father loves God the Son. Because God the Father loves God the Son, God the Father shows God the Son all things God the Father is doing.

Jesus also knew the future. Jesus was going to show the people greater works than He had shown them so far. When they saw those greater works, they were going to marvel. Jesus never made promises or prophecies He will not keep. Marvelous works from Jesus were in store for everyone to see.

You Will Marvel

1. **Answer.** Jesus continued His answer to the Jews seeking to kill Him. Jesus used every opportunity to tell the truth and proclaim the love of God.

2. **Explained.** Jesus did only the things He saw His Father doing. Jesus explained that because the Father loved Jesus, the Father showed Jesus all the things the Father was doing. The Father hid nothing from Jesus.

3. **Future.** Jesus also said that He knew the future. In the future, the Father will show Him greater works than healing Pallet Man.

4. **Accomplished.** Near the end of His life in His earthly body, Jesus proclaimed that He had accomplished all the work His Father had given for Him to do.

5. **Marvel.** Jesus also promised that the very people seeking to kill Him would marvel over His future works. Even His enemies would see His greater works, and marvel.

6. **Works.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we see Jesus at work every day, and we marvel at His great works. He does what His Father does.

7. **Abide.** We rejoice today because Jesus loves us, just like His Father loves Him. The Father also loves us. We abide in the love of God today, because Jesus bore the wrath of God we deserved. He died for us, so that we might live to Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by appreciating the love that God the Father has for God the Son.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we praise the love of God the Father for God the Son.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we understand that God is love in all that He is and in all that He does.**

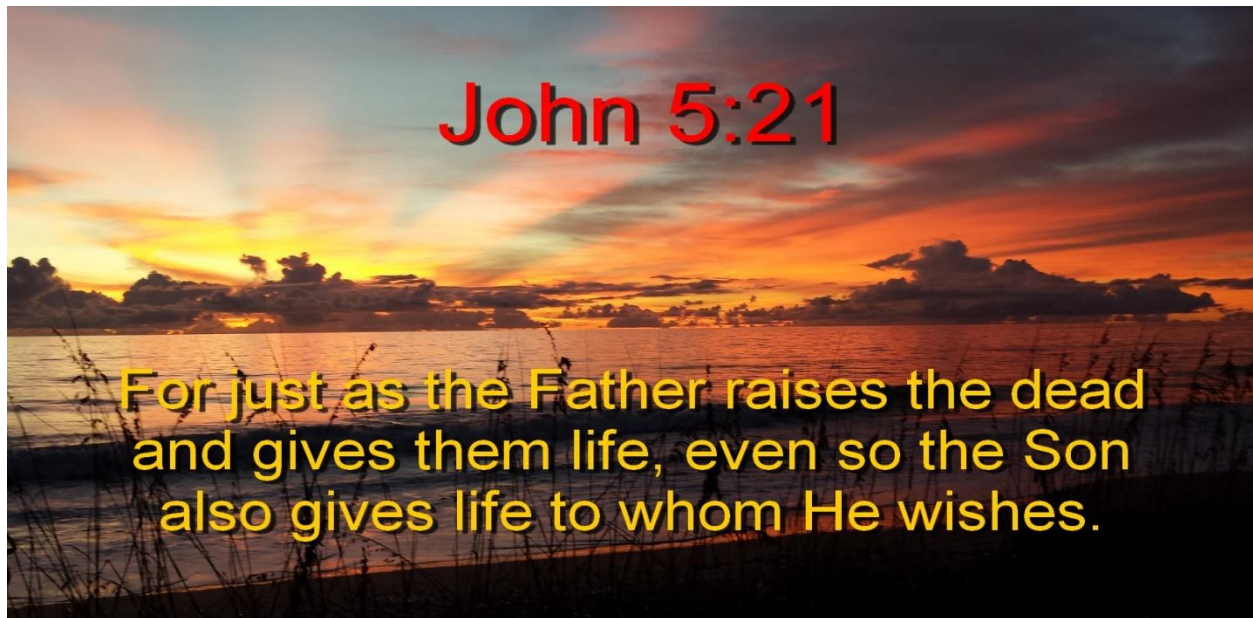
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we know that God the Father loves us with same love that He loves Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by expecting to see marvelous works from Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Eighty Six

Raises the Dead Today



Does the Father raise the dead and give them life? Yes, Jesus said that just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom He wishes.

The religious leaders persecuted Jesus because He claimed to be the Son of God and healed people on the Sabbath. Jesus explained to them why He healed Pallet Man and commanded him to carry his pallet on the Sabbath.

Jesus did the works of His Father in healing people. Jesus then expanded that revelation about the Father by disclosing that the Father raised people from the dead and gave them life. So also Jesus gave life to whomever He wished. Jesus proclaims His absolute deity to the religious leaders persecuting Him. He also let them know that He had the power to give life, just like His Father gave life.

Gives Life

1. **Equal.** The Jews sought to kill Jesus because: (a) He broke their interpretation of the Sabbath; and (b) He made Himself equal with God.

2. **Divinity.** Today, we will focus upon the wonderful truths Jesus revealed to those Jews about eternal life, expanding upon His revelation of His divinity and equality with God.

3. **Life.** Jesus taught bodily resurrection from the dead. He revealed that His Father raises the dead and gives them life. In this context, Jesus also meant Jesus gives spiritual life to people spiritually dead in their sins.

4. **Same Power.** Jesus amplified His claim of divinity and equality with the Father by claiming for Himself the same power to give life exercised by His Father.

5. **Deny.** Many people today deny Jesus is God, just like the Father is God. Those people have much in common with the Jews Jesus was talking to in John 5:21.

6. **Believe.** Living Godly in the family of God means we believe Jesus is God and equal to His Father, just like Jesus said and proved to the Jews.

7. **Resurrection.** We rejoice today in the promise of resurrection and eternal life. Jesus always told the truth, and we rejoice in the truth always. We love Jesus. Notice that Jesus wished us to have eternal life and gave it to us by faith in Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by praising God the Father that He raises people from the dead and gives them life.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus that He gives life to whomever He wishes.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we realize that Jesus gave eternal life to everyone in the family of God as act of His will.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by praising God that He gave us life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing in the free gift of eternal life from Jesus Christ our Lord?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Eighty Seven

Judges Anyone Today



As Jesus revealed many things to the religious leaders persecuting Him, He explained that the Father does not judge anyone. Instead, the Father gave all judgment to the Son, Jesus.

All the people listening to Jesus identifying Himself as the Son of God heard that Jesus will be their Judge. They are persecuting Him and He will stand in judgment upon them. They should be quaking in their boots at that point, but most of them do not have ears to hear.

Jesus reveals truths to people so that they will know that the Father sent Jesus to be Savior of the world. God the Father and God the Son loves the world and gave Jesus to die for our sins. The people persecuting Jesus ignored the great love of God for them and also ignored Jesus, their final judge.

All Judgment

1. **All**. The Father shows the Son all things that the Father is doing. Likewise, the Father has given all judgment to the Son.

2. **Salvation**. The Father judges no one. For the believer, we are born again at the moment we receive the free gift of salvation by faith alone.

3. **Relationship**. Jesus not only claimed to be the Son of God, but He wanted us to know about the relationship of God the Father with God the Son.

4. **Loved**. Jesus had just emphasized that God the Father loved God the Son. God the Father showed God the Son all that God the Father was doing.

5. **Truths**. Jesus has this marvelous ability to reveal wonderful truths to people seeking to destroy Him. They will be without excuse when they appear at the Great White Throne judgment.

6. **Judgment**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that God the Father never judges anyone, because God the Father has given all judgment to the God the Son.

7. **Righteous**. We rejoice today because Jesus has been given all judgment by God the Father. Jesus never takes a bribe, never cares about skin color, social status or celebrity. He knows all things and renders only righteous judgments. Knowing about judgment, we have no fear of judgment, because Jesus paid the death penalty for our sins, and by faith we live secure in His love.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that unbelievers will face Jesus for eternal judgment.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God because Jesus loves His enemies and wants us to share the Scriptures with them just like Jesus revealed eternal truths to them.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we follow in the footsteps of Jesus by loving our enemies and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with them.**

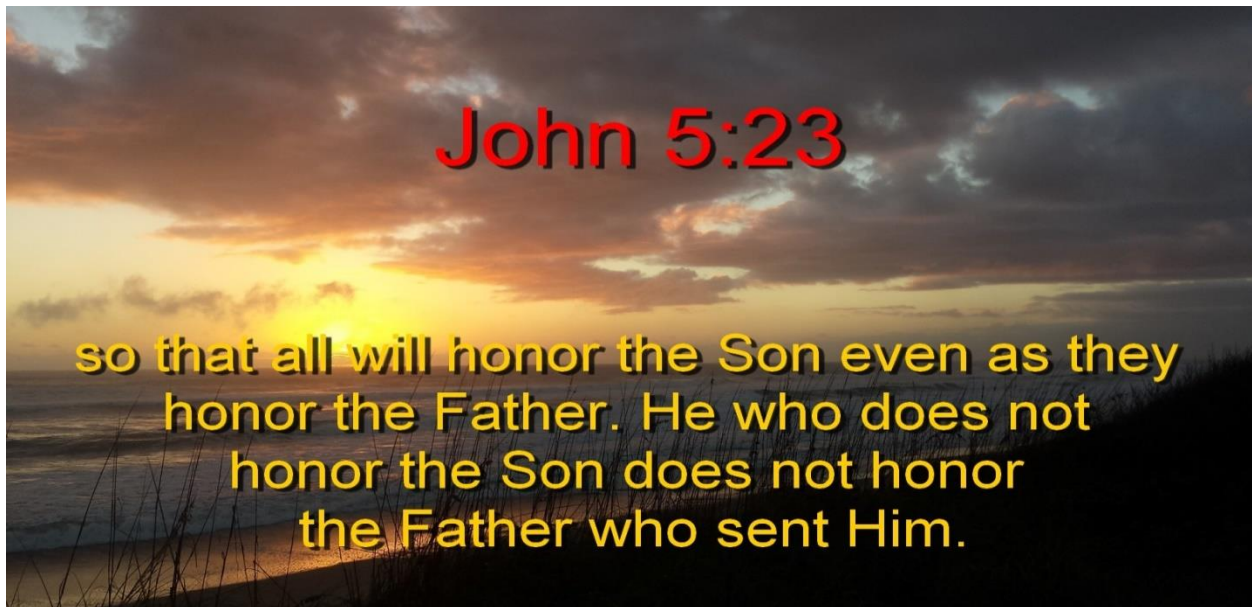
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by loving the people who persecute Jesus today. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by loving your enemies who hate you and say evil things about you because you love Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Eighty Eight

Honor the Father Today



Why should people honor God the Son? Jesus said that people who do not honor the Son do not honor the Father Who sent Him. Jesus continued to reveal striking truths to the people persecuting Him.

Jesus revealed that people should honor God the Son because God the Father gave all judgment to God the Son. Therefore, people should honor God the Son because Jesus will render judgment upon all unbelievers.

Jesus wanted people to honor God the Father and God the Son. He was warning the people persecuting Him that they did not honor God the Father. Jesus did not leave any daylight between God the Father and God the Son in terms of equality. Both were God and had always been God. Jesus, however, would judge unbelievers for their deeds and lack of faith in Jesus and His Father.

Honor the Son

1. **Sent.** God the Father has given all judgment to Jesus, God the Son, and sent Him into the world.

2. **Honor.** God the Father made that gift so that people would honor Jesus like they honor God the Father.

3. **Judge.** I have witnessed many people be very friendly with judges. Most people want to honor the judge who will decide their case. You never want to anger a judge before he decides your case.

4. **Authority.** The opponents of Jesus sought to destroy Him in part, because He declared Himself to be equal with God. In fact, Jesus then went further and said He had authority as God to pass judgment upon those people.

5. **Equality.** Jesus did not back down in the face of deadly opposition. He enlarged His claim of equality with God the Father. He warned His opponents that they must honor Him as God, because He was their final Judge.

6. **Acknowledge.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we honor Jesus as God. We acknowledge Him as Judge, and enjoy His mercy and grace in our lives.

7. **Reconciled.** We rejoice today because Jesus loves us and has washed us clean. He has justified us and reconciled us to God, by paying the death penalty for us. We live each day by faith in Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by honoring the Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we honor both God the Father and God the Son.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we honor God for giving us life and letting us pass out of judgment into eternal life.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by honoring God the Father and God the Son. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praising God that we will not face the Great White Throne Judgment concerning eternal life?

HALLELUJAH !

3

Learning about Godliness and Judgment Today

Jesus proclaimed that everyone who hears His word, and believes in Him Who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life. All the people who charged Him with unlawful and blasphemous acts just heard Jesus preach eternal life to them.

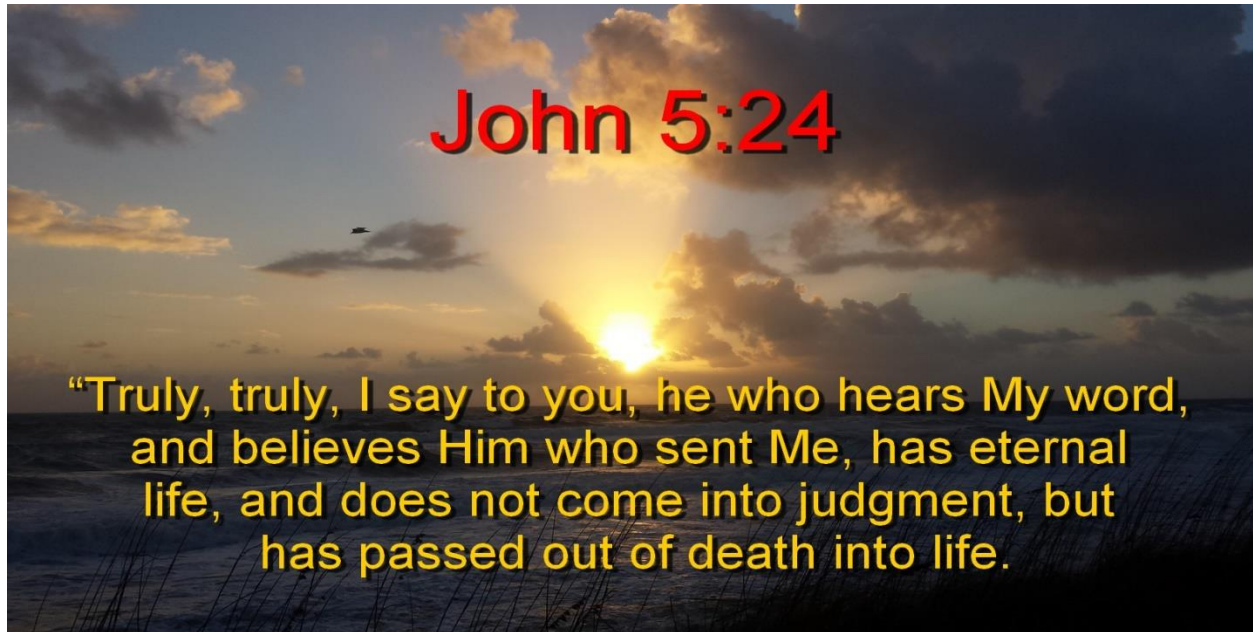
Jesus loved His enemies and preached eternal life to them. As they plotted to kill Him, He offered them eternal life as a free gift. Jesus explained that dead people will hear His voice and those who hear will live. He revealed that an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear His voice and come forth. The people who did good will go to a resurrection of life. The people who did evil to a resurrection of judgment. Jesus warned His accusers that He will sit in judgment upon them one day, and He acts with the authority of God the Father. Jesus has life in Himself and can give it to whomever hears His voice.

Jesus further explained that He does not judge on His own initiative. His judgment is just, because He seeks the will of Him who sent Jesus. Jesus said that if He testifies about Himself, His testimony is not true. But others testify about Jesus and He has multiple witnesses.

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Eighty Nine

Hears My Word Today



What happens if you hear the words of Jesus and believe Him who sent Jesus? You have eternal life and do not come into judgment; you have passed out of death into life.

Jesus used His reply to the people persecuting Him to offer them eternal life. He also disclosed that He would judge them for their unbelief in the future. Therefore, they should honor Jesus and His Father Who sent Jesus to earth.

Jesus also explained that everyone who hears the words of Jesus and believes God the Father Who sent Jesus has eternal life. At that moment of salvation by faith, the believer passes out of death and judgment into eternal life. They will never come into judgment concerning eternal life because that matter was resolved at the moment of salvation on earth. They passed out of death into life—therefore no judgment at the Great White Throne.

Eternal Life

1. **Judgment.** Jesus continued His revelation to His opponents. He explained how to avoid judgment, pass out of death and have eternal life.

2. **Hear.** Jesus said that eternal life involves two things: (a) hearing the word of Jesus; and (b) believing Him Who sent Jesus. You cannot believe anything you want and go to heaven. You must believe that God the Father sent God the Son into the world. You must also hear the word of Jesus.

3. **Faith.** Jesus just emphasized His relationship with the Father. Now He explains how His opponents can have eternal life by faith alone in His word. He spoke of His Father.

4. **Belief.** Jesus declared His Father had given all judgment to Him. Now He explained that at the moment of belief, the believer will never come into judgment concerning eternal life or eternal death. Only people who never hear Jesus and never believed His word come into judgment before Him. That judgment will always be death for rejecting Jesus as Savior and God.

5. **Salvation.** Today, people can pass out of death and never come into judgment. By faith they receive eternal life today. The day of salvation by faith stands as the greatest day in our lives.

6. **Ransom.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we have heard the word of Jesus and believed the Father sent Jesus to give His life as a ransom for many, including you and me.

7. **Forever.** We rejoice today because in Jesus we have passed out of death into eternal life. No judgment of life or death awaits us. We live forever as beloved children of God.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by praising God that we have passed out of death into eternal life by hearing and believing.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we know that we will never come into judgment concerning eternal life.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we honor, worship, and praise because we have a Savior Who guarantees the most wonderful future with Him.**

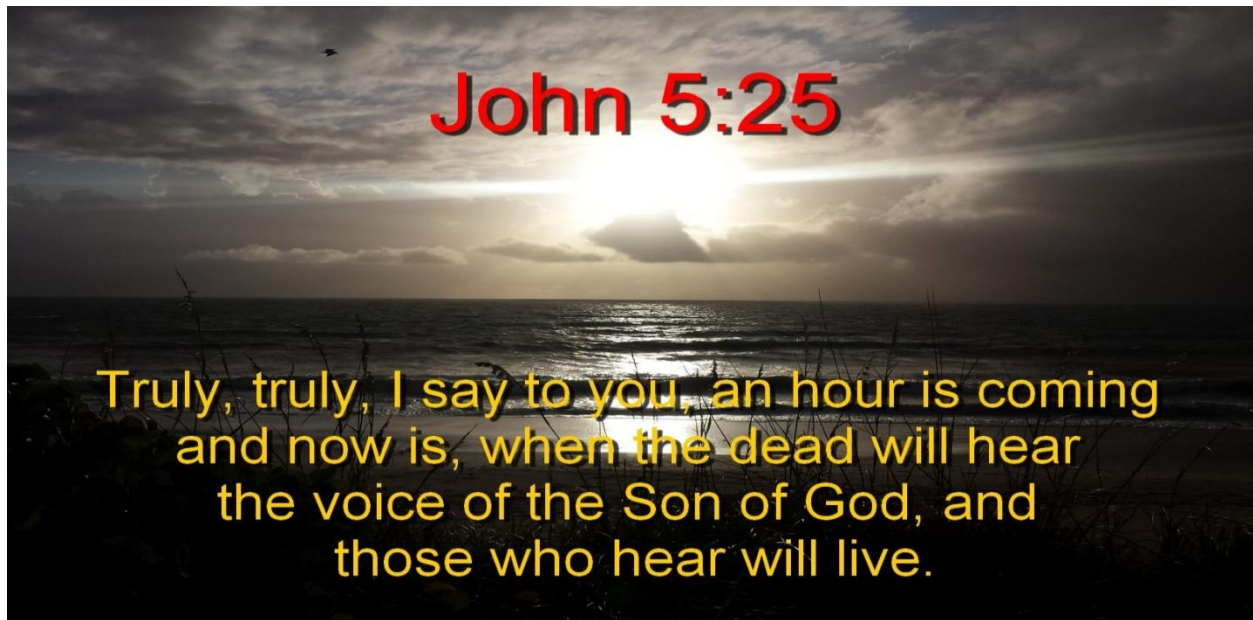
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by praising God that we have passed out death into life at the moment of salvation. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by remembering that you will not be judged concerning eternal life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Ninety

The Voice of the Son of God Today



What hour is coming and now is? Jesus said that an hour is coming and now is when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.

Jesus revealed the deep truths to the crowds around Him as He explained eternal judgment and eternal life. He replied to the religious leaders persecuting Him because He claimed to be the Son of God and equal to God.

Jesus was the Son of God. Every person who heard His voice and believed in God the Father would have eternal life. Sometimes dead people really can hear the voice of the Son of God. Jesus meant that some unbelievers will hear Him proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ and will believe for eternal life.

Those Who Hear Will Live

1. **Opposed.** Jesus continued His revelation to His opponents. As they opposed Him, He shared the words of eternal life with them.

2. **Now.** To know Jesus and He Who sent Him is eternal life. Jesus explained that now is the time to hear the voice of the Son of God.

3. **Hear.** His opponents thought they were listening to the voice of a blasphemer, but actually the Son of God was talking to them and they did not hear the voice of the Son of God.

4. **Voice.** Notice that some of the dead hear the voice of the Son of God. Jesus was surrounded by dead people, who thought they were alive.

5. **Truth.** Jesus emphasized His words: truly, truly. Jesus spoke the truth of God to dead people who lived lies.

6. **Live.** Living Godly in the family of God means that you once were dead, but heard the voice of the Son of God and now live in Him.

7. **Continues.** We rejoice today because Jesus continues to speak to dead people today, calling them to eternal life in Him, the Son of God. Once dead, now we live in Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by continuing to listen to the voice of the Son of God Who gave us eternal life by faith in Him.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by making the most of the time right now to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with people who are spiritually dead right now, but still living in their human bodies.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we rejoice that we heard the voice of the Son of God and we live in Him as one Church.**

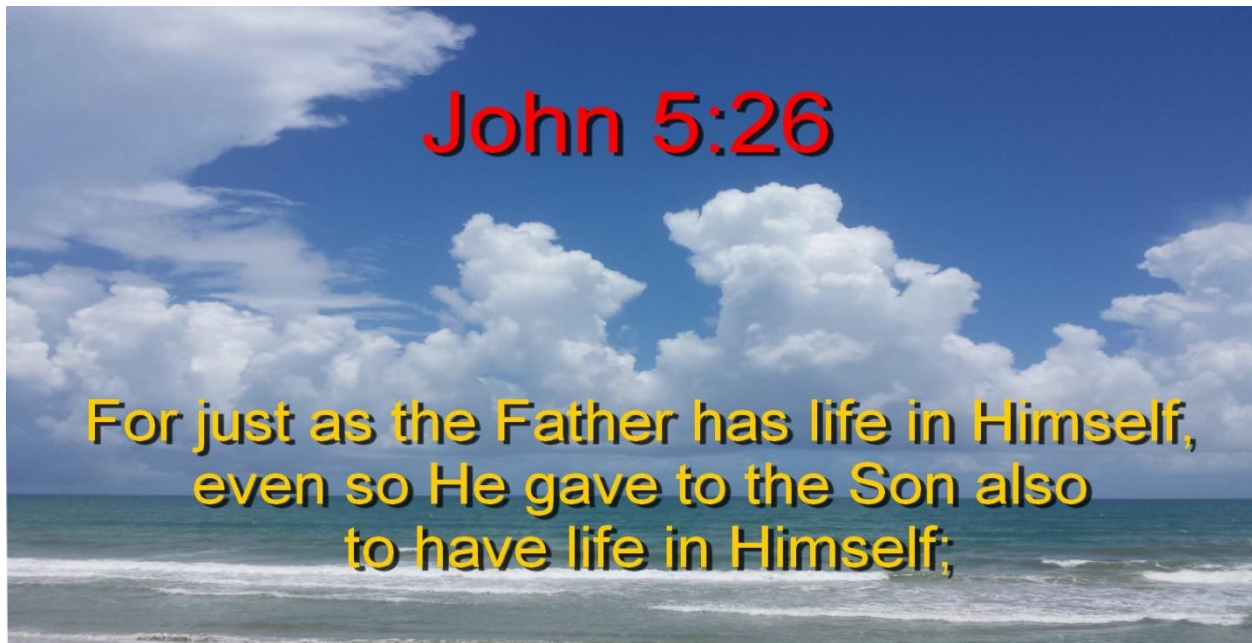
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God in the family of God by sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with people who are spiritually dead, yet still living in their human bodies. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by sharing the love of Jesus with people?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Ninety One

The Father Gave



How does Jesus have life in Himself? God the Father gave God the Son to have life in Himself.

God the Father sanctified Jesus and sent Jesus into the world with a plan. Jesus would present the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world. Jesus came to the Jews, His own people, and they did not receive Him.

Because God the Father loved the world, He gave His only Son, Jesus, to die for the sins of the world. Jesus laid down His life and then took it up again.

Jesus had life in Himself. This power of life meant that He could give life to others. The words of Jesus were eternal life for all the people who heard those words and believed. By faith people may receive eternal life.

Life in Himself

1. **Life.** Jesus continued teaching His opponents seeking to kill Him. Jesus had already told them that His Father raised the dead and gave them life. Jesus likewise gives life to whom He wishes.

2. **Father.** Jesus explained that some dead people will hear His voice today and live. His opponents sought to kill Jesus because Jesus called God His Father, making Himself equal with God; Jesus elaborated on that relationship with His Father.

3. **Equal.** The words of Jesus grabbed the attention of people. He often amazed crowds with His teaching. Not only did Jesus claim equality with God the Father, He explained that He had equal authority to make people live or face His judgment and eternal death.

4. **Before.** The Father gave the Son to have life in Himself, long before the Son of God took flesh and lived and died among people on earth.

5. **Power.** Because the Son has life in Himself, He can give life to dead people who hear His word and believe that God the Father sent God the Son into the world. Jesus explained that equality with the Father meant the power to give life to dead people.

6. **God.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe Jesus is God, and equal with God the Father.

7. **Believe.** We rejoice today because we believe Jesus gave us eternal life, just as the Father sent Jesus into the world to save us from our sins and receive His free gift of eternal life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that the Father gave Jesus to have life in Himself.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we live the life that God gave to us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in praising God for giving us the free gift of eternal life.**

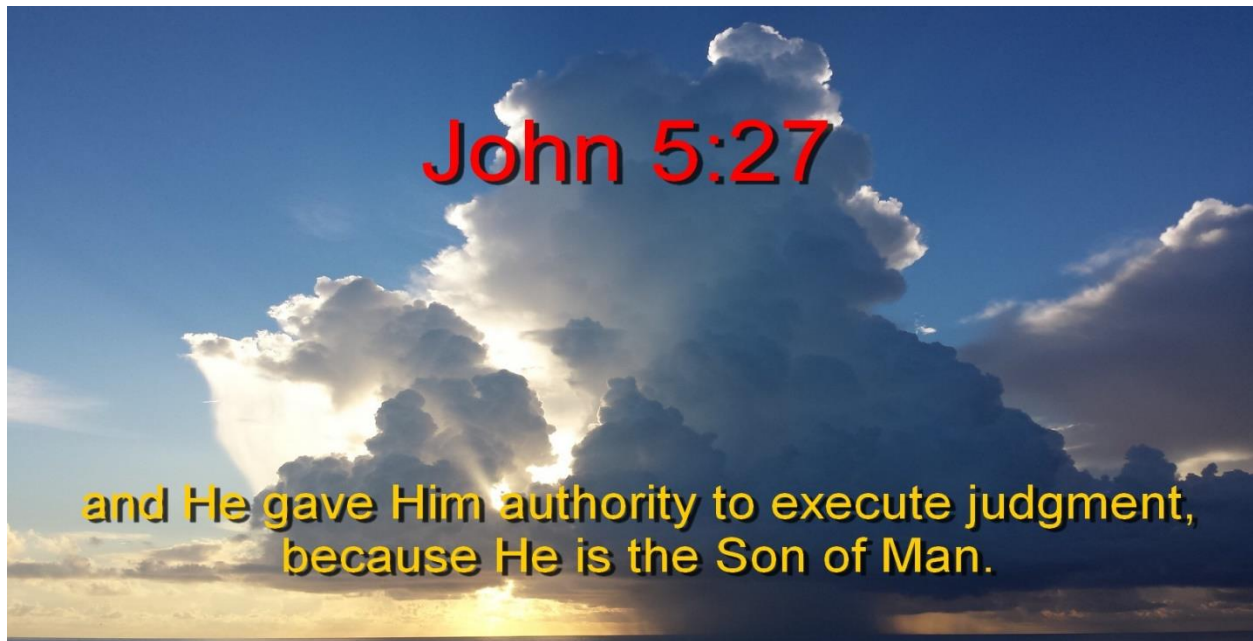
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by enjoying the life Jesus has given to us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by sharing the life you have from Jesus with the people around you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Ninety Two

Gave Him Authority



Why does Jesus have authority to execute judgment? God the Father gave Jesus the authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of Man.

Jesus often used the title Son of Man. The Gospel of John presents Jesus as the Son of God, but Jesus is also the Son of Man. Jesus frequently referred to Himself as the Son of Man.

In the Book of Daniel in the Old Testament, the Son of Man received glory, dominion and a kingdom from the Ancient of Days. All peoples, nations and men of every language would serve Him. That kingdom would have no end and would not pass away nor be destroyed.

Execute Judgment

1. **Judgment.** God the Father gave God the Son authority to execute judgment. Notice the term Son of Man. In John 5:25, the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God.

2. **Titles.** In this passage, what is difference between the two titles of Jesus: (a) Son of God; and (b) Son of Man?

3. **Son of God.** As the Son of God, Jesus exercises all the prerogatives of deity and equality with God the Father. The Son of God calls, and some dead people hear and live.

4. **Son of Man.** As the Son of Man, Jesus exercises all the prerogatives of Judge of All the Earth. God the Father has given all judgment to Jesus, so that everyone would honor Jesus as they honor the Father.

5. **Authority.** God the Father gave God the Son the authority to exercise judgment because He is the Son of Man. God the Son took flesh, lived among men, suffered crucifixion, was raised from the dead, and ascended to heaven. Because Jesus was fully human, God the Father directed people to honor Jesus as they would His Father. He also purposed that the Son of Man (emphasizing the humanity) receive all authority for the judgment of the humans He once lived among and to whom He proclaimed the words of eternal life.

6. **Recognize.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we bow before Jesus and recognize His authority over all things, because He is both the Son of God and the Son of Man.

7. **Into Life.** We rejoice today because we will never come into judgment concerning eternal life before the Son of Man. At the moment we were born again by faith alone, we passed out of death into life in Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by bowing our hearts before the Son of Man who executes judgment.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we delight in eternal life, which means we have passed out of judgment into eternal life.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we know that people around us face the judgment of God for unbelief.**

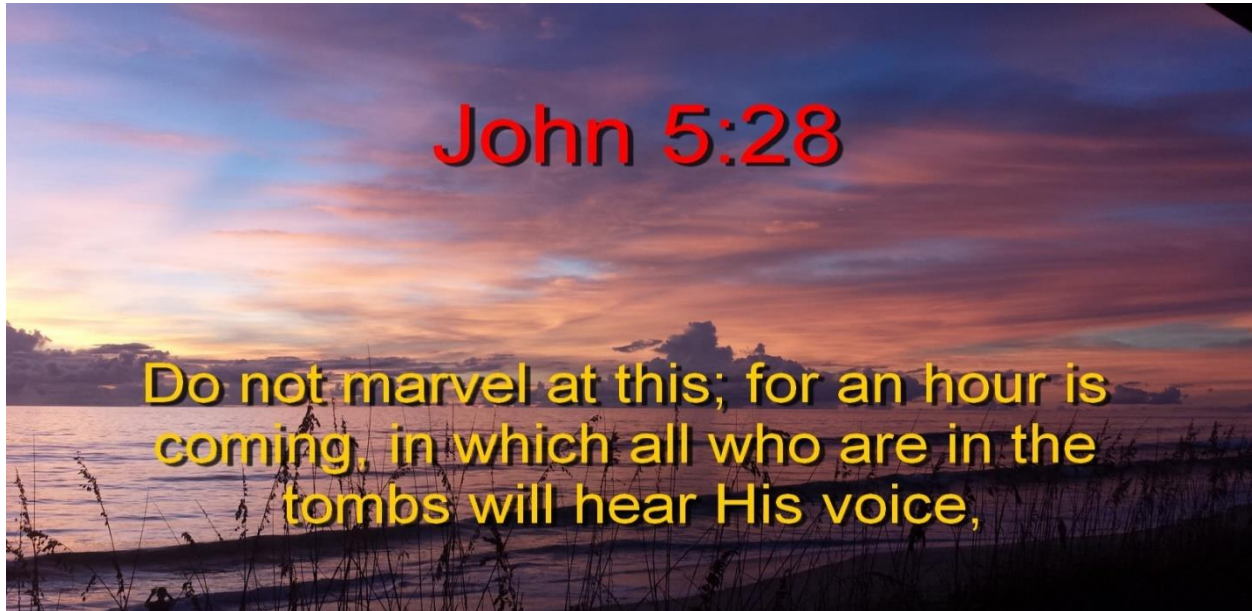
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by delighting in the eternal life we received by faith as a free gift. Will you live Godly in the family of God today with rejoicing that you have passed out of judgment?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Ninety Three

Do Not Marvel Today



Why did Jesus tell the people not to marvel? Jesus declared that He was the Son of God, equal to God the Father. He also declared that He had life in Himself and God the Father had given all judgment to Him.

The religious leaders persecuting Jesus should have realized immediately that their Judge was standing before them and they should bow their knees to Him. Instead, they rejected Jesus because they claimed He broke the Old Testament Law by commanding Pallet Man to pick up his pallet on the Sabbath.

Jesus then explained they should not marvel because greater miracles than healing would occur. In the future, all dead people in tombs would hear the voice of Jesus. Jesus was speaking of the resurrection of all dead people in the tombs. Jesus was about to explain the resurrection of the righteous and the resurrection of the wicked. Everyone would hear the voice of Jesus and come forth from the tombs.

Will Hear His Voice

1. **Hear.** In John 5:25, Jesus revealed that the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. As we saw above, some people will hear Jesus, believe Him and His words, and will receive eternal life. Notice only some respond with faith to His voice.

2. **Resurrection.** In John 5:28, Jesus revealed the resurrection of the dead, both saved and unsaved. Resurrection means raising the body from the dead. At the moment after physical death, believers are spiritually alive and present with the Lord. At the moment after unbelievers die, they begin suffering as spirits in hell.

3. **Coming.** Notice that the resurrection of the dead takes place at an hour that is coming, but not here yet. The unbelievers go to a resurrection of judgment; believers go to a resurrection of life.

4. **Tombs.** Notice that Jesus specified the dead in the tombs. He meant those people dead physically, with their bodies in the tombs. Therefore, we know Jesus was talking about bodily resurrection.

5. **Call.** Notice too the authority of Jesus to use His voice to call people out of their tombs. He speaks and the bodies come forth from the tombs--no exceptions, all people.

6. **Life.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we are looking forward to that hour when Jesus calls all people out of the tombs; some to life and the rest to judgment.

7. **Immediately.** We rejoice today knowing that tomorrow we will die and be immediately absent from the body, but present with the Lord. One day, Jesus will speak and we will receive resurrected bodies, when we meet our Savior in the clouds.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by as we look forward to the resurrection of the righteous.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that the wicked will also face resurrection.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we rejoice together that we will hear the voice of Jesus and come forth from the tombs.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by knowing that in the future we will hear the voice of Jesus and come forth to resurrection. Will you live Godly in the family of God today knowing that in the future resurrection awaits you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Ninety Four

Resurrection of Life Today



Does everyone get resurrected in the future? Jesus described one resurrection of life for those people who did good deeds and a resurrection of judgment for those people who did evil deeds. So, everyone gets resurrected in the future.

Jesus indicated that everyone will hear His voice in the future and come forth from their tombs. Then they will go to one of two resurrections. The saints are the craftsmanship of God and He prepared good deeds beforehand that the saints would walk in them. All believers are saints. The rest of the people who are not saints did evil deeds and they go to a resurrection of judgment.

Jesus had just explained that God the Father had given all judgment to God the Son, Jesus. Therefore, in the resurrection of the wicked, they will face Jesus as judge. The saints never come into judgment, but pass from death into life at the moment of salvation on earth.

Resurrection of Judgment

1. Come. Jesus said an hour is coming when every person in the tombs will hear His voice and come forth. Think of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, calling Him by name to come forth from the tomb.

2. Judge. Jesus also revealed that God the Father had given all judgment to God the Son, so that people would honor God the Son as they honor God the Father.

3. Good. Jesus explained that the people who did good works will go to a resurrection of life. This resurrection concerns the people who were in the tombs, and had passed out of death into life by accepting the free gift of salvation while on earth.

4. Evil. Jesus described the people who did evil deeds on earth as going to a resurrection of judgment. These people will appear before the Great White Throne of Jesus after His Millennial Reign on earth.

5. Faith. Jesus promised that the people who hear His voice and believe Him Who sent Jesus have passed out of judgment into life at the moment of salvation. As people believe Jesus and His Father, then they receive the free gift of eternal life, which means they have passed out of judgment into life at that moment on earth.

6. Judgment. Saints have nothing to fear about the Great White Throne judgment. Only unbelievers appear before the Great White Throne and they will be judged for their evil deeds. Then they will be cast into the Lake of Fire to suffer in degree commensurate to their evil deeds. Some will receive many stripes and some just a few.

7. Eternity. We rejoice today because Jesus promised in many ways that the saints would spend eternity with Him, knowing God the Father and Jesus Christ Whom the Father sent.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by living in faith that we will hear the voice of Jesus and be resurrected.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by looking forward to the day of resurrection when our bodies will be resurrected to life.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we warn unbelievers of the day when they hear the voice of Jesus and be resurrected to judgment.**

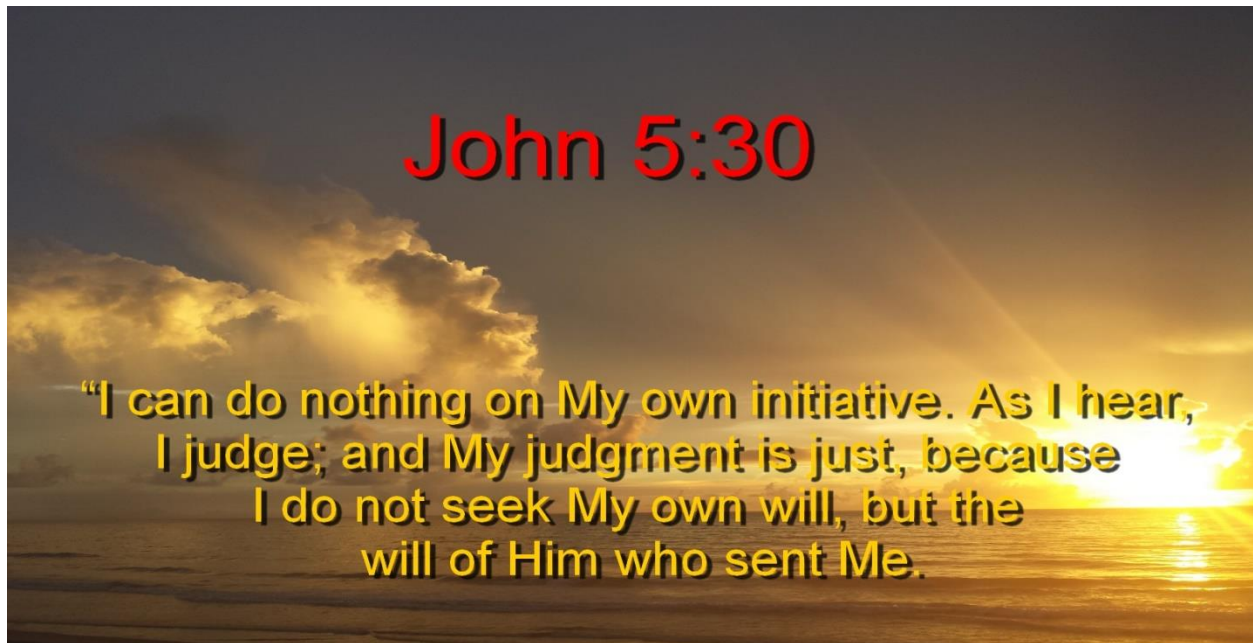
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by delighting in our faith in Jesus and our bodily resurrection in the future. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by warning unbelievers of the resurrection of judgment and letting them know about the free gift of salvation?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Ninety Five

Nothing Today



Why is the judgment of Jesus always just? Because He does not seek His own will, but the will of God the Father Who sent Jesus. Jesus judged according to what He heard, and not on His own initiative.

Jesus revealed to the crowd around Him and the religious leaders who were persecuting Him that He would sit in judgment upon them, because they did not believe in Him or honor Him.

Jesus urged them with His message to change their minds and receive Him as the Son of God, equal with God the Father. Only through faith in Him could they pass out of death into life, and so not come into judgment before Him.

My Judgment Is Just

1. **Initiative**. Jesus said He did nothing on His own initiative.
2. **Hears**. As Jesus hears, so He judges. Please recall the Jesus has heard all things, hears all things, and will hear all things. His omniscience includes hearing all things with perfect perception and perfect understanding.
3. **Judges**. God the Father gave all judgment to God the Son, Jesus. Jesus hears and judges. He hears all things and renders perfect judgments, always.
4. **Just**. The judgment of Jesus is always righteous. He never misunderstands the facts or acts with bias.
5. **Will**. Jesus never seeks His own will. He never acts upon His own initiative, even when He judges.
6. **Father**. Living Godly in the family of God means that in judgment, and always, Jesus only seeks the will of His Father, Who sent Jesus.
7. **Savior**. We rejoice today because Jesus always renders perfect judgment and always seeks the will of His Father in all judgments. Jesus did not come to judge the world, because it has been judged already for unbelief.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus that He judges in righteousness, seeking the will of His Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by urging unbelievers to turn to God, because they face judgment by Jesus because of their unbelief.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to worship Jesus, who has delivered us from judgment for our sins.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by enjoying the knowledge that we will never come into judgment for our sins. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by living without guilt regarding confessed and forgiven sin?

HALLELUJAH !

4

Learning about Godliness and Testimony Today

Jesus had the most impressive witness list. He recalled that John the Baptist testified to the truth. Jesus did not rely upon testimony from men, but He pointed out their testimony so that His accusers might be saved. He reminded his accusers that they rejoiced in the testimony of John the Baptist for a while. As Jesus defended Himself, He actually presented testimony for the benefit of His accusers. He provided the way of salvation through the testimony of other people.

Jesus continued and pointed to greater testimony than John the Baptist. The works of Jesus testify that God the Father gave Him those works to do and they testify that God the Father sent Jesus.

Jesus then cited the testimony of God the Father. Although God the Father testified of Jesus, His accusers did not hear His voice at any time or see His form. His accusers do not have the word of God the Father abiding in them, for they did not believe that God the Father sent Jesus.

Jesus then turned to the Scriptures. He observed that His accusers thought they had eternal life in the Scriptures. Yet, Jesus said they testify about Him. His accusers were unwilling to come to Him so that they might have life. He knew they did not have the love of God in their hearts because they did not receive Jesus. His accusers receive glory from one another and do not seek glory from God the Father. If they had believed Moses, then they would have believed Jesus, for Moses wrote about Jesus. How will they believe Jesus if they do not believe the writings of Moses? Jesus used penetrating questions to urge people to receive Him as Savior.

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Ninety Six

Not True Today



What did Jesus say about His own testimony? Jesus meant that If He alone testified, then His testimony is not sufficient to prove the truth under the Old Testament Law. More than one witness was required to prove a truth under the Law.

Jesus had just claimed to be the Son of God, equal with God. He also claimed that God the Father gave Him life and delivered all judgment to Him.

Jesus continued to prove that His claims were true. He wrote the Old Testament and its laws. He knew them inside and out. He knew that judgment and all His words were true because He followed His Father's will in all things.

About Myself

1. **Reveal.** Jesus has been talking to religious men seeking to kill Him. As always, Jesus takes every opportunity to reveal the truth that sets people free.

2. **Testimony.** Jesus posed a hypothetical statement to the religious men opposing Him. Jesus stated that His testimony, standing alone, would not constitute true testimony. Notice that Jesus was talking about testimony to prove He was the Son of God and He was equal with God.

3. **Witnesses.** Jesus never meant that He alone testified. He was not calling Himself a liar. Instead, He was referring to the number of witnesses under Mosaic Law to prove a case, which required more than one witness.

4. **Law.** Jesus delivered the Law to Moses. As God, Jesus knew Moses and spoke with Moses. Jesus did not break the Law, but fulfilled the Law for us.

5. **Multiple.** Jesus knew that religious lawyers were very familiar with trying cases under the Mosaic Law. Jesus is building His case that He is the Son of God. He testified to the truth that He is the Son of God and we will see that others offered independent testimony about Jesus and His equality with the Father. Because multiple witnesses testified about Jesus, the truth has been established under Mosaic Law through multiple truthful witnesses.

6. **Absolute.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus always tells the truth. We live in His love and walk in the truth every day as believers following Jesus. Truth is never relative, but always absolute and perfect.

7. **Truth.** We rejoice today because Jesus reveals the truth to each one of us. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by accepting the testimony of Jesus as true.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus did not provide only His testimony, but also the testimony of His Father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by believing the words and works of Jesus followed the Father's plans for the life of Jesus.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus always told us the truth. Will you live Godly in the family of God by proclaiming the wonderful testimony of Jesus to people who really need to hear it today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Ninety Seven

Another Testifies Today



John 5:32

**There is another who testifies of Me,
and I know that the testimony which
He gives about Me is true.**

How could people know that the testimony of Jesus was true? Jesus said that another person would testify about Jesus and His testimony is true.

Under the Law of Moses, the testimony of two witnesses could be used to prove the truth of something. The testimony of a single witness would not be sufficient to prove a matter under the Law of Moses.

Jesus was talking with people familiar with the Law of Moses, but who never knew the God of Moses. They did not do the deeds of Moses. Those people thought they followed the Law of Moses, but Jesus said that Moses himself would testify that they never knew God.

True

1. **Witnesses.** Jesus has been lovingly revealing the truth to His enemies. He described His witness list. His witnesses knew the truth about Him.

2. **Truth.** Have you ever met religious people who told you to believe something only because they said so? Jesus had multiple witnesses to prove He was telling the truth. Do not misunderstand: we believe what Jesus said, because He is God; God never lies. God needs no corroborating witness. Jesus was proving a point under the Mosaic Law, as interpreted by His opponents.

3. **Another.** Jesus disclosed that another witness, in addition to Himself, gave testimony about Jesus. Under the Mosaic Law, more than one human witness was required to establish the truth concerning human disputes.

4. **Knows.** Please notice what Jesus knows; His opponents did not know what Jesus knows in this verse. Jesus knows that another testifies about Jesus. Jesus also knows that the testimony of the "another" is true.

5. **Testimony.** Jesus always told the truth. Notice too that "another" was bearing continuous, truthful testimony about Jesus. His opponents did not even comprehend that other testimony.

6. **Accept.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we accept all the truthful testimony of the "another" that Jesus cited, but had not named yet. He named several witnesses in the next verses.

7. **Eternal.** We rejoice in the truth: Jesus testified concerning Himself and His relationship with God His Father. We do not believe some clever fables. We do believe the eternal truths that bring eternal life, which is to know God, and Jesus Whom He has sent.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening to the testimony of God the Father Who also testifies about Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we believe that Jesus fulfilled the Law of Moses for us, so that by faith we have eternal life, just like Moses had eternal life in Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by hearing the testimony of Jesus and knowing that Jesus was the way, the truth and the life.**

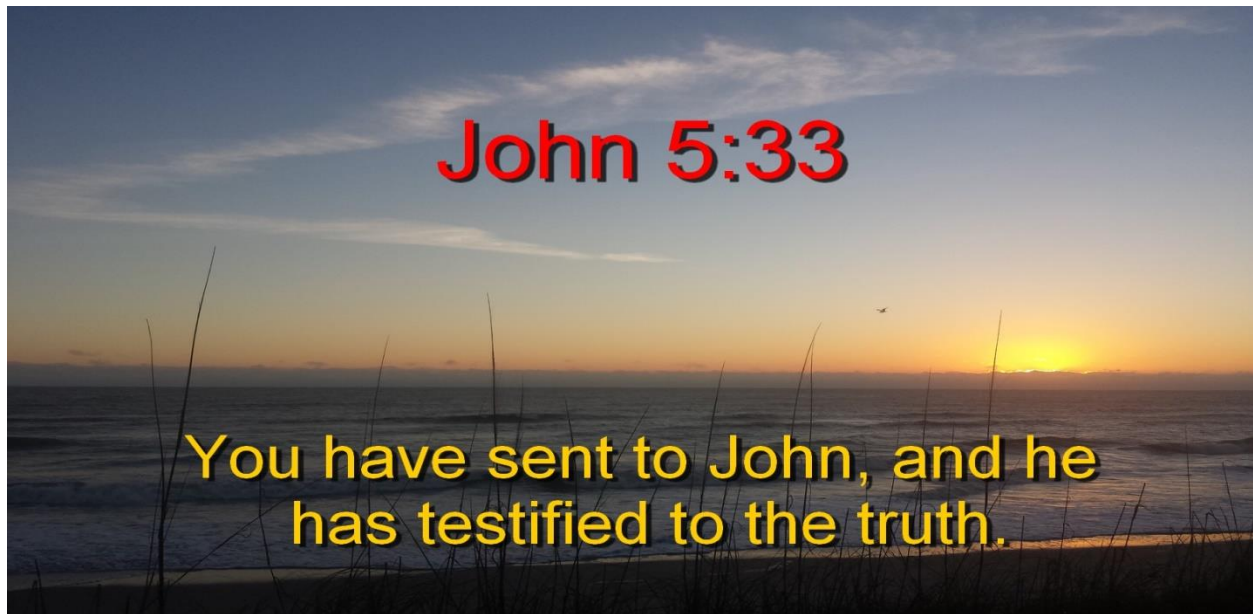
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus proved that He was the Son of God, and God the Father also testified about Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by encouraging people to believe the testimony of Jesus and His Father?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Ninety Eight

Sent to John Today



Why did the religious leaders send to John the Baptist? The religious leaders sent messengers to John the Baptist to see if he was the Messiah or the Prophet Who was coming. John the Baptist said he was not the Messiah or the Prophet, but Jesus was the Messiah.

John the Baptist confirmed the testimony of Jesus. John the Baptist stands as an independent witness to Jesus as the Son of God. John the Baptist said that Jesus existed before John the Baptist, even though John the Baptist was born of before Jesus was born of Mary.

Jesus continued to prove His claims that He really was the Son of God, and equal to God the Father. Jesus used the Law of Moses which the Jews claimed to follow, but they never knew the God of Moses. Jesus was the God of Moses, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Jesus was Jewish, and salvation was from the Jews.

He Has Testified

1. **Revelation.** Jesus continued His revelation about His relationship to God His Father.

2. **Heard.** Many people, including some religious leaders, came out to John the Baptist in the wilderness, heard his preaching about Messiah coming, repented of their sins, and received John's baptism.

3. **Regarded.** Many people also held John the Baptist in high regard. They regarded him as a prophet from God.

4. **Truthful.** Jesus declared that John the Baptist testified to the truth. Notice that Jesus cited John the Baptist as a truthful witness about Jesus.

5. **Prepare.** Notice the people opposed to Jesus had sent for John the Baptist. They wanted to hear his testimony concerning Jesus. Jesus knew John would tell them the truth about Jesus, because God had John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus.

6. **Messiah.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that Jesus told the truth always. John the Baptist knew that Jesus was indeed the Messiah, because God had revealed Jesus to John the Baptist

7. **Relationship.** We rejoice today because Jesus had many witnesses on earth and above the earth to tell the truth about the relationship Jesus enjoyed with God the Father. We testify to people about Jesus and His great love today.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening to the testimony of John the Baptist about Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that multiple witnesses, sent from God, confirmed the claims of Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we understand that our faith in Jesus rests upon the testimony of God, found in both the Old and New Testaments.**

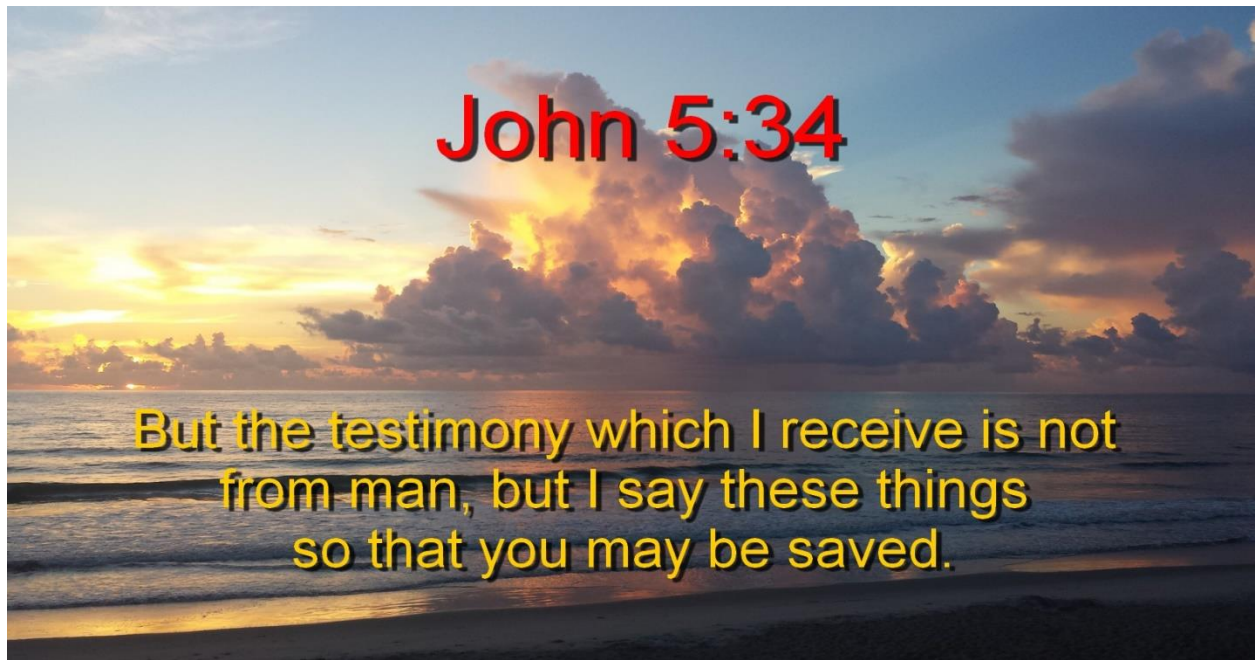
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus and His claims, with the certainty that multiple witnesses support the claims of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by worshiping Jesus as the God of the Old Testament and the New Testament?

HALLELUJAH !

Day One Hundred Ninety Nine

Not from Man Today



What testimony did Jesus receive? Jesus said He did not receive testimony from man, but He said these things so you may be saved. Jesus meant that the witness of John the Baptist and other men were not things He received, but they had another purpose.

John the Baptist and other men testified that Jesus really was the Son of God and equal with God, because He was God. John the Baptist even called Jesus the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world.

Jesus did not receive testimony because He sought the salvation of the very people persecuting them. That salvation only came through Jesus and without faith in Jesus as the Son God, no one can be saved. Jesus proved His claims that He was the Son of God, the only Savior of the world.

May Be Saved

1. **Saved.** Jesus continued talking with His opponents who wanted to kill Him. He revealed truths to them so that they may be saved. I love the way Jesus spread good news even to His enemies opposing Him face to face.

2. **Regard.** Jesus had already mentioned John the Baptist, whom the people kept in high regard.

3. **Proof.** Jesus revealed that the testimony He received is not from man. While John the Baptist testified about Jesus, Jesus did not receive that testimony as absolute proof of His claims that God was His Father, and that Jesus was equal to God the Father. As Jesus revealed more about His relationship with God His Father, He said those things so that His opponents may be saved. I love the powerful, loving ways Jesus talked to everyone, even His enemies.

4. **God.** Jesus implied that the testimony He received was from God, not man. Even the testimony of a great man like John the Baptist could not compare to the testimony of God the Father.

5. **Love.** Jesus loved His enemies. He spoke the truth of salvation to them. He spoke in love even when people threatened to kill Him and accused Him of heresy and blasphemy. We must be more like Jesus.

6. **Receive.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we speak the truth in love, even to people opposing us with false accusations, so that they may hear the words of salvation from Jesus and receive eternal life.

7. **Believe.** We rejoice today because Jesus saves His enemies who believe and receive His words of salvation. We once were those enemies, but we were washed and sanctified by Jesus, Who saved us by His grace.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus said many things so that we may be saved.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus wanted even His enemies who persecuted Him to be saved.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with people who dislike Jesus and persecute Jesus because Jesus wants everyone to be saved.**

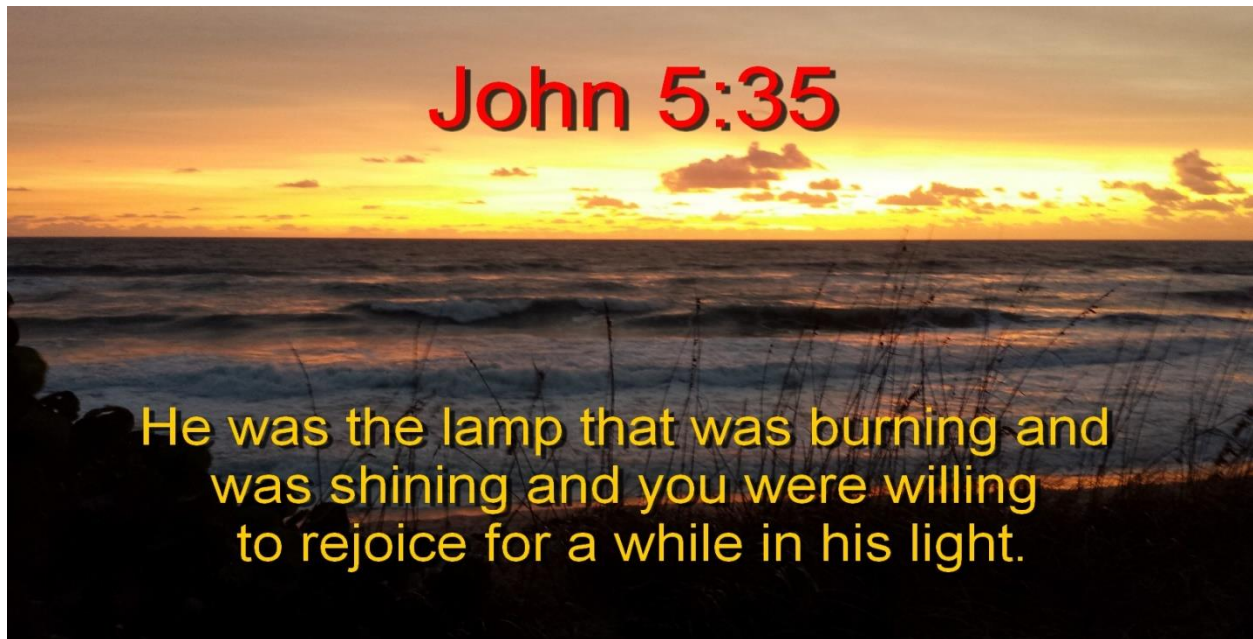
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by keeping in mind that Jesus wants everyone to be saved. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by loving your enemies and seeking their salvation?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred

The Lamp Today



Who was the lamp that was burning for a while? Jesus said that John the Baptist was the light that was burning for a while. Jesus said that John the Baptist was burning and shining.

Jesus also reminded the people that they were willing to rejoice for a while in the light of John the Baptist. Jesus also implied that their joy was fading and now they opposed Jesus, Whom John the Baptist supported with his life and testimony.

Consider the joy the people had for a while as they saw John the Baptist as the light that was burning for a while. Those people were excited by John the Baptist, but they ultimately did not believe the message of John the Baptist because they did not receive Jesus as Savior and God when He arrived. John the Baptist knew Jesus as Savior and God and prepared the way for the ministry of Jesus.

Rejoice for a While

1. **Emotions.** Jesus tied certain events with certain emotions. Emotions mattered to Jesus. As Jesus continued His revelation to His opponents, He described John the Baptist.

2. **Lamp.** Jesus described John the Baptist as a lamp burning and shining. Then Jesus said that His opponents were willing to rejoice for a while in his light.

3. **Willing.** Notice the phrase "you were willing to rejoice." Many people do not know that emotions are tied to your will. In other words, Jesus showed here that they were willing to rejoice.

4. **For a Time.** Jesus also reminded His opponents that they were willing only for a time. Jesus explained that emotions are tied to our wills. We never have to live as slaves of our emotions.

5. **Lost Joy.** Jesus also tied rejoicing to John the Baptist. At times, people see the light, repent, but then fall back into their old sinful practices. They were never born again. They lost their joy.

6. **Rejoice.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we never let our emotions rule us, but we let Jesus produce our emotions. We rejoice in Him. What makes Him rejoice makes us rejoice.

7. **Commanded.** We rejoice today because we rejoice in Jesus for eternity. He commanded us to rejoice because our names are written in heaven.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing in Jesus for all eternity.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we appreciate the faithful testimony of John the Baptist about Jesus and his ultimate sacrifice for Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we rejoice in the many witnesses testifying that Jesus really is, and always has been, the Son of God.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we understand the overwhelming testimony from various witnesses that Jesus has always been the Son of God Who seeks for people to be saved. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by carrying forward the ministry of sharing the words of salvation?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred One

The Testimony Today



John 5:36

But the testimony which I have is greater than the testimony of John; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish--the very works that I do--testify about Me, that the Father has sent Me.

Why did Jesus speak about greater testimony? Jesus said that the testimony that He has is greater than the testimony of John the Baptist.

Jesus said that God the Father gave Him works to accomplish. Jesus did those works and they testify about Jesus. Specifically, those works testify that God the Father sent Jesus.

The Jewish religious leaders persecuted Jesus for His claim to be equal with God the Father. Jesus proved that claim to be true in multiple ways. In this case, Jesus focused upon the works that His Father gave Him to accomplish. They provide greater testimony for Jesus than the testimony of John the Baptist.

The Very Works

1. **Words.** Jesus continued presenting the words of eternal life to His opponents. Never underestimate the love of Jesus for this world.

2. **Works.** After discussing the testimony of John the Baptist, Jesus disclosed the truth about His works. Jesus said that His works testified that the Father sent Him.

3. **Specific.** Jesus also testified that the Father gave Jesus specific works that He must accomplish. You may recall that Jesus later prayed that He had accomplished all the works given to Him from the Father.

4. **Testimony.** Jesus testified that His works testified about both Jesus and His Father. As you look at the works of Jesus, you see the shining testimony that the Father gave Jesus the very works Jesus performed.

5. **Messiah.** What works did God give Jesus to accomplish? The blind received sight, the lepers were cleansed and the deaf heard, the dead were raised up, and the poor had the Gospel preached to them. Those works, attributed to Messiah by Isaiah the prophet, Jesus accomplished before all men. Jesus also laid down His life and took it up again, because He is the Savior.

6. **Accomplished.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus accomplished all the works His Father gave to Jesus. The Father also prepared good works for each believer, that we should walk in them by faith.

7. **Prepared.** We rejoice today because we walk with Jesus, accomplishing the works God has prepared for us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by accepting the testimony of the works that Jesus accomplished.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that the works which Jesus performed provide testimony that God the Father sent Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God believing that Jesus accomplished all the work which His Father gave Him to do.**

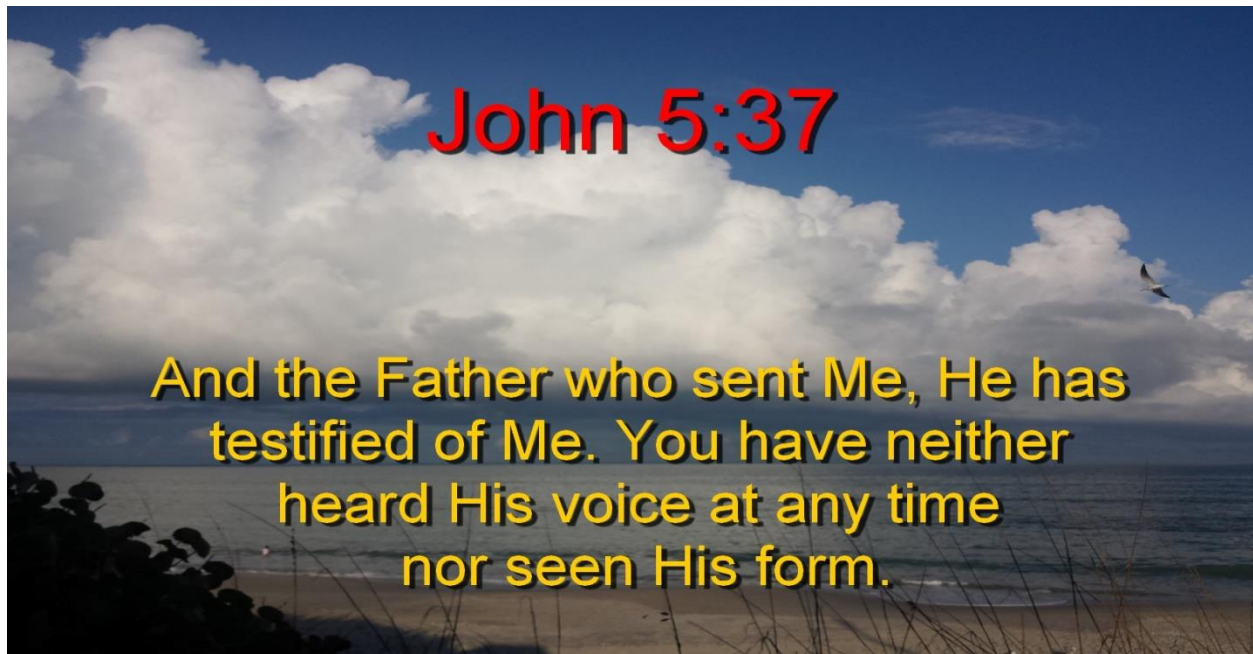
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by accomplishing the work the Father has given us to do. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by focusing upon doing the Father's work?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Two

Heard His Voice



Did the people persecuting Jesus hear the voice of God the Father? Jesus said that God the Father testified of Jesus, but they never heard His voice or saw His form at any time.

Jesus directly challenged the Jews persecuting Him to consider the testimony of God the Father concerning Jesus. Jesus repeatedly emphasized that God the Father sent Him and testified about Him. The Jews persecuting Jesus never heard a word the Father said about His Son.

The Jews persecuting Jesus never heard the voice of God the Father, although they claimed to be following His Law. They also claimed they were doing the will of God by persecuting Jesus. People never do the will of God by opposing Jesus in any way. Jesus has always been God.

Testified of Me

1. **Father.** The key witness for Jesus was His Father. The Father sent Jesus into the world and the Father testified about Jesus.

2. **Opponents.** Sadly, the opponents of Jesus never heard God the Father bearing testimony concerning God the Son.

3. **Saw.** The opponents of Jesus never saw the form of God the Father. The opponents of Jesus studied the Old Testament Law, but never heard God the Father talking to them.

4. **Powerful.** Jesus received the most powerful testimony possible, from the most unimpeachable source: God the Father. Yet, the opponents of Jesus did not have ears to hear.

5. **Confronted.** Jesus confronted His opponents with the truth about Jesus and His Father. Jesus also confronted His opponents with the truth about themselves: they never heard the voice of God nor saw His form. They were deceived and lost in the deafness and blindness of sin.

6. **See.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we hear God the Father when we hear the words Jesus spoke here. We see the form of the Father when we see Jesus here.

7. **Hear.** We rejoice today because we know the Father and hear His voice as He speaks to us through the Bible today.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by hearing the testimony of God the Father concerning His Son.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by dwelling upon the relationship between God the Father and God the Son.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we all recognize the harmony between God the Father and God the Son in all things.**

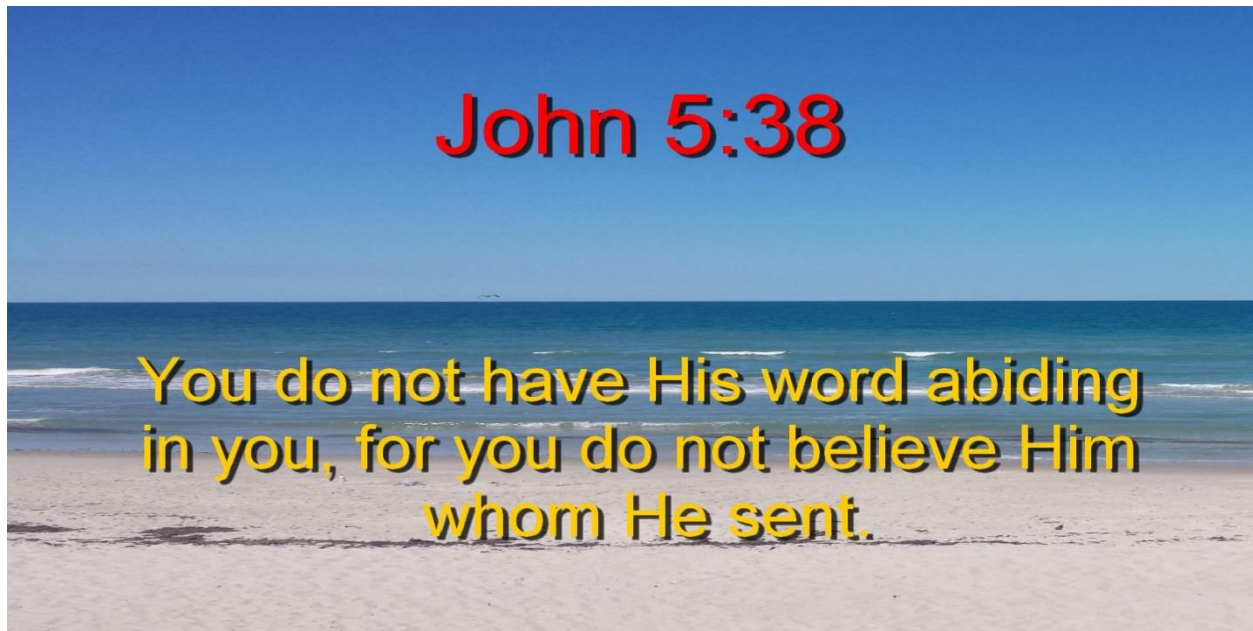
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by harmonizing our lives with God the Father and God the Son. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by listening to the testimony of God the Father concerning His Son?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Three

Abiding in You



Why did Jesus tell the Jews persecuting Him that they did not have the word of God abiding in them nor did they believe Him Whom God the Father sent? Jesus intended to confront them spiritually with their failure to hear and to see God the Father.

Jesus wanted the Jews persecuting Him to believe that God the Father sent Jesus, and so by faith receive eternal life. Instead, the Jews were persecuting Jesus based upon their false traditions built upon their false interpretations of the Law of Moses.

Anytime anyone opposes Jesus, we know they also oppose God the Father. Jesus showed that people who have the word of God the Father abiding in them love God the Son.

Do Not Believe

1. **Word**. The Jews persecuting Jesus believed they were acting upon the Word of God, but they were mistaken. The Word of God was not abiding in them.
2. **Tradition**. Religious people often develop traditions based upon incorrect interpretations of the Bible.
3. **Pallet**. The Jews persecuting Jesus built a tradition that no one should ever pick up a pallet on the Sabbath. They thought that tradition was built upon the Law of Moses, but they were wrong.
4. **Proof**. Jesus offered many layers of proof that their tradition was wrong, but the Word of God was correct. Jesus proved that He was the Son of God, and He commanded Pallet Man to pick up his pallet and walk.
5. **Testimony**. Jesus cited the testimony of God the Father that Jesus was the Son of God. The Jews never heard the Word of God given as testimony about Jesus being the Son of God.
6. **Form**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we hear the testimony of God about His Son and we have seen the form of God the Father in Jesus Christ.
7. **Believe**. We rejoice today because we believe the Word of God and have seen the form of God the Father in Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by hearing the voice of God the Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by believing the voice of God the Father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we have the word of God abiding in all of us.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by the word of God abiding within us. Will you live Godly in the family of God by believing the word of God today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Four

Search the Scriptures Today



John 5:39

You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me;

Why did Jesus tell the Jews persecuting Him to search the Scriptures? Because they thought the Scriptures gave them eternal life, but actually they testified about Jesus.

Jesus always encourages people to read the Scriptures. Instead, people often focus upon their religious traditions. The interpretations of Scripture should never be confused with the Scripture itself.

We know our interpretations of Scripture are wrong when those interpretations separate us from Jesus and the Scriptures. We must keep in mind that the Scriptures testify that Jesus is the Son of God, equal to God the Father and sent by God the Father to do the will of God the Father.

Search the Scriptures

1. **Applied.** Jesus continued to reveal the truth to His opponents. Jesus told them the truth, and applied those truths to the people around Him.
2. **Quote.** Previously, the devil quoted the Bible to Jesus as the devil tempted Jesus. Just because people quote the Bible word for word, never assume that they understand it or that they know the truth.
3. **Studied.** Jesus knew His opponents were very religious, and studied the Old Testament. His opponents even thought that they had eternal life in the Old Testament.
4. **Search.** We must all learn the lesson Jesus taught here about the Scriptures: you can search the Scriptures, believe you have found eternal life in them, and still be going straight to hell.
5. **Recognize.** As Jesus has been proving, if you oppose Jesus, and do not recognize Him as God, then you do not have eternal life. The Scriptures testify of Jesus, that God the Father sent Him. Jesus speaks the words of God and does the works of God, because He is God, just like His Father.
6. **Savior.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we search the Scriptures, and we know and believe they testify to the great love of Jesus, our Savior.
7. **Shines.** We rejoice today because Jesus shines in the Scriptures, which accurately bear witness to Jesus and His relationship to God His Father.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by searching the Scriptures to know Jesus better.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by hearing the testimony of the Scriptures about Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by abandoning traditions that oppose the Scriptures.**

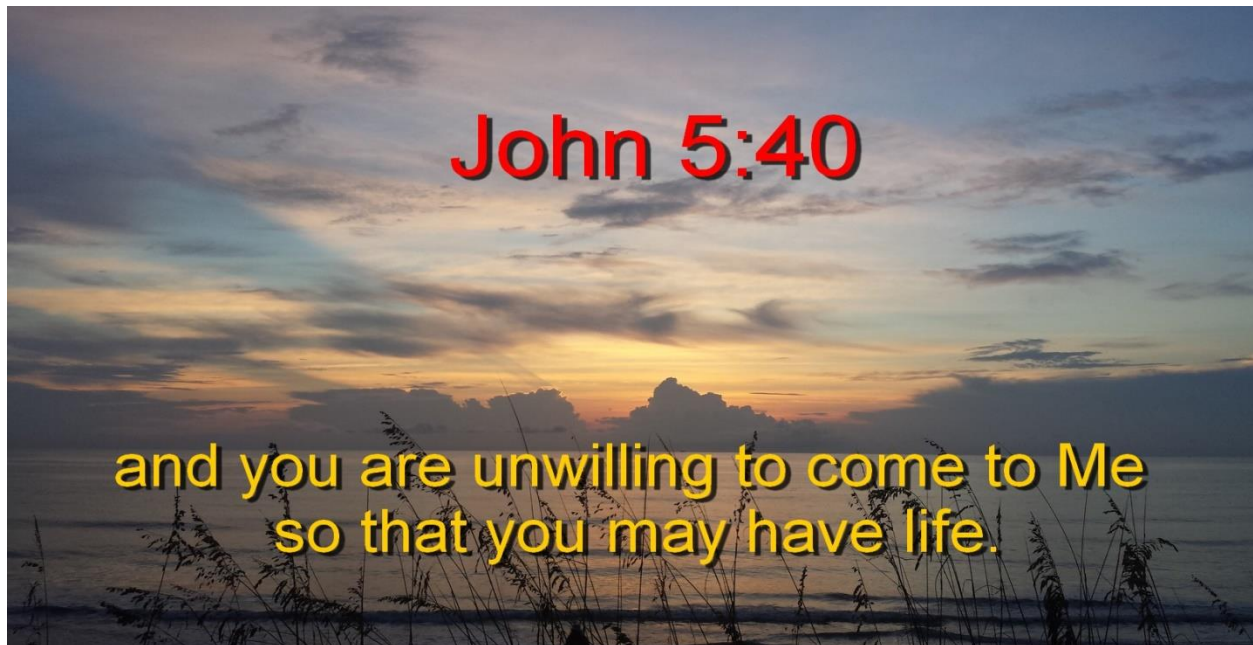
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by searching the Scriptures to learn more about Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by hearing the testimony of the Scriptures about Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Five

Unwilling Today



What would happen to people who come to Him for salvation? They would have eternal life. Jesus came to give people eternal life by laying down His life for them on the cross and then taking up His life again.

Jesus said people were unwilling to come to Him. Notice that Jesus did not say they were unable to come to Him. Here Jesus emphasized they were unwilling. They loved their traditions and the darkness more than they loved anything else.

Jesus confronted the unwillingness of the Jews persecuting Him. Until they were willing to search the Scriptures, receive the testimony of God the Father, and come to Jesus for salvation, they would still be in their sins and bound for eternity in the Lake of Fire. Jesus preached salvation in Him to them so that they would have eternal life as a free gift from Jesus through faith in Him.

Come to Me

1. **Wrong.** Jesus continued His revelation to His opponents. He explained to them that they searched the Scriptures because they thought they had eternal life in them. They were wrong. Only Jesus gives eternal life, and the Scriptures testify of Him.

2. **Unwilling.** Jesus then looked deeply into the hearts of His opponents. He declared to them that they were unwilling to come to Him so that they may have life.

3. **Come.** No human can have eternal life without coming to Jesus. No matter when you lived or where you lived, eternal life requires that you come to Jesus to receive it.

4. **Refuse.** Why do people refuse eternal life? Some people refuse it because they refuse to come to Jesus, seeking eternal life.

5. **Good News.** Jesus presented the good news of eternal life to His opponents. In our lives, loving our enemies must always include sharing the Good News of eternal life in Jesus, just like Jesus did.

6. **Know.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that we have come to Jesus, and received eternal life.

7. **Willing.** We rejoice today that we were willing to come to Jesus, by the grace of God, even when most people were unwilling to come to Jesus to receive eternal life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by confronting people with their unwillingness to come to Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we encourage people to receive the free gift of eternal life found only in Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise God that we were willing to receive the free gift of eternal life.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by encouraging people to come to Jesus for eternal life. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by sharing the good news that Jesus wants all people to have eternal life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Six

Receive Today



Did Jesus receive glory from men? Jesus stated plainly that He did not receive glory from men.

Jesus revealed that He was the Son of God. He did the works of God, He spoke the words of God, and He was sent from God the Father.

Jesus judged with righteous judgment. He did not seek His own will, but the will of God the Father Who sent Him. Jesus disclosed that He would judge every person who did not receive Him as Savior on earth.

Jesus tied the love of God to seeking glory from Jesus. Jesus was not seeking His own will or His own glory. Yet, because He was God in the flesh, people should worship Him as God. Instead, they sought glory from one another.

Glory from Men

1. **God.** Jesus continued to speak the truth to His opponents. He revealed Himself as God in the flesh.

2. **Glory.** Jesus also disclosed that He did not seek glory from men. Every man on earth should have been giving all glory to Jesus, but He did not seek glory from men.

3. **Seek.** What would your life be like if you did not seek glory from men? Jesus did not say that He did not care what people thought about Him. He said He did not seek glory from them.

4. **Goals.** Jesus always focused upon doing the will of His Father. He had clearly defined goals, all centered upon doing the works of His Father.

5. **Like Jesus.** Walking with Jesus means that we learn to live like Jesus, talk like Jesus, think like Jesus, be motivated like Jesus, and be like Jesus in all things.

6. **From Men.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we no longer seek glory from men.

7. **We Live.** We rejoice today because Jesus selflessly lived to please God the Father, Who sent Jesus for us. In Jesus we live to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by glorifying Jesus is all that we do.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by not seeking glory from men.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we give all worship, praise, honor and glory to Jesus, Son of God, Savior of the world.**

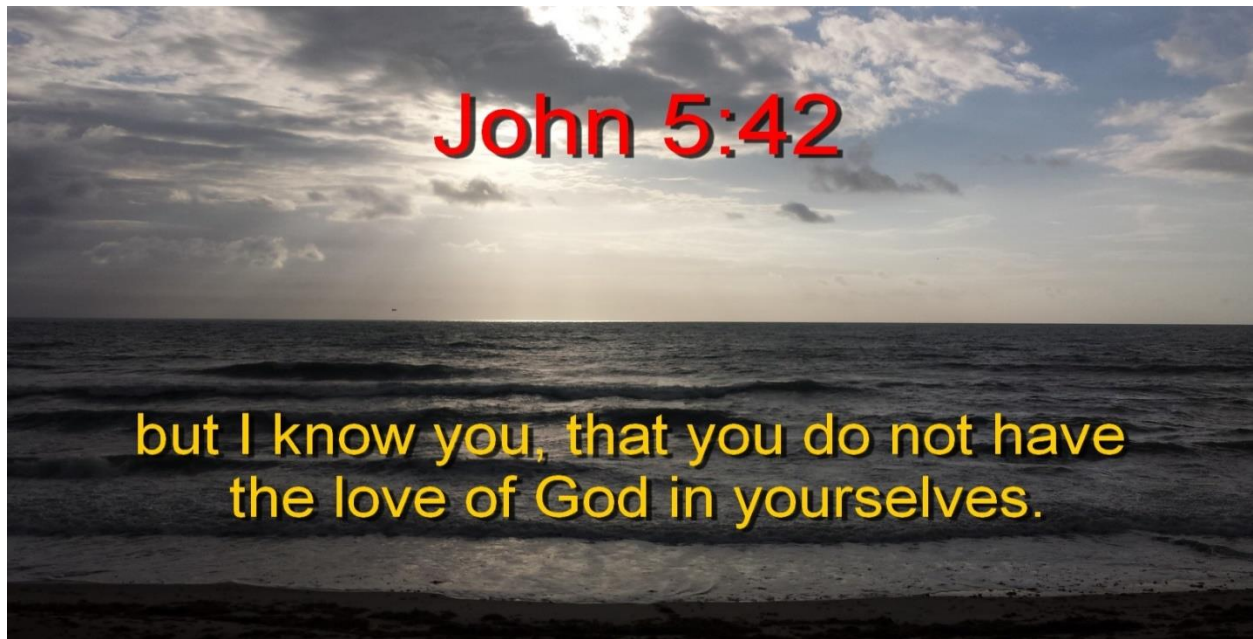
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by giving Jesus all the glory. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by glorifying Jesus, and not seeking glory from men?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Seven

I Know You Today



What did Jesus know about the people persecuting Him? Jesus knew that the people persecuting Him did not have the love of God in themselves.

If people love God, then they would love Jesus and seek the glory of God. People who seek glory from men do not love God. They also do not love Jesus.

Jesus linked seeking glory from men with a lack of love for God. As people long for glory from men, they display their lack of love for God. They go hand in hand.

Jesus revealed that He knew all the things in men. He knew their love and the desire for glory. Because people did not love God, they did not honor Jesus or seek glory from Jesus.

Love of God

1. **Know**. Jesus said He knew His enemies.
2. **Love**. Jesus knew that His enemies loved glory from men.
3. **Glory**. Jesus did not seek glory from men.
4. **God**. Jesus knew that His enemies did not have the love of God in them.
5. **Omniscience**. Jesus knows all things. He has always known all things.
6. **Yourselves**. Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus knows everything about His enemies and still loved them.
7. **Salvation**. We rejoice today because Jesus knew that His enemies did not love God and still urged them to repent, change their minds, and accept Him as Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by accepting the testimony of Jesus that people who hate Him do not love God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we rely upon Jesus to know all things about all people and help us glorify Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in praising Jesus for His knowledge and great love for everyone.**

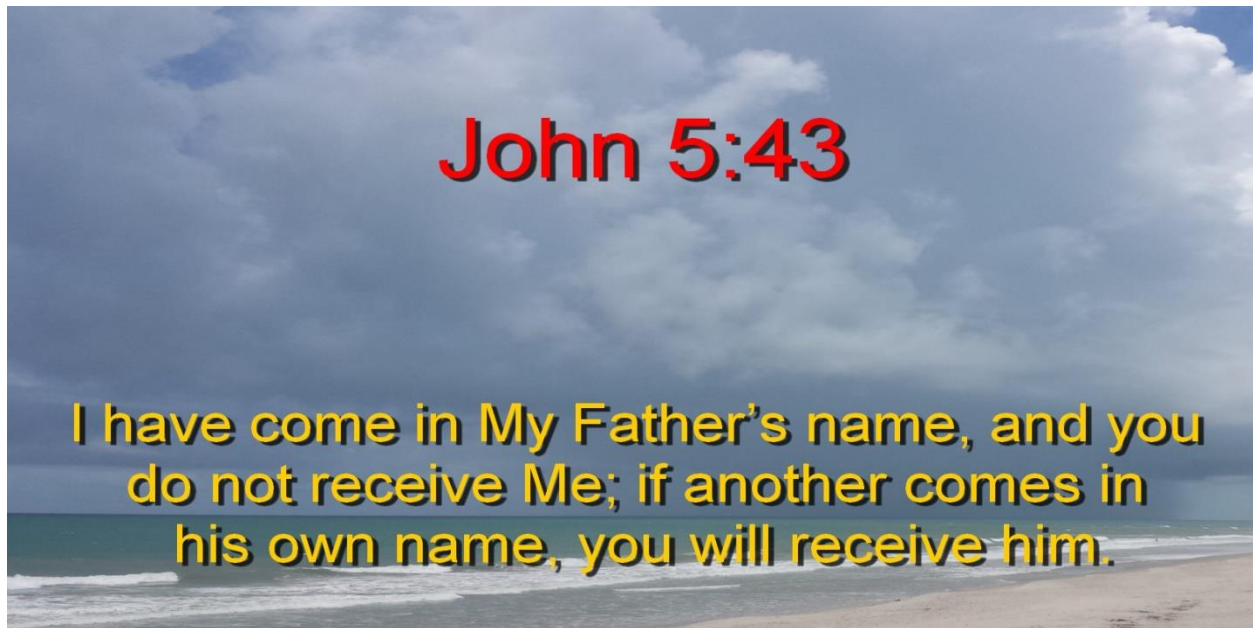
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that people who do not love Jesus do not have the love of God in them. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by not being surprised that some religious people will oppose Jesus and His work because they do not love God in their hearts?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eight

I Have Come Today



Why did the religious leaders reject Jesus? The religious leaders rejected Jesus because He came in the name of His Father.

Jesus explained that the religious people would accept another person if he came in his own name. Jesus revealed that He was rejected because He claimed to be the Son of God. He knew by making that claim that the religious leaders and others would reject Him.

Jesus also knew that if other people came in their own name, then the religious leaders would accept them. The sticking point was that Jesus claimed to God in the flesh, both God and Man. The religious leaders never knew God and so rejected Jesus because Jesus came in the name of God the Father.

My Father's Name

1. **Name**. Jesus came in the name of His Father.
2. **Receive**. The religious leaders did not receive Jesus, even though He came in the name of His Father.
3. **Another**. Jesus said if another comes in his own name, then people would receive him.
4. **God**. The religious leaders would accept people who come in their own name, declaring themselves to be men.
5. **Insight**. Jesus had insight into the heart of men, the future, and the events in the future.
6. **Own**. Living Godly in the family of God means that some religious leaders did not receive Jesus, but they would receive others who would come in their own name.
7. **Jesus**. We rejoice today because Jesus knew that His own people would not receive Him as Savior, because He came in the name of God, His Father, and brought salvation to everyone who received Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that Jesus came in the name of His Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus expected that His own people would not receive Him because He came in the name of His Father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we know that some religious people will receive people who come in their name, but reject Jesus Who came in the name of God His Father.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that Jesus came in the name of the Father. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by glorifying Jesus because He did His Father's will in all things?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Nine

You Receive Glory Today



How can you believe? Jesus asked simple questions, and then provided deep explanations. Jesus explained that when people seek glory from one another, then they cannot believe.

Jesus meant that when people seek glory from one another, and not from God, then they ignore God. People become focused upon each other, and doing things that will cause people to glorify them.

When people seek glory from one another, they reject God. When people do not seek the glory of God, they turn to seeking glory from other people. Today, people make the same mistakes of ignoring God and seeking their own glory. They reject Jesus because He declared Himself the Son of God, and He proclaimed that He came to do the will of God and glorify God.

How Can You Believe Today

1. **Believe**. Jesus focused upon faith for salvation. He used questions to make important spiritual points.
2. **Receive**. The religious leaders received glory from one another and not from God.
3. **Seek**. The religious leaders did not seek glory from God.
4. **One**. Jesus described God as the One God. Jesus referred to the compound unity of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Three divine Persons, one God.
5. **Only**. Jesus also described God as the only God. Jesus was not another God, but God the Son. The Holy Spirit was not another God, but God the Holy Spirit. Three divine Persons existing eternally as one God, the only God.
6. **Glory**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we seek glory from God, not from other humans.
7. **Jesus**. We rejoice today because God intends for His children to seek glory from obedience to God.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by seeking glory from God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by giving glory to God in all that we do.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God because Jesus set the perfect example of seeking glory from God.**

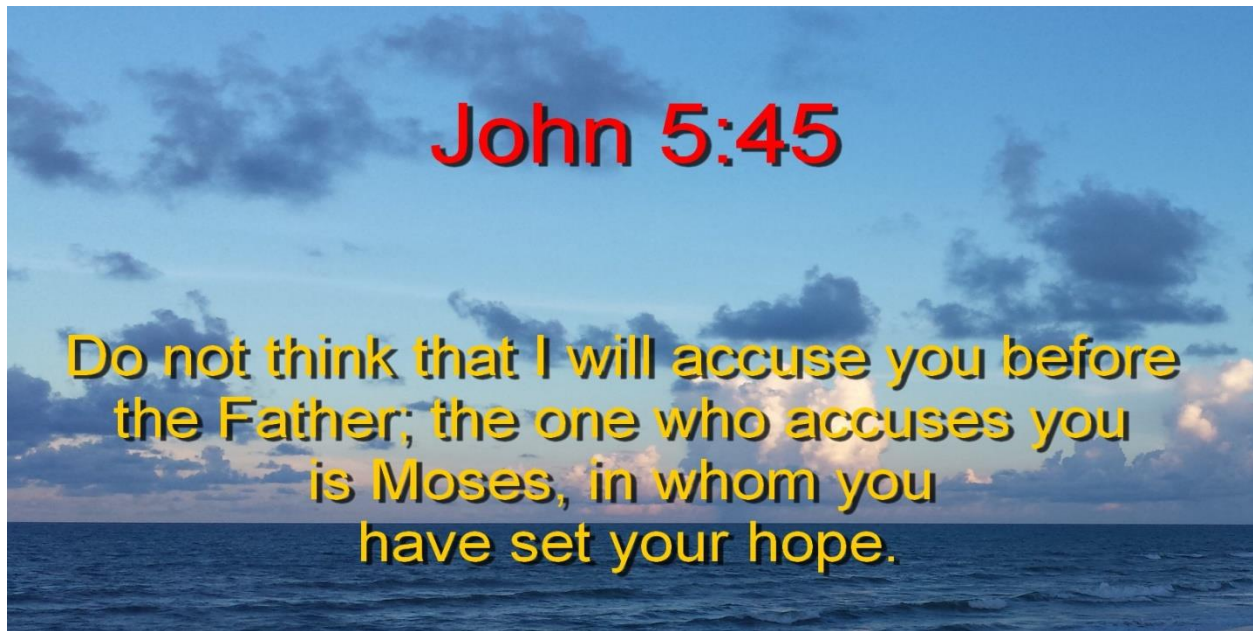
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by seeking the glory that is from the one and only God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by seeking the glory from God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Ten

Accuse Today



Who will accuse the Jewish religious leaders before God the Father? Jesus said that Moses would accuse those people before God the Father.

Jesus confronted the Jewish religious leaders with a solemn warning. They sought glory from men and thought they kept the Law of Moses, leading to salvation. Jesus told them that Moses would accuse them before God the Father. He also told them that they never knew God and rejected Jesus Who will sit in judgment upon them.

Witnesses will be called at the Great White Throne judgment. All unbelievers will appear before the Great White Throne judgment. The people appearing there will all be unbelievers. Moses will stand and accuse these very religious leaders for their lack of faith in Jesus as the Son of God and only Savior.

Moses

1. **Opponents.** Jesus continued to reveal penetrating spiritual truth to His religious opponents. Jesus explained that His opponents would all face judgment, and Moses would accuse them.

2. **Religious.** Many religious people attend church, pray, help others, and act piously; yet, Jesus declared they never knew Him and so they never knew God and His salvation.

3. **Attitudes.** Jesus also probed thoughts and attitudes. The self-righteous never bend their wills toward God. Instead, they hold fast to their own customs and ideas.

4. **Traditions.** Just because your family or your church has followed some religious practice for years does not make it right. Jesus proclaimed that Moses himself would accuse the opponents of Jesus of unbelief in the God of Moses, Jesus. At that time, judgment has come and it will be too late for their salvation. The opponents of Jesus trusted in their traditions, and believed they were following Moses. They hoped in Moses. Yet, Moses knew Jesus and believed in Him.

5. **Scriptures.** The Scriptures testify about Jesus in both the Old and New Testaments. By faith alone in God and His salvation, sinners go to heaven. We must be certain our hope resides solely in Jesus.

6. **Hope.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we hope and believe in Jesus. In Him we have passed out of judgment and into eternal life.

7. **Salvation.** We rejoice today because Jesus loves to penetrate our hearts and minds with His love and truth. We fear no accusations at the Great White Throne judgment, because we will never appear there for judgment concerning life or death. We have been saved from that judgment at the moment of salvation on earth.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God because we will never appear at the Great White Throne judgment.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we warn people that they face the Great White Judgment for their unbelief in Jesus as Savior.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in praising Jesus because He fulfilled the Law of Moses, and so Moses will never accuse believers.**

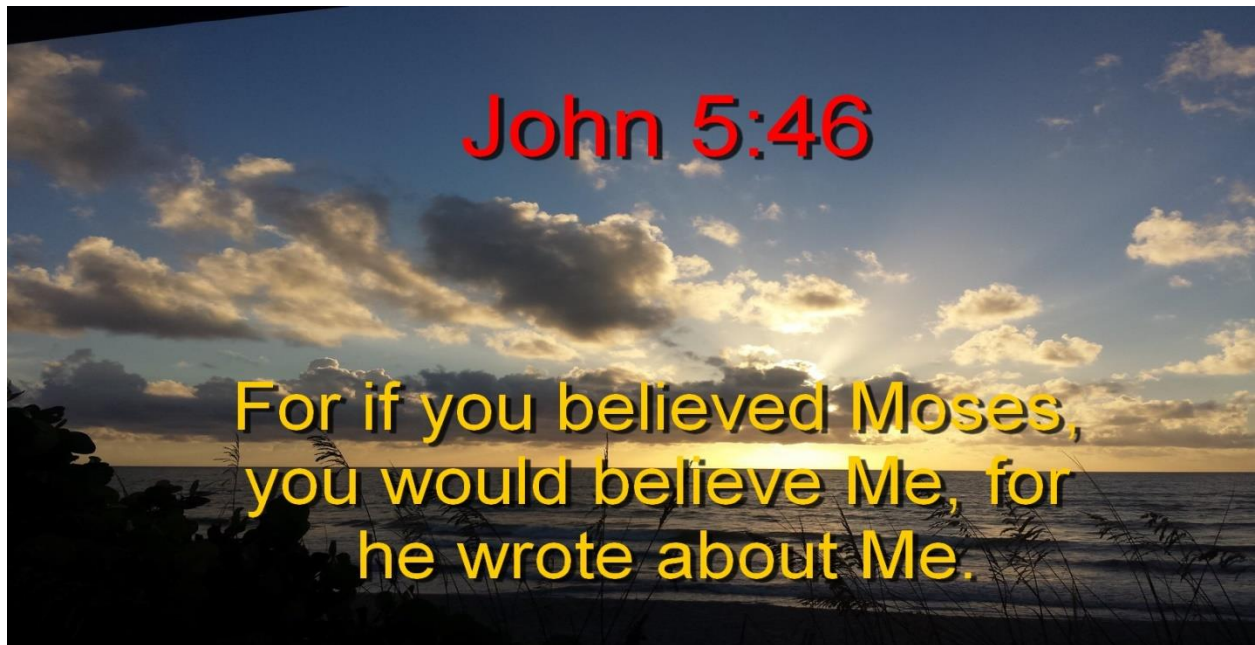
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by resting in the comfort of Jesus our Savior, fearing no accusation from anyone. Will you live Godly in the family of God today leaving fear behind and living in faith?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eleven

Believed Moses Today



Did Moses write about Jesus? Jesus declared that Moses wrote about Jesus. Moses knew Yahweh, a title Jesus applied to Himself. Likewise, Abraham knew Jesus, and rejoiced to see His day.

Jesus was the God of the Old Testament. Jesus remains the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Moses. Moses loved Jesus and wrote about Jesus. Jesus proclaimed that if people believed Moses, then they would also believe Jesus.

Moses declared that Yahweh was God and guided the people of Israel. Yahweh was the covenant God of Israel, Who delivered them from bondage in Egypt and led them into the Promised Land. If people read and believed what Moses wrote in the Old Testament, then they would believe in Jesus, because Moses wrote about Jesus as God.

Believed Me

1. **If**. Jesus knew all possible outcomes and all possible futures. He knew all things and He knew every “what if.”

2. **You**. Jesus loved the people who persecuted Him. He proved to them that He was the Son of God and did the works of His Father.

3. **Believed**. Jesus focused upon faith. What a person believes makes all the difference. He confronted the religious leaders about their lack of faith.

4. **Moses**. Jesus declared that the religious leaders persecuting Him would be accused by Moses. Then Jesus explained that those religious leaders did not believe Moses. While they may claim lip service to the Law of Moses, they never believed Moses.

5. **Wrote**. Moses wrote the first five books of the Bible. Moses wrote about Yahweh, a title Jesus applied to Himself. Moses knew Jesus and wrote about Jesus.

6. **Me**. Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus revealed that Moses wrote about Jesus. So, if they believed Moses, they would have believed Jesus, because Moses wrote about Jesus.

7. **Faith**. We rejoice today because Moses wrote about Jesus and He is the Messiah.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that Moses knew Jesus and wrote about Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we love Jesus more for works in the Old Testament and the New Testament.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by singing the praises of Jesus with Moses and the other saints in the Old Testament who live today because of Jesus.**

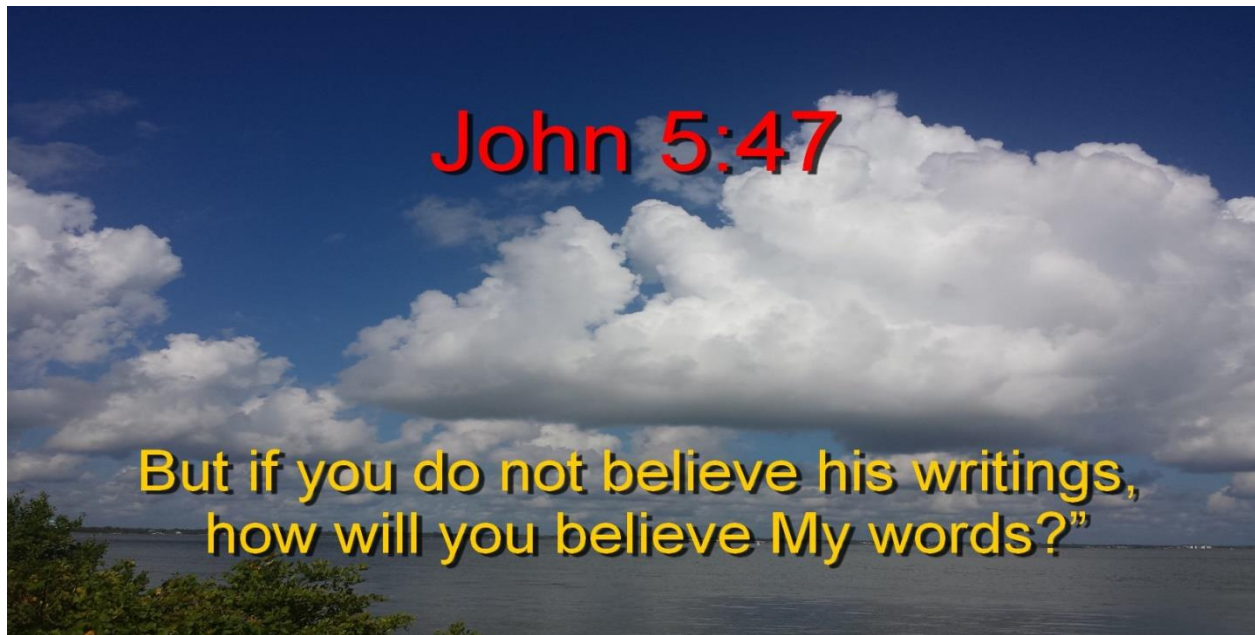
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by reading the writings of Moses so we can learn more about Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by listening to Moses reveal Jesus to you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Twelve

Believe His Writings Today



Did the religious leaders believe the writings of Moses? Jesus said that the religious leaders persecuting Him did not believe the writings of Moses.

Because the religious leaders persecuting Jesus did not believe the writings of Moses, so also they did not believe the word of Jesus. Jesus asked penetrating questions to prove His points.

Jesus had already declared that Moses would accuse those religious leaders in the future. Jesus would sit in judgment upon them, because God the Father had delivered all judgment to the Son, so that people would honor the Son. The religious leaders relied upon their traditions, but those traditions only proved that they never believed the writings of Moses and so they also did not believe the words of Jesus.

Believe My Words

1. **Many Reasons.** Jesus continued His message to His opponents. He has highlighted many reasons why they should recognize Him as the Son of God.

2. **Accuse.** Jesus also revealed to them that Moses would accuse them of unbelief in the day of judgment.

3. **Confront.** The Jews thought of themselves as people who kept the Law of Moses and so would go to heaven. Jesus confronted them with the truth that Moses knew Jesus and wrote about Jesus.

4. **Failed.** Not only did the Jews not believe Moses, they also failed to believe what Moses wrote and what Jesus said.

5. **Wrote.** Moses wrote the first five books of the Bible. He wrote as a man moved by the Spirit of God and spoke for God.

6. **Read.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe what Moses wrote about Jesus. Jesus intends for everyone to read the Bible, believe what it says, and so they hear the words of Jesus recorded throughout the Bible. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

7. **Hear.** We rejoice today because we believe the Bible is the Word of God. We hear Jesus and love Him each day.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing the writings of Moses.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by believing the words of Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by believing that the Bible contains the words of eternal life.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing the words of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today listening to Jesus and hearing His words from the Scriptures?

HALLELUJAH !

5

Learning about Godliness and Water Today

Jesus went up on a mountain and saw a large crowd following Him. He asked Philip about buying bread for so many people, testing him. Jesus knew all along what He was going to do. Philip said two hundred denarii worth of bread would not be sufficient to feed the crowd.

Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, then said that a lad here has five barley loaves and two fish, but doubted that would feed all the people. Jesus then said have the people sit down. He took the loaves and the fish and had the disciples distribute the food. The people had as much as they wanted. When they were filled, Jesus directed the disciples to collect the leftover fragments. They filled twelve baskets with those fragments. The people then saw the sign Jesus performed and said: "This is truly the Prophet Who is to come into the world."

Jesus then perceived the crowd intended make Him king by force. He withdrew to the mountain again by Himself. At evening, His disciples got into a boat and left for Capernaum. A strong wind arose during the night. They rowed about three or four miles. They saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat. They were frightened. Jesus replied: "It is I; do not be afraid." Jesus read the emotions of people perfectly, even in the dark. He also cared for them and comforted them with His words.

The next day the crowd followed Jesus to Capernaum. The crowd asked Jesus when did He get there? Jesus told them that they were seeking Him not because they saw signs, but because they ate of the loaves and were filled. Jesus told them not to work for food which perishes, but for food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to them. The Father set His seal on the Son of Man.

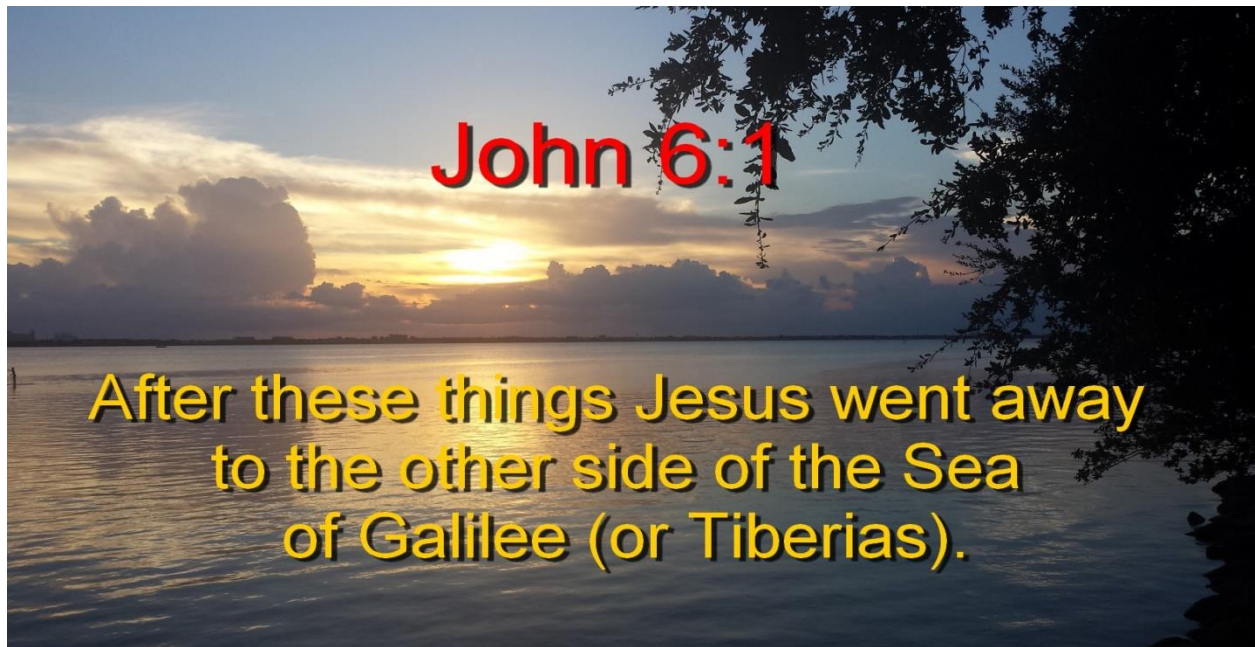
The crowd asked Jesus what they must do so that they may work the works of God. Jesus answered that they must do the work of God, which is to believe in Him whom He has sent. When they asked Jesus for a sign, and cited manna, Jesus explained that it was not Moses who gave them manna, but God the Father. He also gives the true bread out of heaven, the bread which comes down out of heaven and gives life to the world. The crowd then asked for Jesus to give them that bread.

Jesus then proclaimed that He is the bread of life. He promised that everyone who comes to Him will never hunger and He who believes in Him will never thirst. Jesus then said that although they had seen Him, they did not all believe. Jesus also disclosed that the Father gives people to Jesus, and Jesus receives every one of them, and never loses even one. He will raise them up on the last day. Jesus said the will of His Father is that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and Jesus will raise him up on the last day. The Jews then began to grumble among themselves.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Thirteen

Jesus Went Today



Where did Jesus go after His discussion with the religious leaders who were persecuting Him? Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee.

With mounting persecution in Jerusalem and Judea, Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus had already been spending time in Galilee, at the wedding in Cana and the healing of the royal official.

Having healed Pallet Man and explained in detail His relationship to God the Father, Jesus left Jerusalem. He left behind people He had healed and many people had witnessed His miracles. Yet, Jesus had prophesied that He would come to His own, and they would not receive Him.

The Other Side

1. **Left.** Jesus left His opponents and moved on. At times in our lives, we have to leave one place of ministry for another place.

2. **Travelled.** Jesus followed His Father's plan for Him to preach the Gospel throughout Israel. He frequently travelled, and said He had nowhere to lay His head.

3. **Galilean.** At times, Capernaum, situated on the northern banks of the Sea of Galilee, functioned as the Galilean headquarters for Jesus. He performed miracles there and people there knew Him.

4. **Geography.** I enjoy the historical details of the Bible, with careful geography and cultural explanations. John provided both the Roman name of the sea (Tiberius) and the local name for the sea (Galilee).

5. **Itinerary.** Jesus had a keen sense of direction and itinerary provided by His Father. He spoke the words given to Him by His Father at the right time and place. Where Jesus leads us, so we speak for Him.

6. **New.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we move on at God's pleasure. He directs our steps, and we meet new people in new places. Yet, our message remains the same: the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

7. **Far Away.** We rejoice today because Jesus promised to build His church, with people from many places and cultures. As born again believers, we exult in our salvation that reached us in lands far away from Israel.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by following the leading of Jesus to go to new places.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we look for opportunities to speak about Jesus to many different people.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus has drawn people from all over the world to Himself.**

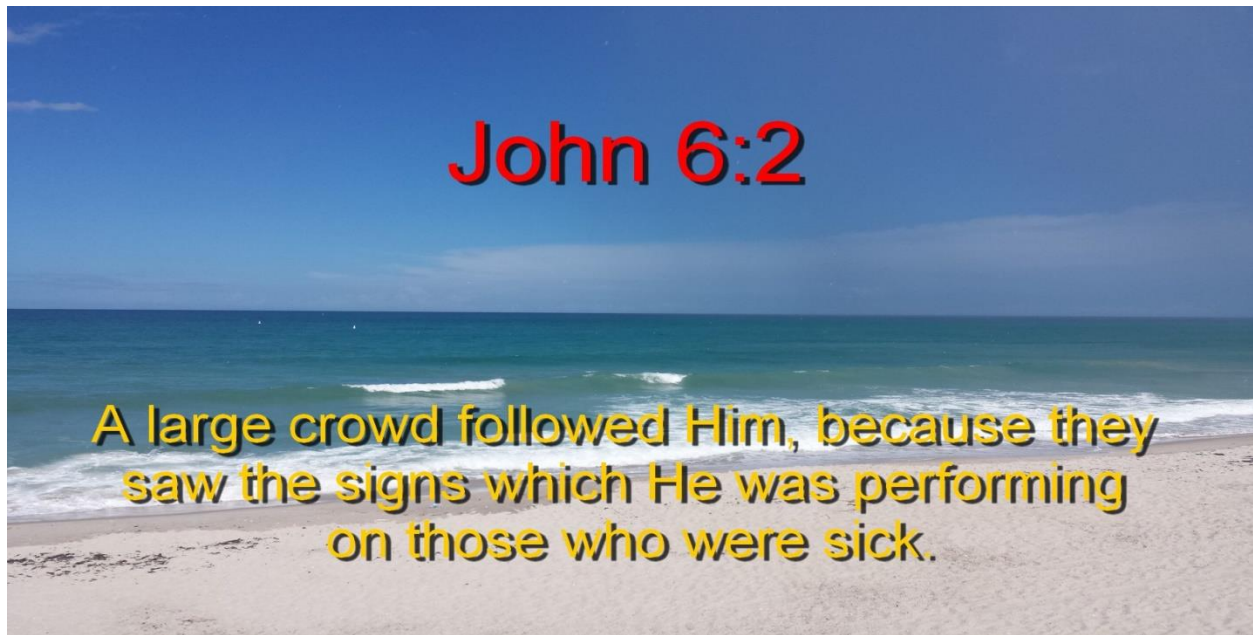
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by seeking out new areas to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by going where Jesus sends you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Fourteen

Followed Him Today



Why were crowds following Jesus? They followed Jesus because they saw the signs which He performed on those who were sick.

When Jesus healed Pallet Man, people saw and took notice. Many people came to follow Jesus, because they watched Him heal the sick. Jesus performed signs which identified Him as sent by God the Father.

Jesus provided witnesses, testimony, and other proof that God the Father sent Him. Jesus also did the works given to Him by God the Father. When people followed Jesus, they followed Him, whether they knew it or not, because Jesus did the works of God the Father. To have seen Jesus was to have seen God the Father.

Saw the Signs

1. **Crowds.** Jesus drew large crowds and they followed Him. Many people follow Jesus today, but are the individuals just part of the crowd, or do they know Jesus as Savior?
2. **Signs.** God revealed that the crowds followed Jesus because they saw the signs He was performing on the sick.
3. **Supernatural.** The word "sign" means a supernatural act or event which identifies someone. You may recall Jesus turned water into wine; that was the first sign Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He manifested His glory and His disciples believed in Him. Glory and faith relate to the purpose of the signs Jesus performed.
4. **Continual.** Notice that Jesus "was performing" signs on the sick. Jesus healed people on a continual basis. You may remember the woman who touched the garment of Jesus from behind and hoped for healing and anonymity in the crowd.
5. **Loved.** Jesus performed signs so that people would be saved from eternal death; He loved people and gave His life for ours.
6. **Follow.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we follow Jesus today, and He still works signs. Crowds still follow Jesus. Born-again believers do not need to see signs, because we know Jesus as Savior.
7. **Personal.** We rejoice today because we have a personal relationship with Jesus. Although crowds follow Him, He knows each name and loves each one of us dearly.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by appreciating the signs that Jesus did.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we believe the words and works of Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as a great throng of believers united by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, Our Savior.**

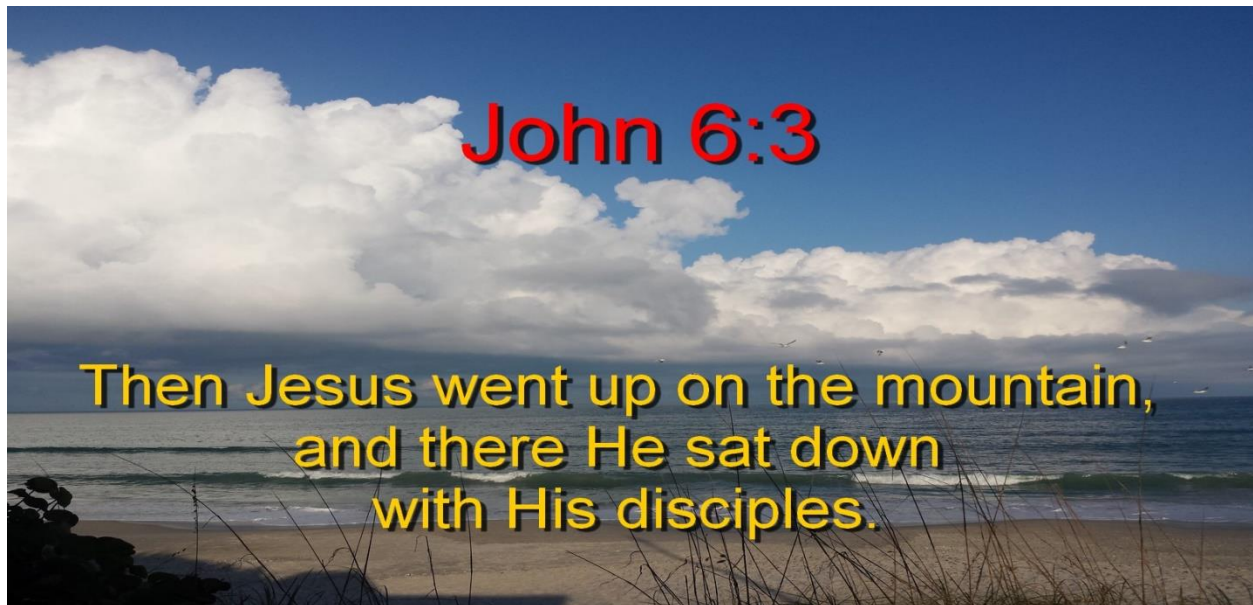
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by watching Jesus accomplish the Father's works in our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today as you experience the power of Jesus Christ at work in you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Fifteen

On the Mountain Today



Where did Jesus go to sit down with His disciples? Jesus went up on the mountain to sit down with His disciples.

Jesus spent time making disciples. Jesus often answered their questions and gave them special insight into the kingdom of God. To them God the Father had revealed Jesus and His ways and His works.

Jesus also spent time away from the crowds following Him. Jesus would take time away from others to spend time in prayer with His Father. Jesus highly valued personal time with God the Father.

Jesus went up on the mountain to sit down with His disciples. Jesus sat down to teach them and to spend time with them. He always cultivated and expanded the faith of the disciples, so that one day they would go forth having spent time with Jesus learning the ways of God, while they sat down on a mountain.

Sat Down with His Disciples

1. **Healing.** Large crowds followed Jesus, and He was healing them. Some were healed on the road.

2. **Follow.** Jesus set the direction for the crowd, because they followed Him. He did not follow the crowd, but He did follow His Father's travel plans. We can avoid following the crowd by simply following Jesus each day.

3. **Mountain.** Jesus liked mountains and used them for different purposes. He preached from mountains, He was transfigured on a mountain, and He ascended from the Mount of Olives.

4. **Disciples.** Jesus sat down on the mountain with His disciples. Disciples stick close to Jesus, both then and now.

5. **Time.** Jesus took time to sit down with His disciples. Jesus fully comprehended the need of His disciples to have some personal face time with Him. Disciples need face time with Jesus and with each other while gathered to Jesus.

6. **Down.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus takes time to sit down and spend time with us.

7. **Personal.** We rejoice today because Jesus makes time to sit down with us, sometimes on a mountain. He loves us and we know His personal love for each of us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by spending time with disciples.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we make time to spend time with other believers.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we sit down together with Jesus and listen to Him.**

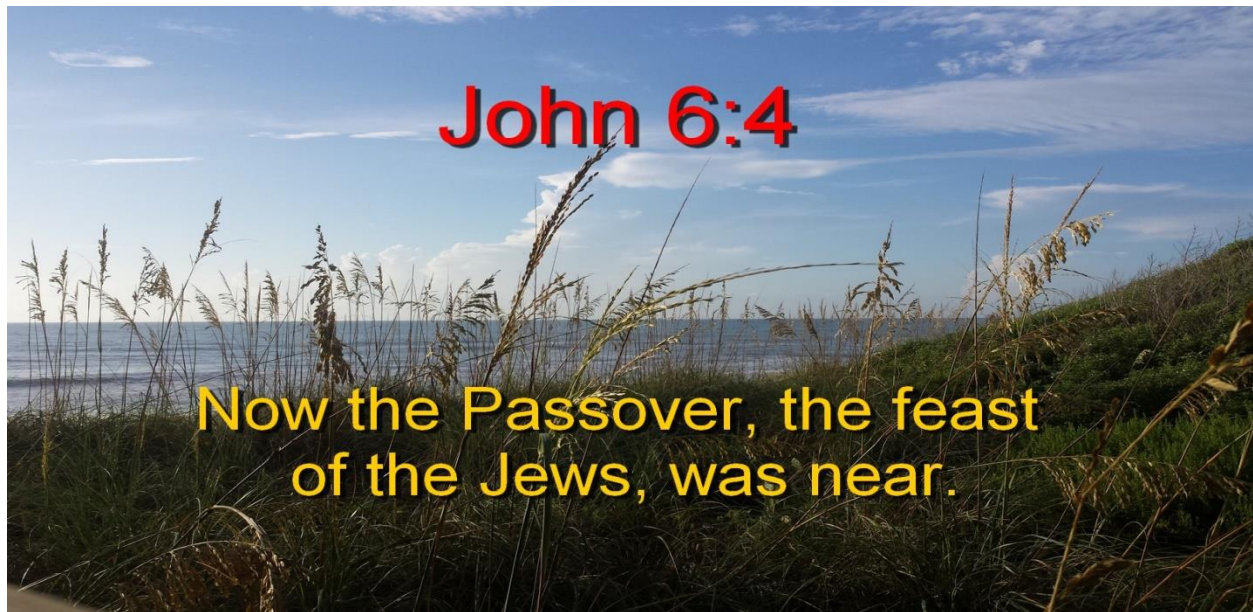
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by making time to spend time with other believers. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by making some time to sit down with other believers and listen to Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Sixteen

The Passover Today



What was the Passover? The Passover was one of three feast each year requiring all the Jews to go to Jerusalem. The Jews celebrated the Feast of Unleavened Bread for seven days and then Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month. The Jews also celebrated the Feast of the Weeks, and the Feast of Ingathering. All the males of Israel had to appear before the Adon Yahweh.

Jesus always kept the Law of Moses. Therefore, as a male, He had to appear in Jerusalem three times per year for the Feasts. This requirement meant that people, including His brothers, knew when He would have to return to Jerusalem. At twilight on the fourteenth day of the first month, the Jews sacrificed the Passover lamb, and remembered the lamb's blood sprinkled on their homes in Egypt, causing the death angel to pass over their houses.

As opposition built against Him from the religious leaders, Jesus did not back down from teaching, preaching and healing. He also followed His

Father's itinerary in moving from place to place. His disciples understood that Jesus avoided conflict and persecution at times by traveling away from it.

The Feast of the Jews

1. **Feasts.** Jesus kept the Law of Moses, including going to Jerusalem for three annual feasts: Passover, Harvest, and Ingathering.

2. **Passover.** John mentioned the Passover here. God ordained the Feast of Passover to commemorate the night in Egypt when the death angel passed over every house with blood from a lamb sprinkled on the lintel and door posts. In all places outside those blood-sprinkled houses, the death angel killed the firstborn of man and beast.

3. **Sacrificed.** Jesus sacrificed Himself as our Passover Lamb of God. He sprinkled us with His blood so that eternal death would pass over us.

4. **Explain.** Notice that John wrote to explain the Jewish feast. Therefore, we know that John understood that some people reading his Gospel may not know about the Jewish feast of Passover. John also provided help with a timeline for the ministry of Jesus.

5. **Plan.** Jesus showed His disciples how to live in God's plans by following Him. A profoundly simple plan for all times.

6. **Symbolism.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we love the symbolism and the reality of Jesus, our perfect sacrifice. He died for us so that we live with Him forever.

7. **Lives.** We rejoice today because Jesus gave Himself in death for us. Yet, He lives today and leads us every day. Happy days.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that God delivered the Jews from Egypt with the blood of a lamb.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we recall that Jesus was the Lamb of God, slain for our sins.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to remember that Jesus gave His life in death so that we would live, even if we die.**

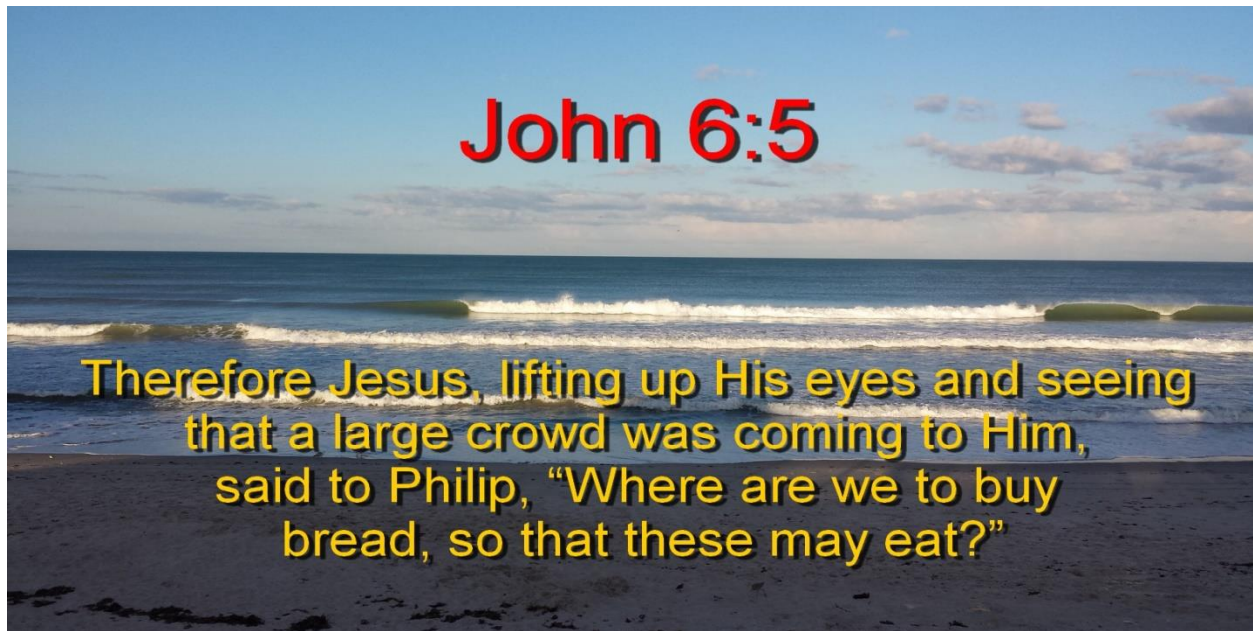
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering Jesus is the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by worshiping Jesus for His great sacrifice?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Seventeen

A Large Crowd Today



What did Jesus see when He lifted up His eyes? Jesus saw a large crowd coming to Him. In contrast, when Philip lifted up his eyes, he was concerned about feeding that big crowd.

Jesus trained Philip to see with His eyes. Jesus grew the faith of Philip with a question. Jesus asked questions so that people would start thinking like Jesus. His questions moved people to start seeing things through the eyes of Jesus.

Philip had to learn that Jesus did not need to buy food to feed a crowd; Jesus focused His question upon where to buy enough food. Jesus implied that money was not an issue, but finding a place with enough food would be a problem. Of course, Jesus knew exactly how to feed a crowd, for He had been opening His hand as God and feeding every living thing since creation. Feeding crowds posed no problem for Jesus.

Buy Bread?

1. **Remembrance.** John recorded the exact words of Jesus, because the Holy Spirit brought to John's remembrance all that Jesus said to him (John 14:26).

2. **Need.** Here, as always, those exact words matter. Jesus spoke before the crowd arrived. Jesus anticipated the need of the crowd. Jesus used that moment to teach Philip an important lesson.

3. **Focus.** Jesus wanted to focus Philip's attention upon the future, physical needs of the crowd.

4. **Attention.** Jesus questioned Philip about where to buy food for the crowd. Jesus loves to teach us by guiding our attention to see needs, and then we see how Jesus meets every need, especially spiritual needs.

5. **Bread of Life.** Jesus loved to feed crowds. He offered them the bread of life and a fountain of living water.

6. **Knows All.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus knows all our needs, even our future needs. He trains us to be His ministers who share Jesus with the crowds all around us.

7. **Philip.** We rejoice today because Jesus knows the name of Philip, one of the twelve disciples, and wanted to train Philip to feed crowds by the power of Jesus. Jesus loves crowds and Philip.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by learning to see with the eyes of Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we listen to the questions of Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we trust Jesus to provide the best answers to the questions He asks us.**

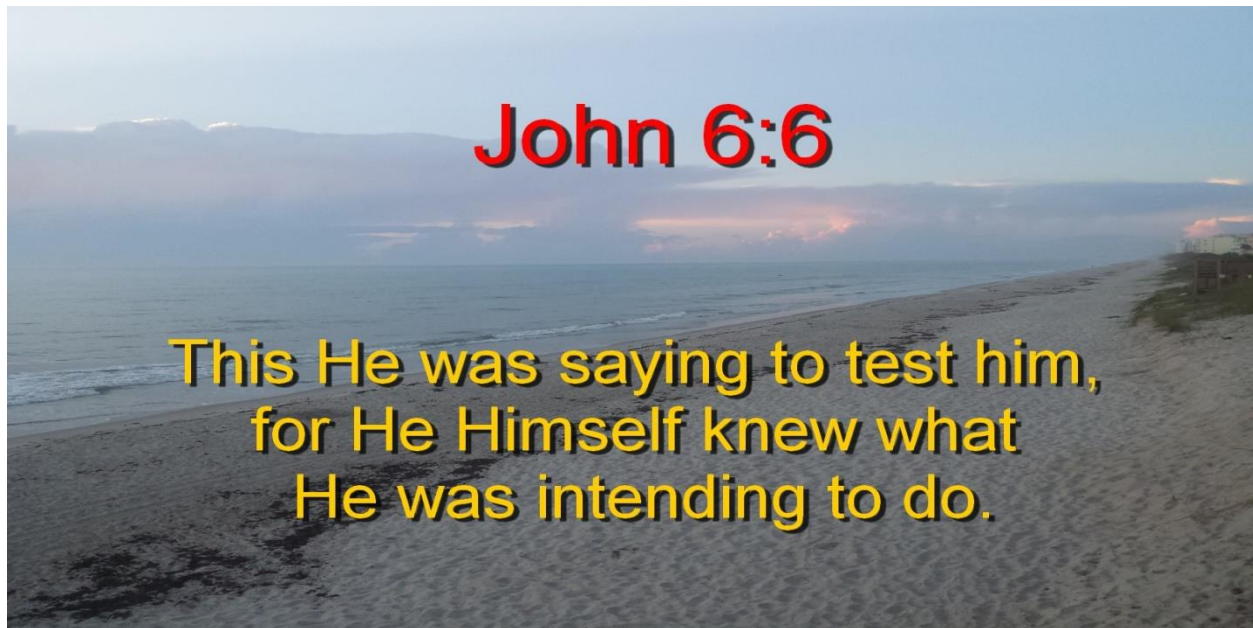
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to feed all the crowds in the world. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by learning from Jesus to feed the crowds with spiritual food from God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eighteen

Test Him Today



Why did Jesus test Philip? Jesus tested Philip so that Philip would see through the eyes of Jesus and feel the compassion for the crowd just as Jesus felt.

Jesus used questions to train and test people. Jesus asked the questions that changed people. He sought answers that would expose human inadequacy so that His disciples would learn to trust Him for supernatural help far beyond human abilities and powers.

Jesus did works of powers in many different ways. His love motivated Him to help individuals and crowds. His disciples had to learn that crowds provide great opportunities to minister to many people all at once. Jesus could preach to hundreds and thousands of people at once. He could also use His power to show them His deity and lovingkindness. His disciples had a lot to learn about Jesus doing ministry in the name of Jesus.

Test Him

1. **Teach.** Jesus anticipated the needs of the crowd coming to Him. He used that moment to teach and to test Philip, His disciple.

2. **Philip.** God tests us for many reasons, but He always has our growth and development in mind. In this case, Philip received special help from Jesus.

3. **Focus.** Jesus knew exactly what He would do with the hungry crowd. His question to Philip initially focused Philip's attention upon the physical need of the crowd to eat. Jesus asked Philip a "where" question, about where to buy food.

4. **Intention.** Actually, Jesus had no intention of buying food. Jesus also had no intention of going anywhere to get food. As God in the flesh, Jesus had all power to feed every hungry mouth on earth.

5. **Test.** In the Gospel of Matthew, the same Greek word for "testing" described the devil and a lawyer testing Jesus. Therefore, we know that "testing" can be done by anyone, good or bad. God said, however, that we should never put Him to the test.

6. **Grow.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know God will test us at just the right moment. God will never allow us to be tempted beyond what we are able to bear. Failing a test means we have succumbed to our own doubts and refused God's loving instruction at that moment of testing. Passing the test means our faith has grown because God used the test to increase our knowledge of His power, wisdom and love.

7. **Perfect.** We rejoice today because God tests us to perfect our faith. I frequently fail tests of my faith, but I rejoice that my faith grows by passing other tests. I see God at work in my life, and He tests me to increase my obedience to Him, so that I love Him more.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by learning as Jesus tests us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we count upon Jesus to know what to do at all times with all people and all crowds of people.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we see crowds of unbelievers seeking Jesus, and we can share Jesus with crowds as we join together in sharing Jesus with one person in the crowd at a time.**

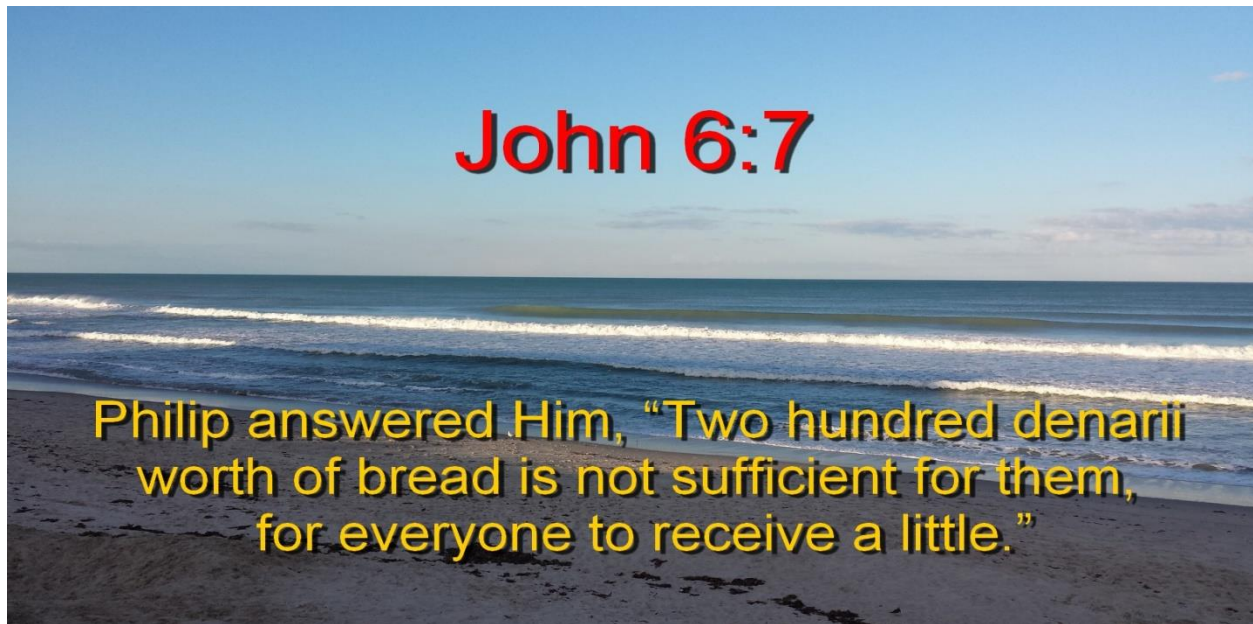
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God in the midst of crowds of people. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to take care of crowds through His loving power?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Nineteen

Not Sufficient Today



Does Jesus provide just a little for people? Jesus satisfies people when He provides food for them. Philip answered the testing question of Jesus with a purely human answer. Jesus trains us to see through His loving and divine eyes.

Philip answered with a money answer. We often tend to think in money terms. We need money to buy food. We need lots of money to buy lots of food. Even then, everyone will receive just a little bit.

Philip needed to stop thinking money answers and to believe in Jesus answers. Jesus did not ask questions without purpose or plan. Jesus planned on growing the faith of His disciples and for them to trust His divine plans. They had to trust in the power of Jesus to avoid money thinking.

Receive a Little

1. **Faith.** Jesus continued His test of Philip. In this instance, Jesus intended to increase the faith of Philip by revealing His power to do things humans could not do, nor even think of doing.
2. **Knew.** Jesus knew all along He would feed the multitude by multiplying the small amount of food they already had.
3. **Beyond.** Jesus led Philip to consider a question, answer that question relying upon human thoughts, and then see that Jesus does things far beyond all that we ask or think.
4. **Solutions.** Jesus cares about our spiritual life. He wants us to rejoice in Him every day. Jesus probes us and causes us to examine our thoughts and solutions.
5. **Taught.** Philip thought it would cost more than two hundred denarii to feed the crowd. Jesus taught Philip that Jesus does not need a penny to feed everyone, because He is the loving God.
6. **Learn.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we recognize Jesus asks us questions today about the needs of the crowds around us. He wants us to learn to trust Him to meet those needs, using His loving power and our obedience to Him.
7. **Build Faith.** We rejoice today because Jesus uses passages like this one to build our faith in His loving power and generous provision for our lives.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to have all the solutions.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we live by faith that Jesus will use His infinite power perfectly in our lives.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we all trust Jesus to supply all our needs as one big family.**

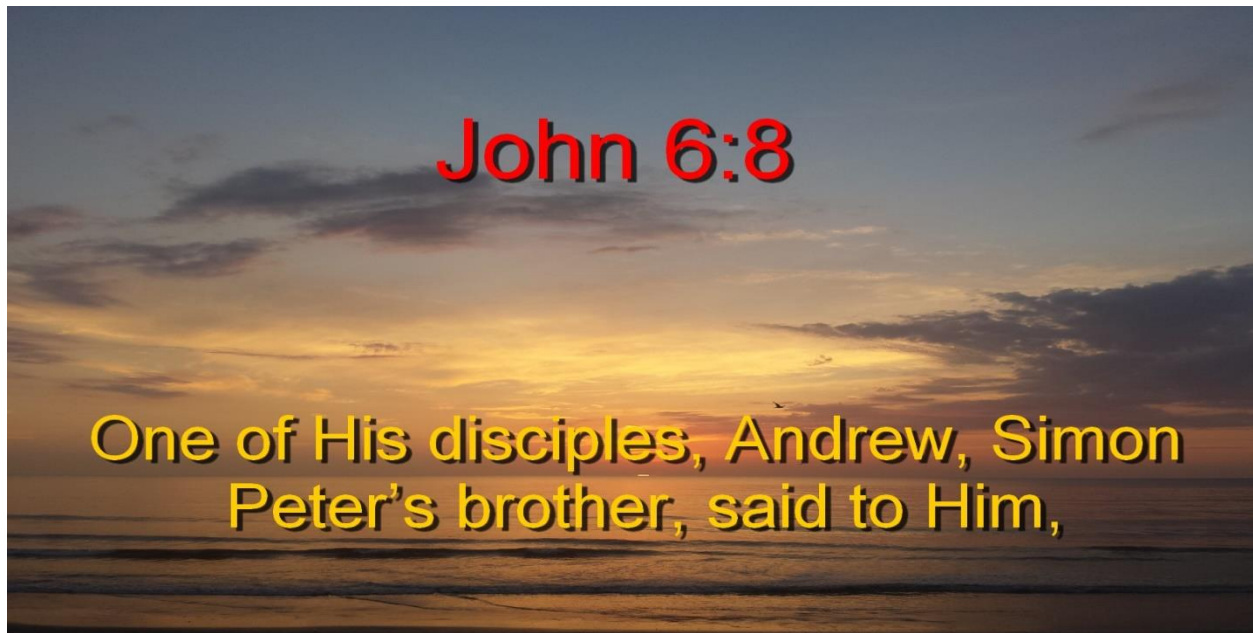
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to have and apply the perfect solution to everything we face. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by seeing Jesus use His power to help people around you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Twenty

Andrew Today



Have you ever listened to someone else's conversation? Jesus had been talking to and testing Philip, but Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, had something to chime in.

Andrew spoke up because he heard Jesus and Philip talking about food. Jesus was training Philip to trust Jesus to feed the crowd. Jesus tested Philip by causing him to think about just where they could get enough food to feed a crowd.

Jesus does not feed people just a little. Philip and Andrew would both need to learn that Jesus satisfies thirst, appetite, and desire. Jesus has the infinite power of God, coupled with the love of God. He will take care of the crowd and train His disciples to trust Him for all things.

Simon Peter's Brother

1. **Andrew.** Jesus has been testing the faith of Philip. Now we learn that Andrew also heard the conversation between Jesus and Philip.

2. **Followed.** You may recall that Andrew heard John the Baptist, whom Andrew followed as a disciple, call Jesus the Lamb of God. Andrew then began following Jesus.

3. **Disciple.** Andrew now has been identified as a disciple of Jesus. Earlier, Jesus had found Philip in Galilee and said to him, "Follow Me."

4. **Found.** Philip then found Nathanael and said they had found the Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth.

5. **Watch.** As Jesus tests our faith, other disciples often watch the testing, and, at times, Jesus tests them too.

6. **Know.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know we live in the midst of other disciples and they know about our testing. At times, they may be tested with us.

7. **Cares.** Jesus knows the name of each of His disciples. He cares for each disciple. Have you ever thought much about Jesus knowing billions of names, and yet He spends personal time with me?

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus knows everyone's name.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect Jesus to talk with us and test us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we understand that Jesus has one plan for the body of Christ, and individual plans for growth and development of each member of the body of Christ.**

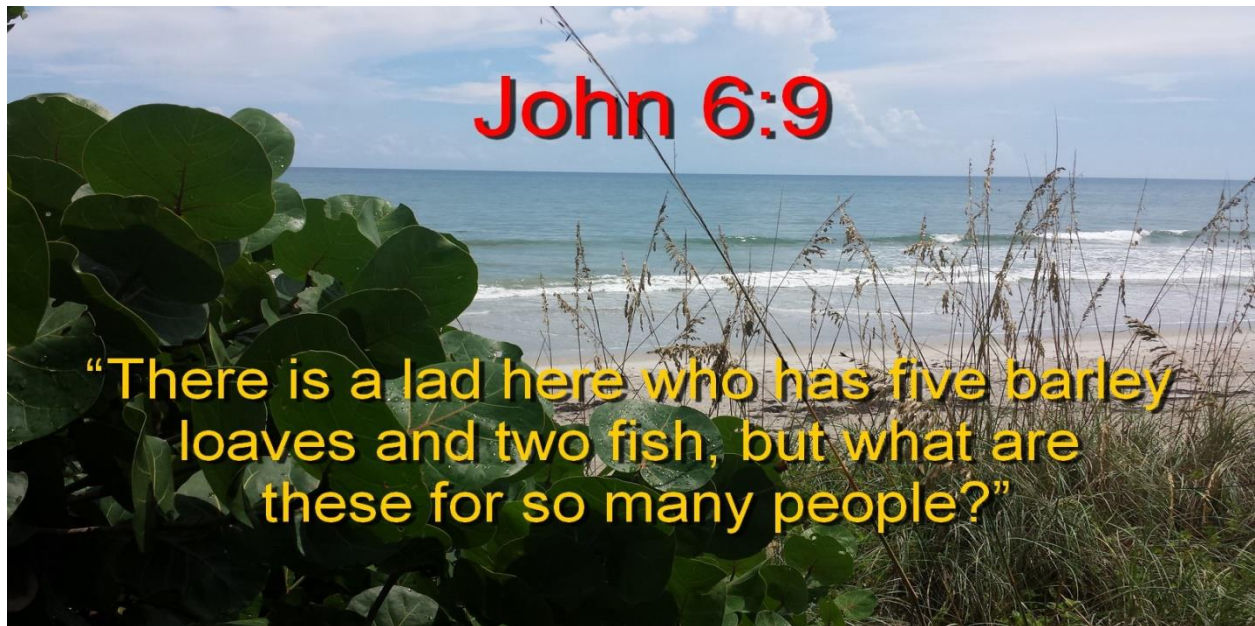
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we bring our plans and resources to Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today as we follow God's plans, using God's resources, to accomplish the work which God has given us to do?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Twenty One

Lad Here Today



What did the lad bring to Jesus? The lad brought five barley loaves and two fish. Andrew was concerned about how so many people could be fed by so little food.

Andrew was thinking food thoughts and not Jesus thoughts. When saints start to see through the eyes of Jesus, then they see the world and rely upon the infinite power of Jesus to do things.

As saints follow Jesus, they learn from Jesus His ways, His love, and His plans. Jesus always has great plans to demonstrate His love and to build up the faith of the saints.

Jesus trained His disciples to rely upon Him for food, clothing, and everything they needed for ministry in His name. They would be taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ into all the world. They first needed to learn that Jesus has all the power to accomplish the work His Father gave for Him to do.

So Many People

1. **Food.** Andrew presented the food facts to Jesus. The lad had five barley loaves and two fish.

2. **Little.** Andrew also shared his opinion: too little food for so many people.

3. **Miracle.** Although Jesus had already healed people, turned water into wine, and performed other miracles, His disciples did not expect Jesus to work a food miracle.

4. **All Power.** In our lives, we do not tend to connect the dots Jesus shows us. We see Him working in our lives, doing specific things, but we miss the connection of Jesus having all power to do all things. Jesus loves to connect us to Him by faith in all His ways and His power.

5. **Feeding.** Andrew, Philip, and many others were about to learn more about the compassion and power of Jesus, displayed in feeding so many people with so little food.

6. **Expect.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect Jesus to test, expand, and shape our faith in Him. As we know Him, we begin to trust Him to do His powerful will in our lives. He helps us connect the faith dots to know Him more completely. We must see Jesus, not just the miracles.

7. **Test.** We rejoice today because we see so many people and so little food; Jesus seizes the moment to test believers, build faith, and feed the multitude. Just another wonderful day with Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by seeing Jesus, and not just His miracles.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we love Jesus for expanding and developing our faith.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we love the way Jesus builds faith in the body of Christ.**

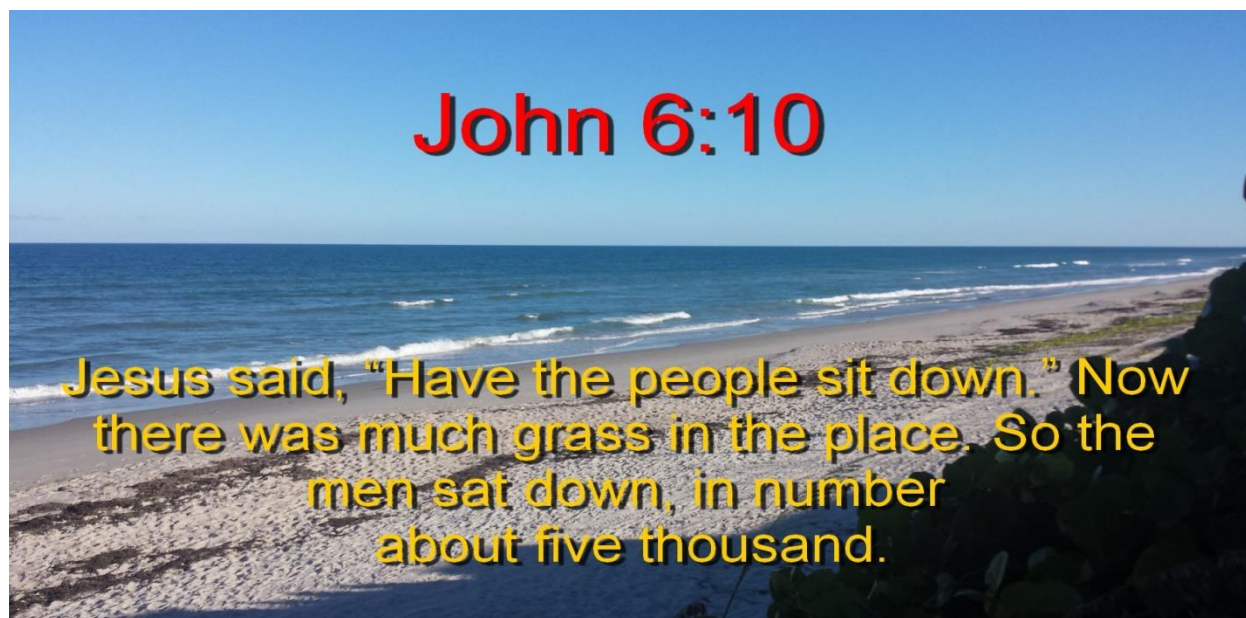
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by watching Jesus connect the spiritual dots in our lives. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by seeing Jesus deepen your faith as you trust Him more?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Twenty Two

Sit Down Today



Why did the people sit down? They sat down because Jesus directed His disciples to have the crowd sit down.

Five thousand men sat down. The place was very grassy, so it was a nice place to sit down. Jesus created a beautiful scene of a huge crowd gathered to Him peacefully sitting down on green grass. In some ways, it looks like a flock of sheep down on the grass with the Shepherd looking over them.

Jesus was about to create food for five thousand people. They did nothing more than sit on the grass and wait for Jesus. They relaxed as Jesus provided food for everyone.

Five Thousand

1. **Jesus' Ministry.** One television preacher today may reach millions and millions of people each day. Yet, Jesus preached, healed, taught and cared for thousands of people at a time, without television. He ministered person to person.

2. **Prepared.** Jesus had prepared Philip and Andrew for the miracle Jesus was about to perform. Now He prepared the crowd.

3. **Numbered.** Please notice that Jesus wanted the crowd to sit down. The men numbered five thousand, not including women and children.

4. **Sat.** Just as Jesus sat down with His disciples, so Jesus sat down with the crowd. That crowd participated in a quiet miracle, without trumpets blowing or shouts of power.

5. **Touched.** Jesus performed this miracle to help Philip, Andrew and all the people in the crowd. Each person, however, may have been touched by the power of Jesus in different ways.

6. **Obey.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we obey Jesus and sit down when He says sit. When we obey Him, we learn new things and He feeds us with spiritual food.

7. **Feeds.** We rejoice today because Jesus feeds people today, supplying the food and multiplying our resources.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by following the commands of Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by sitting down when Jesus tells us to sit down.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in following the commands of Jesus together.**

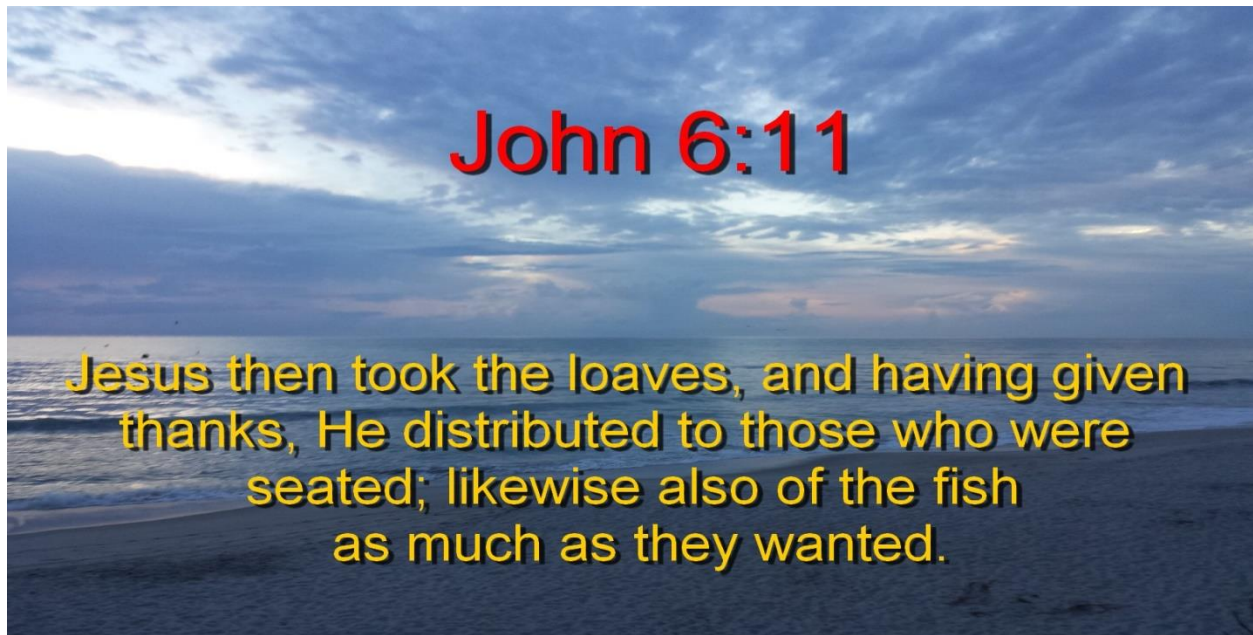
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by sitting down and relaxing when Jesus commands us to do so. Will you live Godly in the family of God by taking time to sit down and listen to Jesus today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Twenty Three

He Distributed Today



What did Jesus do with the loaves and fish? Jesus first gave thanks for the food, and then distributed the food.

Jesus fed the people who were seated. He gave them as much as they wanted, not just a little for each person. When Jesus provides, He gives us an abundance. You may recall that Jesus made really great wine earlier.

When Jesus commanded five thousand men, not counting women and children, to sit down, He knew that He would feed them. He loved them and wanted to provide for them.

Jesus understands our appetites. Jesus gave the people as much as they wanted. Jesus satisfies our needs with His great power. The disciples were learning that Jesus has infinite power to feed crowds of people and can take care of every individual disciple as well.

As Much as They Wanted

1. **Share.** Jesus fed five thousand men, plus women and children, at one time. For Jesus, it was another day to share the love of God and build faith in Jesus the Messiah.

2. **Loaves.** Notice that Jesus took the loaves. He personally touched the loaves and gave thanks for them.

3. **Thanksgiving.** Jesus also taught believers about prayer. Jesus gave thanks for the bread. Jesus knew all things, but He wanted all of us to know and practice thanksgiving for all the food that God provides. Famine can change your perspective about food immediately.

4. **Provide.** While we trust God to provide our daily food, we also thank Him for every loaf and fish He provides, even when we think we earned it with our own money.

5. **Abundance.** Jesus also provided as much as they wanted. God not only provides morsels, He also provides an abundance, just like the abundance of wine Jesus produced from water at the wedding. We thank God for providing abundance in our lives.

6. **God Gives.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we thank God for the abundance He gives to us. He often gives us as much as we wanted.

7. **Grow.** We rejoice today because Jesus feeds us abundantly every day. We never outgrow our need for Him to feed us daily. Yet, we grow in the love we have for Jesus because of the grace He showers upon us each day.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by giving thanks to God before we eat the food He provides every day.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by rejoicing in the way that Jesus satisfies our desires.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we see the power of Jesus at work satisfying the members of the body of Christ each day.**

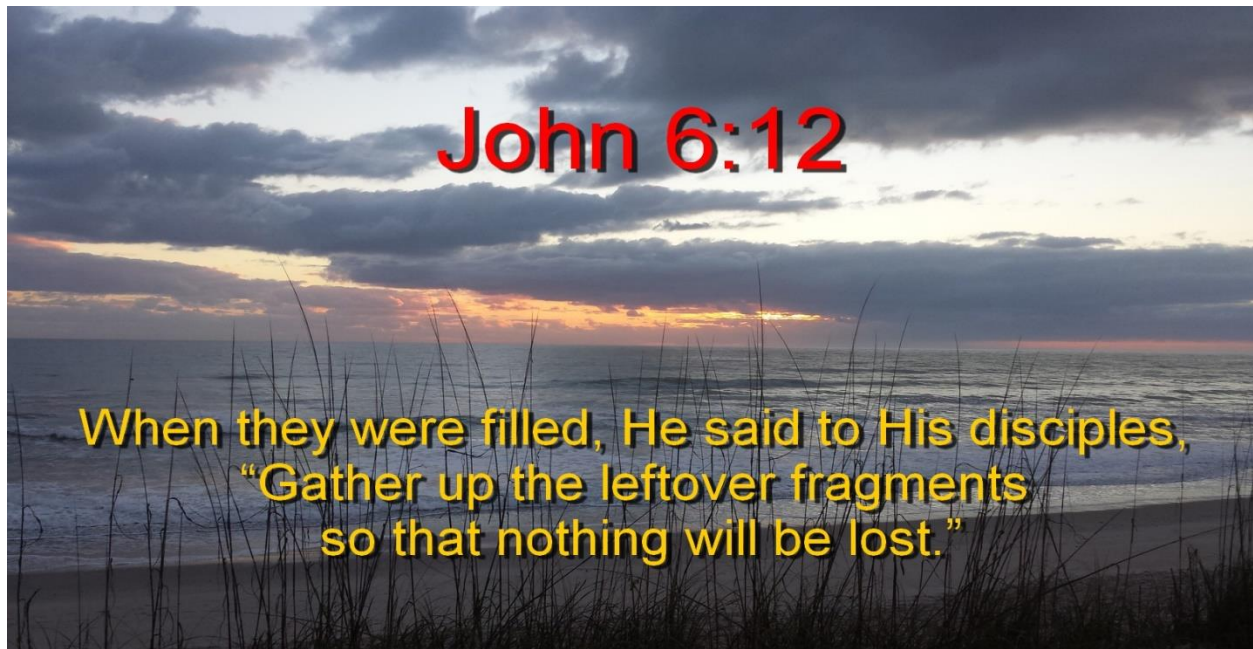
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by giving thanks for the food that Jesus provides to us each day. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by loving Jesus for providing food for you over your entire lifetime?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Twenty Four

Filled Today



What happened when the people were filled up? Jesus commanded His disciples to gather the leftover fragments so that nothing would be lost.

Jesus faithfully and carefully gathered all the food He had provided for the crowd, so that nothing would be lost. Notice that Jesus focused upon gathering up all the scraps so that His disciples would know that Jesus had worked a quiet miracle.

Jesus still works quiet miracles in our lives. He takes our small faith in Him and multiplies it to believe we can trust Jesus with all things, especially feeding us and clothing us. Jesus actually feeds billions of people all over the world every day. He created all the molecules that form the food, water, clothing and all things on earth. We see His hand of blessing all around us every day, even in the kitchen.

Leftovers

1. **Multiplying.** Jesus fed the five thousand men by miraculously multiplying the food. They were filled up.

2. **Leftover.** Jesus did not want any food lost, so He directed His disciples to pick up the leftover fragments.

3. **Fragments.** By gathering up the fragments, the disciples would understand the scope of the miracle.

4. **Scope.** At times, we serve Jesus by picking up the leftover fragments left behind by others. Such service may seem lowly, but in this case, very glorious as they realized the scope of the miracle.

5. **Filling.** Jesus not only fed the crowd, but food was left over. He could have made just enough. Jesus loves filling us up, and providing leftovers for later.

6. **Every Day.** Living Godly in the Family of God means that we believe Jesus loves to feed us every day. Do you have any leftovers in your refrigerator? Do you know Who put them there?

7. **Overflows.** We rejoice in leftovers today. They remind us of the love of Jesus that overflows our lives.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus works with what we have to fill people up.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that Jesus shows His works of powers to people who serve Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we obey Jesus and follow His plans and purposes, even with large, hungry crowds.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we know that Jesus will satisfy the desire of people looking to Him for food. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by giving all you have to Jesus so that He can multiply it to satisfy many people?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Twenty Five

Twelve Baskets Today



How many baskets of leftover fragments did the disciples collect? The disciples collected twelve baskets of fragments from the five barley loaves.

Jesus stretches faith like He stretches food. He starts with a little bit of food and by His quiet power He feeds five thousand men, plus women and children. He did not call great attention to the miracle, but worked quietly, like the time in Cana where He turned water into wine.

Jesus has absolute power to perform all kinds of miracles. The works of powers Jesus displayed were not for show, but for salvation. He intended people to believe in Him for salvation and then trust Him to be their loving Shepherd for the rest of their lives, into eternity.

Jesus grew the faith of the disciples with quiet miracles. They knew about the little food that Jesus turned in to twelve baskets of leftovers. They knew Jesus had a plan to satisfy the hunger of everyone, even if they did not know just how Jesus did it.

Eaten

1. **Gathered**. The disciples gathered the leftover fragments of food. Jesus used that gathering to demonstrate His works of powers. He multiplied the food to satisfy the hunger of the crowd.
2. **Nothing**. Jesus did not want any food to be lost. Jesus not only fed the crowd, He gave His disciples plenty to think about as they watched Jesus satisfy the hunger of over five thousand people.
3. **Multiplied**. Jesus always had a way to multiply what people had on hand to be enough to feed five thousand men, plus women and children.
4. **Twelve**. Jesus turned five barley loaves into twelve baskets. Jesus math means He takes what we have to eat to be enough to satisfy every hungry person.
5. **World**. Jesus feeds the world every day, billions of people. He created all the food we eat from molecules He created.
6. **Thanks**. Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus takes a the little we have and multiplies it to satisfy the hunger of many people.
7. **Faith**. We rejoice today because Jesus multiplies the little faith that we have and builds it up so that we love Him more and trust Him to provide for all of our needs each day.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to multiply the little we have to be enough for many.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus for taking our little faith in Him and multiplying it to trust Jesus in all things.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus gave His life so that we should be satisfied with Him for all eternity as our Lord and Savior, the Shepherd of our souls.**

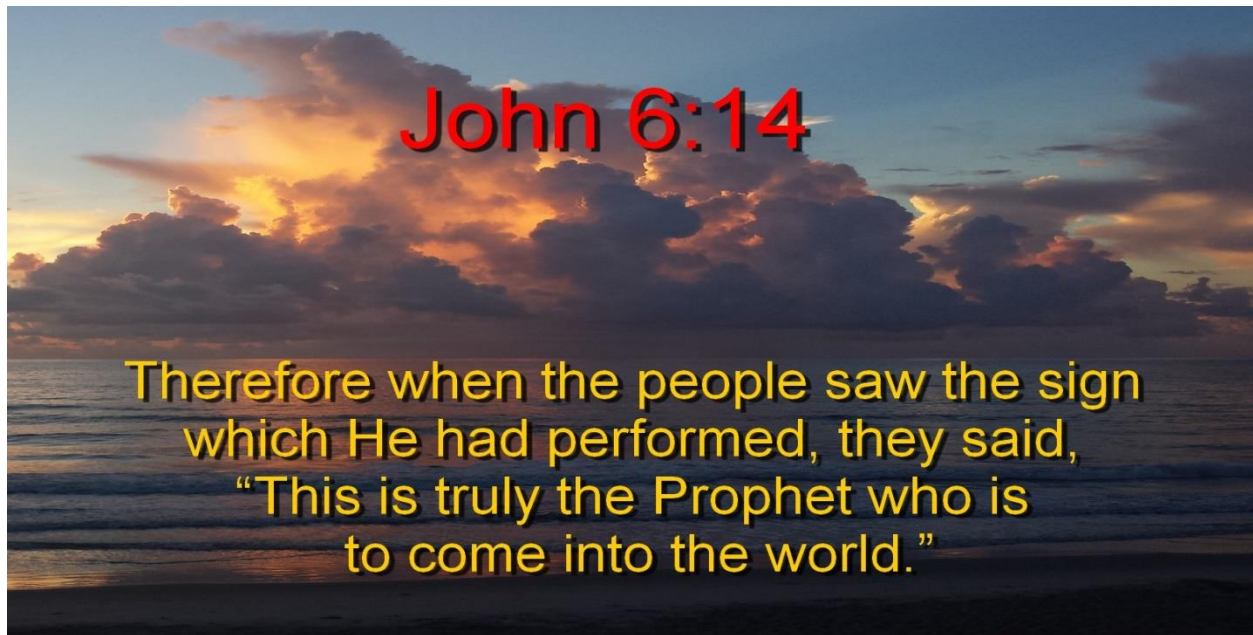
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to gather our lives for service to Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by watching Jesus take our small faith and multiplying it to great faith in Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Twenty Six

The Sign Today



Why did the people think that Jesus was the Prophet? The people saw the sign of the feeding of the five thousand and concluded that Jesus was the Prophet who was to come into the world.

In the Old Testament, Moses prophesied that God would raise up a Prophet like Moses, and all the people should listen to that Prophet. Jesus was the Messiah, the anointed Savior of the World. As Messiah, Jesus came to seek and to save the lost, and to give His soul a ransom for many.

The five thousand men who were fed understood that Jesus had performed a great sign. This sign proved that God sent Jesus. Not everyone would believe in Jesus for salvation, but they knew that God was with Jesus. As Jesus told Nicodemus, merely believing that Jesus could not do the signs that He did unless God was with Him never saved anyone. Each person must be born from above, meaning they must be born of the Spirit also.

The Prophet

1. **Special.** The people saw the sign of feeding five thousand with five barley loaves and two fish. They knew something special from God had happened.

2. **Messiah.** Jesus identified Himself as Messiah, God in the flesh, the Savior of Israel and all the world. Yet, some people were looking for a prophet. At the close of the Old Testament, Malachi prophesied that God would send Elijah the prophet before the great and terrible day of Yahweh. Therefore, some Jews were expecting Elijah the prophet to appear.

3. **Elijah.** So, when people in the crowd saw the sign of Jesus feeding the five thousand, they mistook Jesus for Elijah. You may recall that Jesus identified John the Baptist as "Elijah who was to come" (Matthew 11:14).

4. **Prophet.** Moses also prophesied that Yahweh would raise up a prophet like Moses from among the people of Israel and that they should listen to that prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15).

5. **Revelation.** Prophets spoke revelation they received from God, as the Holy Spirit moved the prophet. Jesus did not speak on His own initiative, but He spoke according to the commandment of His Father as to what He was to say and to speak (John 12:49). Jesus, however, was unlike any other prophet in the sense that He was God.

6. **Words.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we recognize Jesus as a prophet, but also much more than a prophet. As God in the flesh, He spoke the words of His Father. Jesus always speaks words of love to us as born again believers, even when those words bring divine discipline into our lives.

7. **Savior.** We rejoice today because Jesus always cares for us as our loving Savior, Who laid down His life for the world, so that He might take it again. We abide in Jesus today; without Him, we can do nothing. Jesus is a prophet, but also God our Savior. The other prophets spoke about Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus did many signs.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God because Jesus intended for people to see the signs and believe in Him for salvation.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise God that Jesus is the greatest of all prophets who walked the earth.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God because Jesus performed the sign of feeding the five thousand men. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and serve Jesus, even if He does not perform great signs now?

HALLELUJAH !

6

Learning about Godliness and Water Today

Jesus walked on the water. Many people heard that Jesus walked on the water. Many of the people who have heard about Jesus walking on water do not believe in Jesus for salvation. You can hear about the truth, but not believe the truth.

At night, Jesus walked on the Sea of Galilee heading back to Capernaum. He caught up to the disciples in their boat fighting against the strong wind. They were frightened when they saw Jesus coming to the boat.

Jesus said: “It is I; do not be afraid.” Hearing His voice and seeing Him, they were willing to receive Him into the boat. Immediately the boat was at land where they were going.

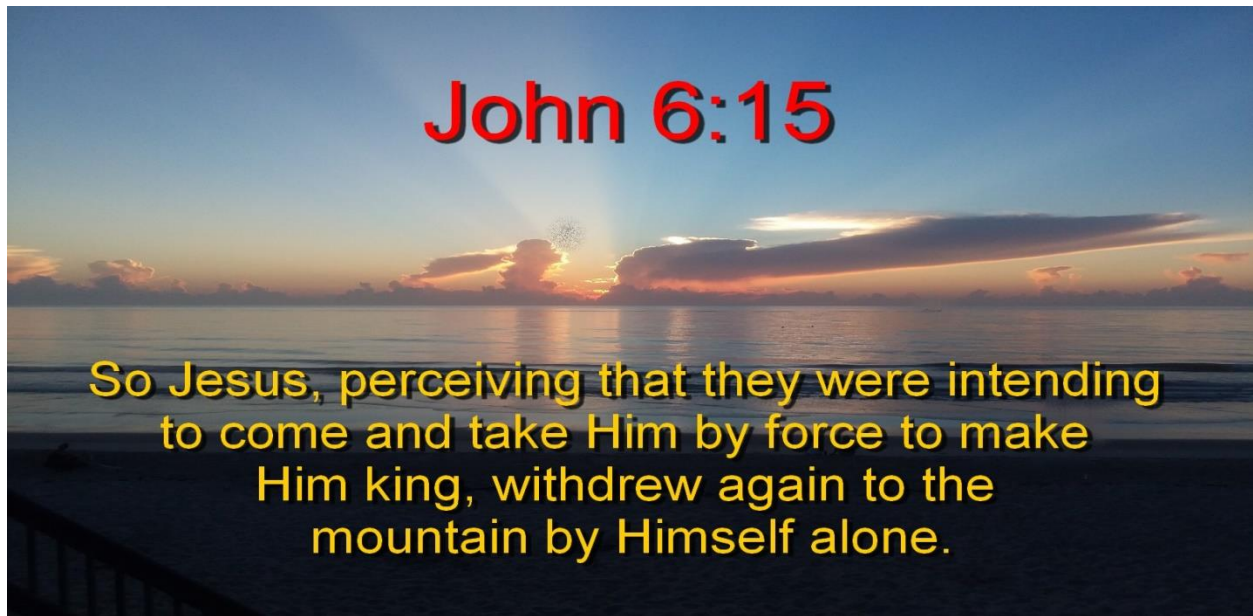
By walking on the water, Jesus showed the disciples that while they struggled against wind and waves, He walked upon them. Jesus wanted them to see His power to overcome normal obstacles like wind and waves. He simply rose above them and walked over them.

Jesus did things so that His disciples would increase their faith in Him. They knew Jesus could feed a multitude with two fish and five loaves. They did not know He could walk on water until they saw Him coming to the boat. Jesus did the works of His Father, and said the things given to Him by His Father. Jesus walked on water so that people would believe in Him for salvation and then walk by faith in Him.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Twenty Seven

Perceiving Today



Why did the people intend to take Jesus by force to make Him king? The people wanted to make Jesus king because they witnessed His signs. They loved eating His food.

Jesus perceived the intentions of the crowd. The people never considered that if Jesus wanted to be king, He did not need the force of anyone to help Him achieve that goal. Jesus has always been king, but He left His royal throne in heaven to live among men, traveling without a place to lay His head, and ultimately sacrificing Himself to buy our salvation.

In our lives, when we try to make Jesus do things by force of our will, then we know we are not following His will. We can never force Jesus to do anything. Because He loves us, He listens to our prayers, even before we pray them. He also knows all of our needs, before we ask for help with them. Jesus also does the will of God, and we should follow Him and walk in the Holy Spirit. Jesus withdrew to avoid the crowd and to be alone on the mountain.

By Force

1. **Crowd.** The crowd understood that Jesus had worked a miracle, but the crowd had a terrible response to Jesus. They crowd tried to force Jesus to do their will by becoming their king.

2. **King.** Jesus has always been King of kings and Lord of lords. He has never needed anyone to force Him to be their king.

3. **Responses.** In our lives, we must be careful to recognize that we too can have horrible responses to the power of God in our lives. We must always avoid any notion that we can force Jesus to do anything.

5. **Withdrew.** Jesus withdrew from that crowd. He followed His Father's plan to be the Suffering Servant, giving His life as the perfect atonement for sin, and then rising from the dead to reign later upon the earth as King of kings and Lord of lords.

6. **Alone.** Living Godly in the family of God means that you may be alone at times, leaving the crowd behind. Being alone can be part of God's plan for your life. At times, the crowd may try to force its will upon you, and their demands may be appealing at first. But remember Jesus avoiding the crowd's attempt to make Him their king.

7. **Avoid.** We rejoice today because Jesus always does the will of God, in perfect harmony with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. We follow Jesus, and avoid the crowd trying to force us to forsake God's plan for our lives. We prefer to be a servant of God, rather than the king of the evil crowd.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by never forcing Jesus to do our will.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we believe that Jesus always acts in perfect harmony with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we follow Jesus and delight in His works, without trying to force Him to do anything.**

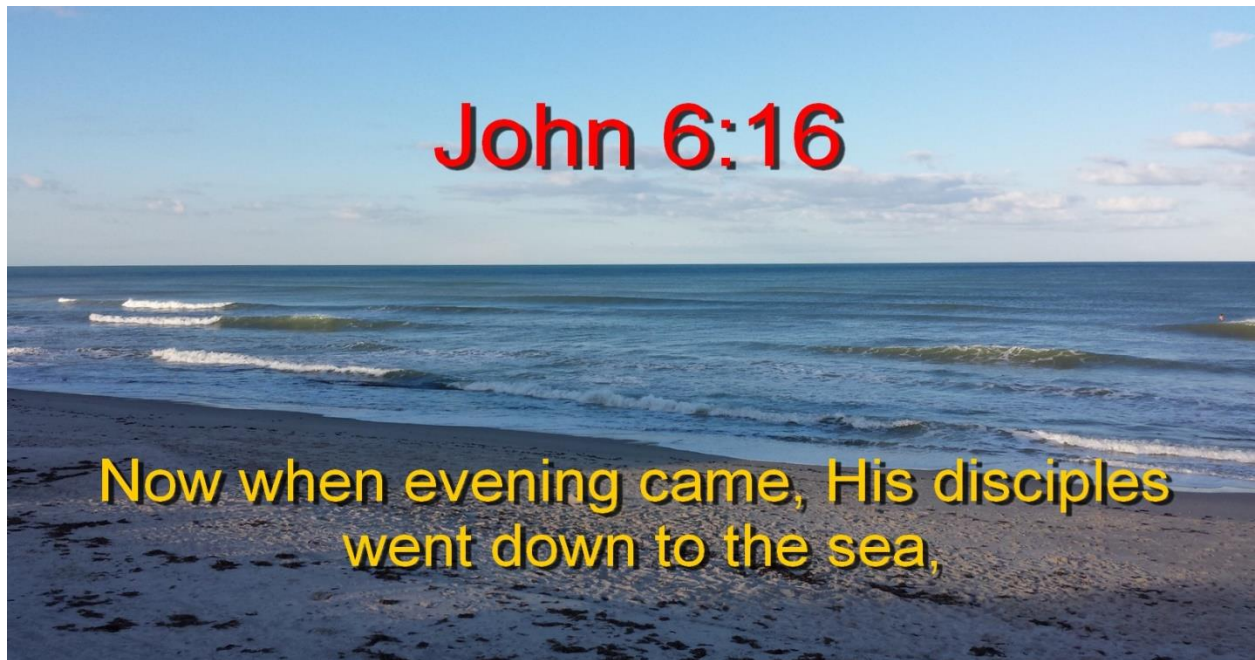
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by enjoying following Jesus, and not trying to lead Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by walking in the Light of Jesus as He leads the way?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Twenty Eight

Down to the Sea Today



When Jesus withdrew alone to the mountain, what did the disciples do? They went down to the sea without Him.

The disciples were fairly independent at times. In other words, they understood that obedience to Jesus did not mean that they were with Him every minute. At times, Jesus left the disciples to be alone. We have already seen that Jesus sent His disciples into Sychar so they could buy food and He would have time to speak to the woman at the well one on one.

The disciples followed Jesus, but that meant that Jesus would come along later at times. Jesus sent His disciples before Him, all according to His plan. Jesus never left or forsook His disciples, but He did train them to do things without His immediate presence.

Evening Came

1. **Withdrew.** Jesus withdrew to the mountain to avoid the crowd seeking to make Him king by force.
2. **Evening.** When evening came, the disciples went down to the sea.
3. **Avoid.** Perhaps evening and darkness provided a way for the disciples to avoid the crowd seeking Jesus.
4. **Solitude.** The text emphasized that Jesus withdrew to the mountain "by Himself alone." At times, Jesus sought solitude with God, Who was always with Him.
5. **Return.** The disciples intended to return home on the other side of the Sea of Galilee. They apparently understood Jesus would return there too.
6. **Wait.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we find time for solitude on the mountain with God. At other times, we return home to wait on Jesus.
7. **Never Alone.** We rejoice today because Jesus goes everywhere with us; we are never alone. Even when we go to Jesus at home, we know God abides with us and we delight in His presence.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by seeking solitude with Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we find time to leave the crowds behind to spend time alone with God.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by following the plans of Jesus, as we go where He sends us.**

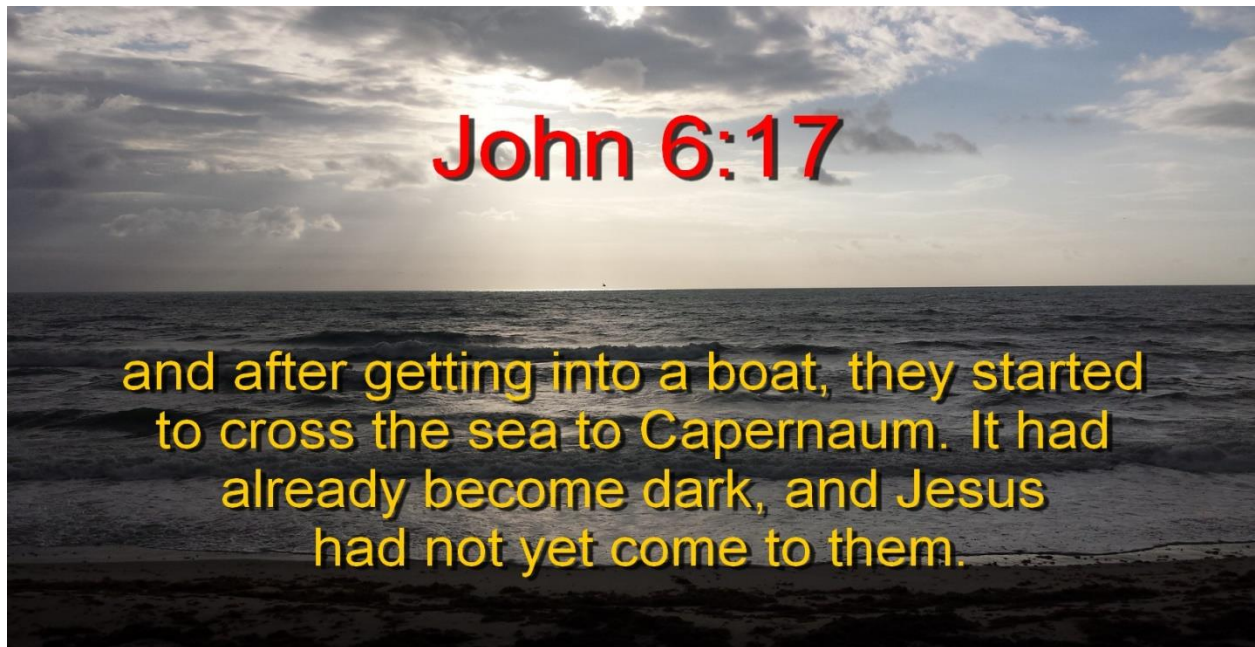
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by seeking solitude with God every day. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by making time to leave the crowds and be alone with Jesus for a time?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Twenty Nine

Started to Cross Today



Why did the disciples get into the boat after dark? They wanted to go to Capernaum, home base for them. Jesus wanted to be left alone on the mountain for a while.

Jesus always had perfect timing. If He was not in that boat with the disciples, it was because Jesus had to spend time elsewhere according to His Father's plan.

Jesus knew that the disciples had spent time on the Sea of Galilee and knew how to navigate back to Capernaum in the dark. Of course, Jesus had created the Sea of Galilee and all the land on earth. He had absolutely no problem finding His way back to anywhere He wanted to go. He left the disciples to go on without Him for a reason.

Not Yet

1. **Boat**. Peter, Andrew, James and John were fisherman by trade before they met Jesus. They knew the Sea of Galilee and had spent time fishing there. They knew about boats.

2. **Cross**. The disciples intended to cross the Sea of Galilee to get back to Capernaum. They did not wait on Jesus, and they knew that Jesus would get back to Capernaum.

3. **Dark**. Darkness had fallen, and the disciples had left the crowd and Jesus had been left behind.

4. **Mountain**. Jesus left the disciples to go up on a mountain to be alone. Jesus sought time away from both the disciples and the crowd. Solitude with God meant something important to Jesus.

5. **Come**. Jesus had not yet come to the disciples. Perhaps they were expecting Him, but they certainly felt comfortable starting across without Him in the boat.

6. **Timing**. Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus had perfect timing, always. He was never late and never missed an appointment with anyone anywhere.

7. **Time**. We rejoice today because Jesus managed time perfectly. If the disciples left for Capernaum without Jesus, He would return to Capernaum at just the right time and in just the right way. He always followed the Father's plans and things always happened at just the right time.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus always has perfect timing.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by going where Jesus sends us each day.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we go home together, all in one boat.**

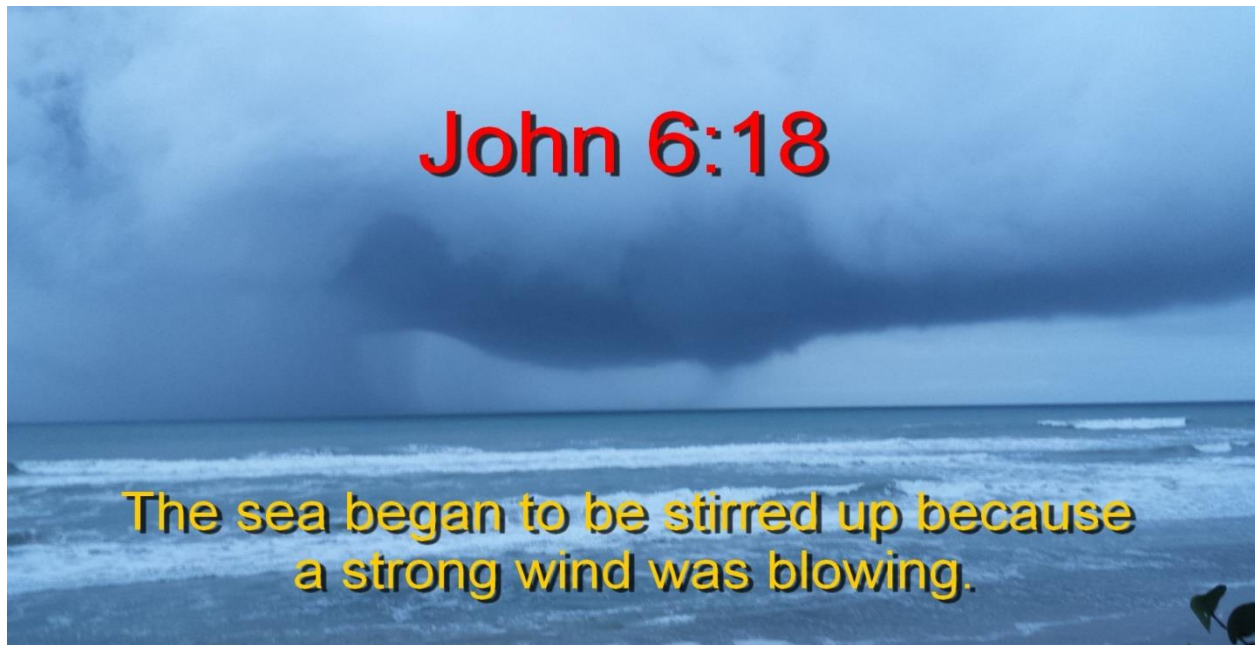
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by moving forward under the direction of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today knowing that Jesus never wasted a moment of time?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Thirty

Strong Wind Today



Why was the sea stirred up? A strong wind began to blow, stirring up the sea as the disciples crossed over it in a boat.

James and John had a fishing business with their father Zebedee. They had boats with nets and they were used to fishing on the Sea of Galilee. When Jesus first called them, they left their father in the boat with the nets. They were experienced fishermen.

Part of boating usually includes dealing with inclement weather. Depending how far from land you are in the boat, the waves may become bigger and bigger as the wind blows. In fact, if you are rowing a boat, a strong wind can seriously impede your progress. On the other hand, if you are Jesus, you can walk on water, and the wind and waves pose no problems for you.

Blowing

1. **Night**. Night had fallen upon the disciples in the boat rowing back home to Capernaum.

2. **Set Off**. They left the crowd and Jesus behind when they set off in the boat.

3. **Wind**. A strong wind had risen and the Sea became stirred up. Some of the men in that boat knew about wind, storms and waves. They were professional fishermen who had fished in that Sea.

4. **Stirred**. At times in our lives, darkness falls and things get stirred up. I have been on the ocean in a small boat when storms arose. I looked forward to getting back to land.

5. **Plans**. Jesus teaches us faith lessons about Himself during the night when things are stirred up. We may be accustomed to darkness and storms at sea, but Jesus always has plans at work to grow our trust in His power and plans.

6. **Abides**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect dark nights, stirred up waters, and strong winds in our lives. Yet, Jesus always abides with us.

7. **Leads**. We rejoice today because Jesus sees the same in day and darkness. He always has His eyes upon us, leading us in His love, even through strong winds, dark nights, and stirred up Sea. He remains with us, always.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that strong winds and storms will come into our lives.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we learn to trust Jesus as we strive against winds and waves.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we row through the darkest and roughest of nights, knowing that Jesus will always be nearby.**

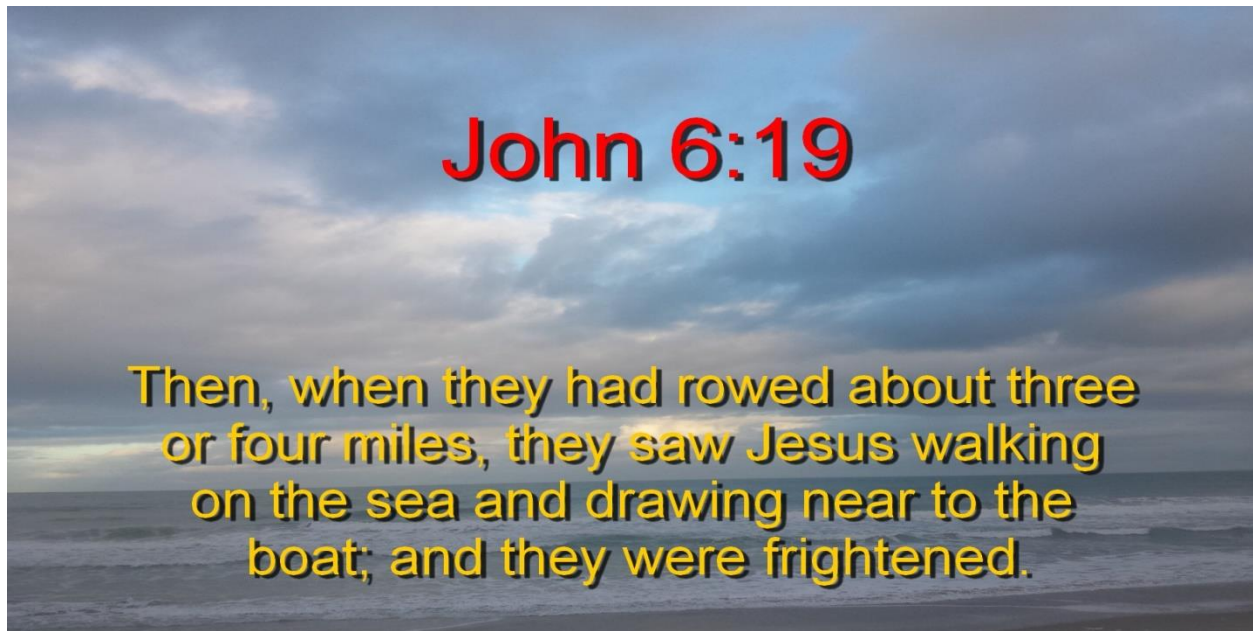
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus as the night falls, the winds blow, and the waves rise. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by navigating through the storms with Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Thirty One

Jesus Walking Today



Who did the disciples see walking on the sea? The disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea and they were frightened.

The disciples had rowed for about three or four miles at night on the Sea of Galilee, heading back to Capernaum. Some of the disciples had been professional fishermen. They knew their way around the Sea of Galilee.

They had left Jesus up on the mountain, praying alone. He had fed the five thousand and displayed a great sign to them. They left the crowd and Jesus and began the voyage back to Capernaum in the dark.

After they had rowed three for four miles, Jesus was walking on the sea and drawing near to them. They became frightened. Jesus had already worked miracles before them, but seeing Him walk on water was new and scary. They still had a lot to learn about Jesus.

Frightened

1. **Blowing.** The disciples were rowing home at night in their boat with a strong wind blowing.

2. **Left.** They had watched Jesus feed five thousand people, and then He went up on the mountain alone to pray. They left in the boat without Jesus.

3. **Rowing.** As they were rowing along, already three or four miles into their journey, they saw Jesus.

4. **Walked.** While the disciples rowed in the strong wind, Jesus walked through the night on the water.

5. **Powerful.** Jesus perfectly displayed how His ways are not our ways, and how our thoughts are not His thoughts. He walked on the water, with a strong wind blowing, and drew near the boat. The wind and waves did not scare the disciples, but seeing Jesus walk on water frightened them. They saw Jesus doing something even more powerful than feeding the multitude.

6. **Frightened.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus does things we cannot even imagine--like walk on water. He frightened people He loved and spent time with daily.

7. **Approaches.** We rejoice today because we know that Jesus walks on water, even when we row for all we are worth at night in the strong winds of life. Jesus always draws near to His disciples, but He approaches us in ways that may frighten us. We can always trust Jesus because He loves us, draws near to us, and blows us away with His divine powers.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus has the power to walk on the water.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by bowing down before Jesus as we see Him display His awesome power.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we expect Jesus to do things that we cannot even imagine.**

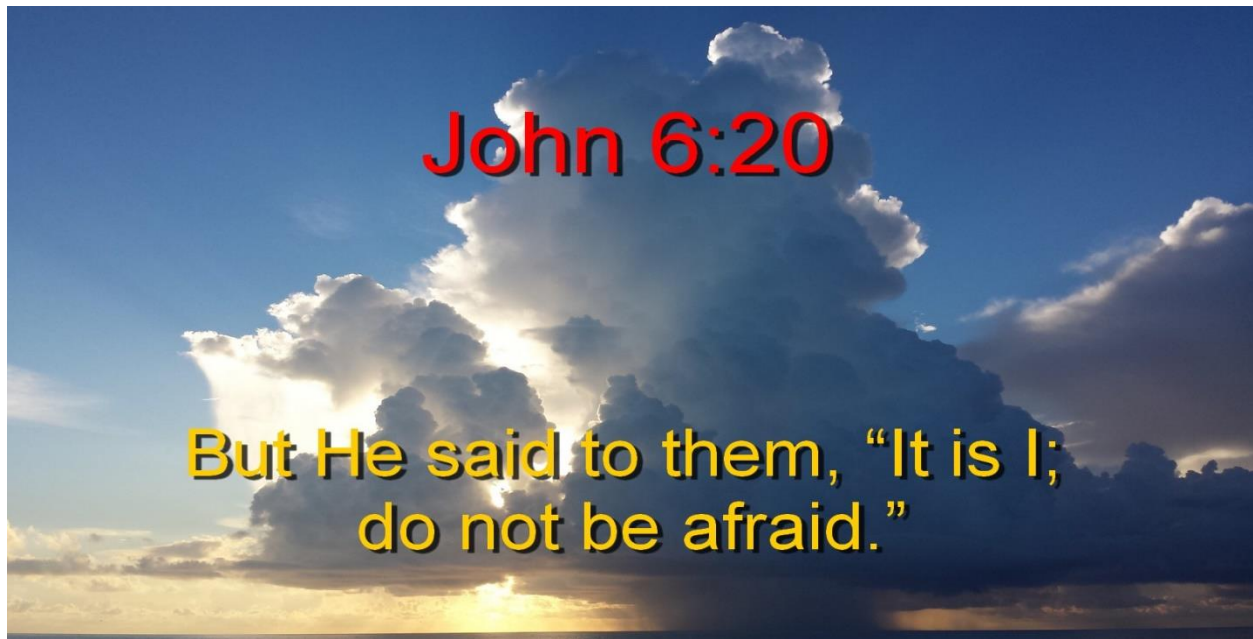
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by placing our complete trust in Jesus, even when He does things that frighten us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting Jesus to use His power to build your faith?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Thirty Two

It Is I Today



How did Jesus identify Himself to the disciples in the boat? Jesus said it is I. He expected them to recognize His voice and to see Him in the darkness.

Many times I have fished from land at night. I always enjoyed fishing at night, by moonlight or in darkness. Either way the fish saw just fine after dark and could easily see my lures under water at night. Jesus promised to make His disciples fishers of men, but they did not need fishing poles, lures or nets. They were going to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and some people would be saved.

Jesus trained His men to become fishers of men. Part of that training was to see Jesus walk on the water. Jesus had just fed five thousand men, and now He walked on the water and drew near the boat they were in. Jesus had just given them a lesson about fishing for men with Jesus. Jesus also

knew how to calm their fears. He commanded them to control their fear and put it away.

Be Not Afraid

1. **Darkness.** The simple letter "I" communicates so much at times. As the disciples rowed in the darkness covering the Sea, Jesus drew near to the boat. Jesus said: "It is I."

2. **Identity.** Jesus used voice, vision and language to identify Himself. Jesus used His voice, specific words, and His appearance to communicate.

3. **Effect.** Jesus also understood the emotional effect He had upon the disciples. Seeing Him walking on the water frightened those men.

4. **Fears.** Jesus immediately used His words and voice to calm their fears, by identifying Himself to them. Jesus understands our fears, and helps us overcome those fears. In fact, He commands us to stop being afraid.

5. **Power.** Seeing something walking on the water frightened the disciples. Knowing it was Jesus helped them with their fears. Seeing Jesus display divine power frightened people, but Jesus removed that intense response of fear.

6. **Jesus Cares.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know "I" when Jesus identifies Himself. As the strong winds blow through the night, Who else will walk on the water and say it is I; do not be afraid? Jesus cares about our fears because He loves us.

7. **Presence.** We rejoice today because Jesus cares about our fears, and talks to us, so that we recognize His abiding presence with us, walking on the waves, and so helps our fears. With Jesus near, we have no fear.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus frightens people with His powers.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we listen to the voice of Jesus calling to us, without fear.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in watching Jesus do works of powers, like walking on the water.**

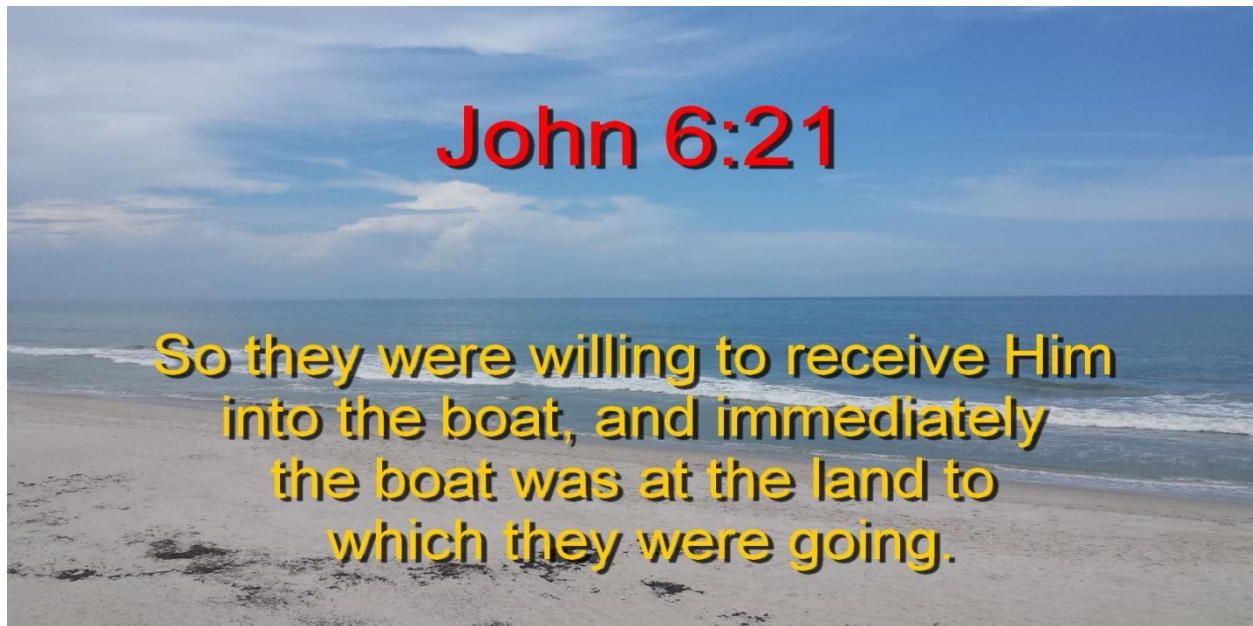
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting Jesus to call to us and identify Himself to us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by listening to Jesus as He displays His power to strengthen your faith?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Thirty Three

Willing To Receive Him Today



Why were the disciples willing to receive Jesus into the boat? The disciples were willing to receive Jesus into the boat because they recognized His voice.

Jesus commanded His disciples not to be afraid. Jesus understood that He caused their fear, because they could not imagine any human walking upon the sea at night. Yet, when they heard and recognized the voice of Jesus, and obeyed His command not to be afraid, they were willing to receive Him into the boat.

Notice that the disciples were nearly to the beach when Jesus arrived. Jesus could have waited just a little while longer, and they may not have seen Him walking on the water. Jesus wanted them to see Him walking on the water so they could learn more about the infinite power of Jesus. He wanted to expand and deepen their faith in Him.

Into the Boat

1. **Willing.** If you could walk on water, why would you get into a boat? Jesus walked on water, and His disciples were willing to receive Him into the boat.

2. **They Saw.** When the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water, they were frightened as He drew near the boat.

3. **Learn.** Jesus walked on the water for several reasons. He drew near the boat for the sake of the disciples. They needed to learn more about Jesus and His awesome abilities.

4. **Fear.** The disciples also needed to fear God, but also overcome their fear of the supernatural things Jesus did.

5. **Destination.** The disciples were willing to receive Jesus into the boat once He identified Himself to them. But by then, they were already at their destination. Jesus timed it perfectly to make His points to them.

6. **Ready.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we must always be ready to receive Jesus into our boat. His actions might frighten us, but once we know it is Jesus, He is always welcome and we gladly receive Him.

7. **Leads.** We rejoice today because Jesus allays our fears and leads us home.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus as He commands us not to be afraid of receiving Him into the boat.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect that Jesus will always bring us safely home with Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we encourage one another to have greater faith in the power of Jesus to do all things, even things that frighten us.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God today by receiving Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by encouraging others in your boat to receive Jesus, and be ready to go home with Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Thirty Four

Except One Today

John 6:22

The next day the crowd that stood on the other side of the sea saw that there was no other small boat there, except one, and that Jesus had not entered with His disciples into the boat, but that His disciples had gone away alone.

When the crowd arrived on the other side of the Sea of Galilee, what caught their attention? They saw only one small boat there, and they knew Jesus did not enter that small boat.

The crowd knew that Jesus had gone away alone. The disciples were last seen rowing away in the darkness, heading back. Jesus was not in the boat with the disciples when they left, but Jesus was with the disciples later.

At times, crowds can be perceptive. At other times, they can miss the entire point of what they saw. They were trying to understand how Jesus had crossed over the Sea of Galilee without being in the boat with the disciples. They did not understand that Jesus could walk on water, because He was God in the flesh.

No Other Small Boat

1. **Looking.** The crowd that Jesus fed came looking for Him. They found only one small boat there, and they knew the disciples left in their boat without Jesus.

2. **Private.** Jesus did some miracles primarily for His disciples. Later, other people, like us, learn about those private miracles, like walking on water.

3. **His Father.** Jesus did not receive glory from men. He worked the works of His Father and spoke the words of His Father.

4. **Plans.** Jesus also did not tell everyone His plans. You may recall that Jesus left the crowd because they wanted to make Him king by force.

5. **Wisdom.** Jesus used great wisdom in dealing with crowds, arranging transportation, meeting His disciples, and planning His travels.

6. **Views.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we learn more about the life of Jesus through the pages of Scripture. We get views from the crowd, from the boat, from the land and from the sea. We see Jesus, truly man and truly God at the same time.

7. **Perceptions.** We rejoice today because Jesus uses the Bible to reveal Himself to us. At times, we see Jesus directly as He works in our lives. Yet, we compare our perceptions of Jesus to the Bible. If our perceptions follow without contradiction the Scriptural teaching concerning Jesus, then we can enjoy our perceptions. Jesus still makes His presence felt in our lives today.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by learning more about Jesus by reading the Bible and noticing the details of Scripture.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand the viewpoints of Jesus, the disciples, crowds, and many other viewpoints.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we appreciate that each person in the family has a different viewpoint of Jesus, but we all see the same Savior.**

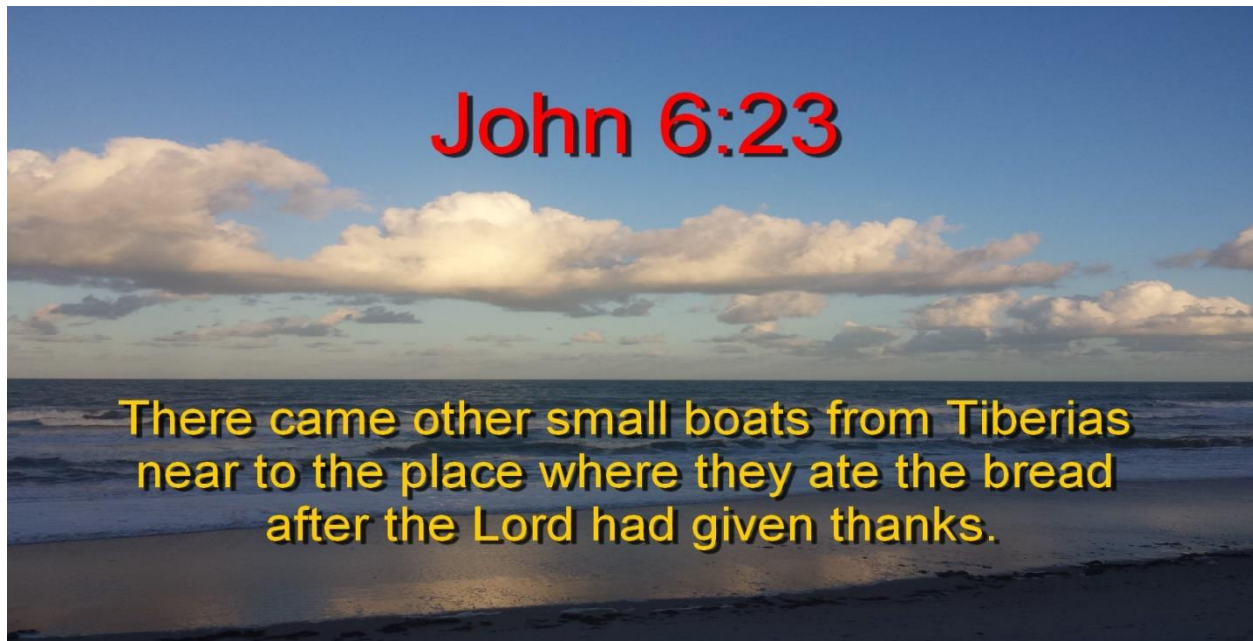
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by looking at Jesus through the pages of Scripture. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by sharing the Scriptures with others?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Thirty Five

Small Boats Today



What place held special meaning for the crowd? The crowd came from the place where Jesus had given them bread to eat, after He gave thanks.

Other small boats came from Tiberias to the place where the crowd ate the bread. Notice that God emphasized here that Jesus gave thanks before He gave out the bread.

The people ate the bread that Jesus created for them. Jesus worked a miracle to multiply the food supernaturally, so that five thousand men, plus women and children, not only ate the food, but they were satisfied. The crowd followed Jesus because they ate the bread, and they wanted to find Him.

Ate the Bread

1. **Fed.** Jesus had fed the five thousand and left the crowd behind. His disciples had departed by boat, returning to Capernaum. People came in small boats near to the place where Jesus fed the crowd, apparently seeking Jesus.

2. **Lordship.** Notice three things John said about the miracle of feeding the crowd: (a) the Lord fed the crowd; (b) they ate the bread He gave them; and (c) Jesus gave thanks before He gave them the bread. The Lordship of Jesus, the sign of feeding five thousand with bread, and giving thanks to His Father will be central elements in His preaching to this crowd later.

3. **Transportation.** The crowd sought Jesus, and they needed transportation to follow Him. That flotilla of small boats would provide that transportation.

4. **After.** After leaving the crowd, Jesus had met the disciples on the Sea at night. He walked on the water, and they struggled in the boat with a strong wind.

5. **Boats.** Jesus not only walks on water, but He also arranges transportation for the crowd to follow Him in small boats.

6. **Follow Him.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we see Jesus arrange transportation and all kinds of things so that people can follow Him and hear Him proclaim the Gospel to them.

7. **Details.** We rejoice today because of the details of Scripture. The boats came from Tiberias. Notice the historical detail. They came seeking Jesus, but God used those small boats to carry people to hear Jesus in Capernaum. Jesus will explain to them that He is the bread of life. By faith in Him, Jesus slakes the thirst and satisfies the hunger of everyone who believes in Him. We have no more spiritual hunger or thirst because of Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by realizing that crowds may seek Jesus and follow Him without ever receiving salvation which He offers as a free gift.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by seeking Jesus even if crowds do not seek Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by enjoying other believers of like precious faith who have found Jesus, because we have eaten of the Bread of Life.**

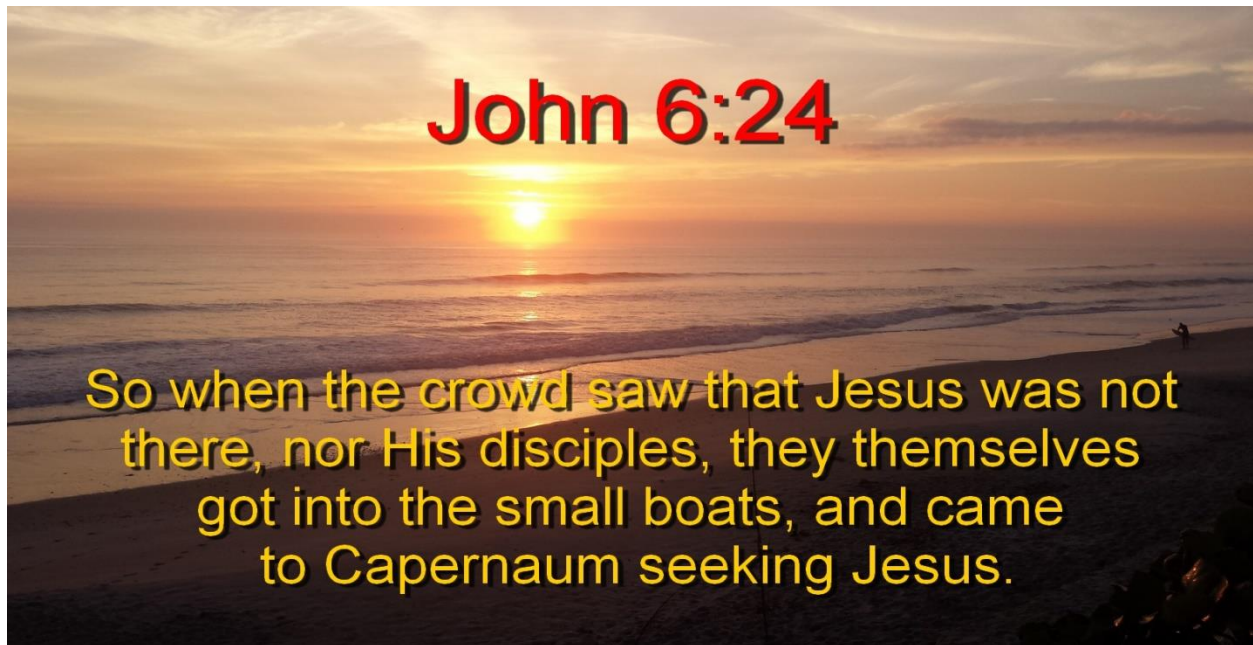
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as crowds around us follow all kinds of different people. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by enjoying other believers of like precious faith?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Thirty Six

Jesus Was Not There Today



What did the crowd do when they discovered Jesus was not there? They got into small boats and went to Capernaum seeking Jesus.

Jesus did a work of powers and fed five thousand men, plus women and children. The crowd knew that Jesus did a sign, and they wanted to see more of Jesus.

The crowd got into small boats seeking Jesus. They came to Capernaum, because they knew that was the place to find Jesus. When Jesus demonstrated His divine powers, people took notice. They also were satisfied by the food Jesus provided.

A crowd of people got into a crowd of small boats. They wanted to see Jesus. They had eaten the bread He had provided. This crowd sought Jesus because of that bread.

Seeking Jesus

1. **Sought.** Jesus had fed the five thousand and left, walking on water. The crowd sought Him, but He and His disciples were not there. They went to Capernaum seeking Jesus.

2. **Not There.** The crowd noticed two things: Jesus was not there and His disciples were not there. If the crowd saw the disciples, then they may assume that Jesus would return to those disciples.

3. **Boats.** The crowd really wanted to find Jesus. The crowd got into the small boats.

4. **Transportation.** You may recall that the small boats came from Tiberias. Jesus provided transportation for the crowd.

5. **The Crowd.** Like the disciples before them, the people in the crowd went to Capernaum. Jesus spent time in Capernaum and in the synagogue there. The crowd knew where to find Jesus.

6. **Notice.** Living Godly in the family of God means that some crowds notice the absence of Jesus and His disciples, particularly after they ate food He gave them. Because the crowd ate the food, they sought Jesus.

7. **Found.** We rejoice today because Jesus said I will never leave you or forsake you. Crowds may seek Him, but we have found Jesus, our Savior, not just someone who fed us some bread one day.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting people to seek Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect that we will meet people drawn to Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we prepare ourselves to meet people seeking Jesus, even crowds of people.**

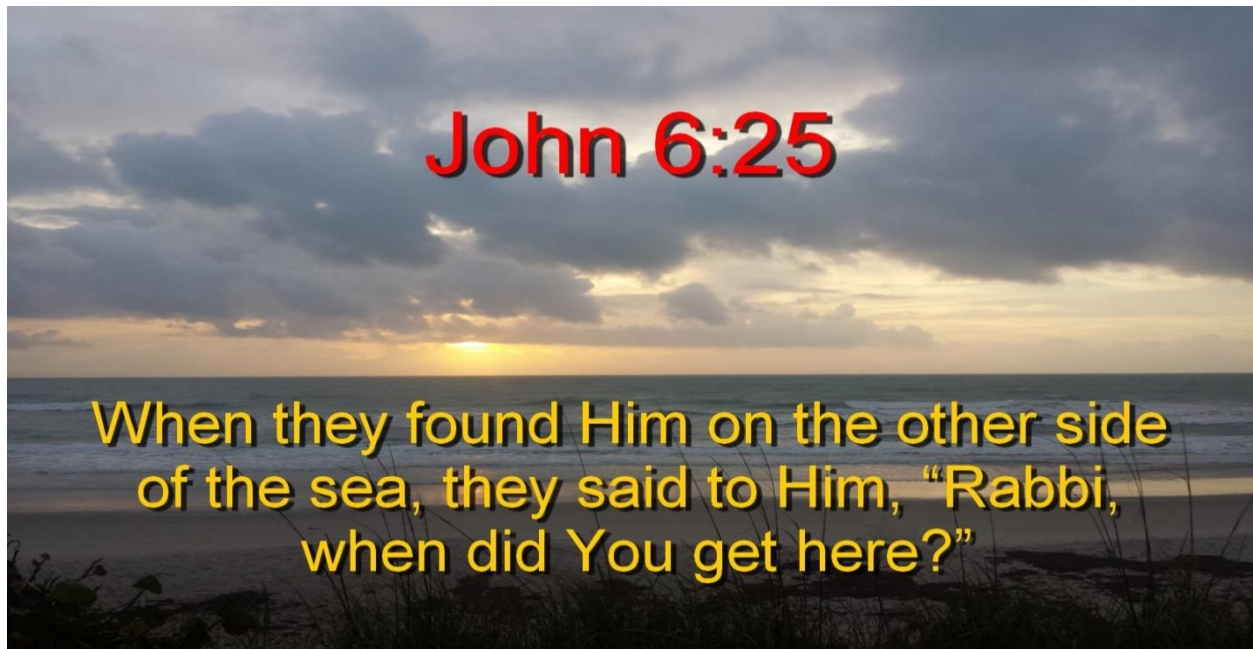
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus will draw people to Himself. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by being ready to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with people you meet seeking Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Thirty Seven

How Did You Get Here Today



What did the crowd say when they found Jesus? The crowd asked Jesus how He got there.

The crowd called Jesus Rabbi. This Jewish term means teacher. The crowd recognized Jesus as a teacher. They had witnessed His sign of multiplying the bread and eaten of that special bread. That bread satisfied them.

The crowd knew that something unusual had happened. They knew where they last saw Jesus on the other side. They saw the disciples leave in a small boat without Jesus. They found Jesus in Capernaum when they arrived in their small boats. They did not know that Jesus had walked on the water to go back to Capernaum.

The disciples had special insight into Jesus. They knew He walked on water. Jesus displayed His power to them so that they would believe in Him.

They Found Him

1. **Capernaum.** The crowd Jesus fed found Him in Capernaum. They came by small boats, seeking Him.

2. **Crowd.** Jesus previously worked a miracle to feed that crowd of 5,000 men, plus women and children. That crowd wanted to find Jesus and went looking for Him.

3. **Reasons.** Crowds frequently followed Jesus. The different crowds followed Jesus for different reasons. Jesus had fed this crowd.

4. **Questions.** The crowd had a question for Jesus: "Rabbi, when did you get here?" The crowd knew that Jesus did not get into the boat with His disciples. Jesus had travelled to Capernaum by other means, unknown to the crowd--by walking on water.

5. **Rabbi.** Notice also that the crowd called Him "Rabbi." That Hebrew word meant teacher. The crowd had heard the teaching of Jesus, but they first started following Jesus because of the signs which He was performing on the sick.

6. **Few.** Jesus always draws crowds, even today. People wanted to see His signs, eat His food, and be with Him. Yet, Jesus taught that only a few would find eternal life.

7. **Calls.** We rejoice today because we found Jesus, although we know that God the Father drew us to Jesus. Crowds may follow Jesus, but Jesus calls each believer by name. He calls each believer to eternal life and loves each one of us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by praising God for the revelations of the power of Jesus we see in the Bible.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we see the power of Jesus at work in the world today.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise the Father for revealing Jesus to us, so that we can join together in praising Him for His works of powers and food He provides which satisfies our hunger.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by learning more about the infinite powers of Jesus and how He used them to glorify His Father and build up the faith of His disciples. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by expecting that unbelievers will always have questions about Jesus that the Bible answers?

HALLELUJAH !

6

Learning about Godliness and Bread Today

Jesus divided families, crowds, religious groups, soldiers and many others. Some believed in Him for salvation, and the others did not. After Jesus declared that He is the bread of life, the Jews began to argue with one another. They questioned what Jesus meant by saying that He would give them His flesh to eat.

Jesus then responded that unless they eat His flesh and drink His blood, they would have no life in themselves. Everyone who eats His flesh and drinks His blood will have eternal life, and Jesus will raise them up on the last day. Jesus promised again that whoever eats of that bread would live forever. Jesus said those things in the synagogue at Capernaum.

The disciples heard Jesus and said it was a difficult statement. Jesus knew that the disciples grumbled at this statement. Jesus then asked if His statement caused them to stumble. Jesus then asked what if they saw the Son of Man ascending to where He was before? Jesus proclaimed that the Spirit gives life, but the flesh profits nothing. So, Jesus explained the bread and blood were of the Spirit, not the flesh. Jesus then told the disciples that some of them do not believe. He knew from the beginning that Judas Iscariot would betray Him. So Jesus said that for this reason no one can come to Him unless it has been given to him by the Father.

Many of the people withdrew and were not following Him anymore. Jesus then asked His disciples if they too wanted to leave. Simon Peter said that Jesus the Lord had the words of eternal life. Where else would they go? Jesus replied that He Himself chose the twelve, and yet one of them was a devil. Jesus meant Judas Iscariot, knowing that he would betray Him.

Day Two Hundred Thirty Eight

Ate the Loaves Today



How did Jesus answer the crowd's question about how He got to Capernaum? He told the crowd that they sought Him because they ate the loaves and were filled.

Jesus told the crowd that they were not seeking Him because they saw signs, but because they ate the loaves and were filled. Jesus never revealed to the crowd that He walked on water and frightened the disciples who witnessed Jesus walking on water. He did not directly address their question, but He did answer their question in another way.

Jesus had a marvelous way of answering questions. Jesus went to the key issues in the questions. In this case, the key issue was why the crowd so badly wanted to see Jesus. He pointed out to them that they were not seeking Him because He worked a sign, but because they ate the bread and were filled. The crowd had not understood the purpose of the miracle or the love of Jesus, Son of God, Savior standing before them.

You Seek Me

1. **Asked.** The crowd Jesus fed found Him in Capernaum. They asked Him: "Rabbi, when did You get here?"

2. **Indirectly.** Jesus did not answer their question directly. Instead, He spoke to them about eternal life and how they could receive it. Indirectly, He answered their question.

3. **Identified.** The crowd had witnessed a great sign by Jesus: He fed five thousand men with two fish and five barley loaves, with twelve baskets full of fragments left over after everyone was satisfied. Even though that sign identified Him as the Christ, the crowd did not seek Him because of that sign.

4. **Physical.** The crowd sought Jesus because they ate of the loaves and were filled. Notice their interest in physical food and not Jesus the Savior.

5. **Wrong.** Many people seek Jesus for all the wrong reasons. God the Father draws people to Jesus so that they may receive eternal life by faith alone. Jesus is the Bread of Life.

6. **Sought.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we sought Jesus as our Savior and, by grace alone, He found us and we found Him.

7. **Found.** We rejoice today because Jesus found us, saved us, and abides with us for all eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that people seek Jesus for a variety of reasons.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus for how He chooses when and where to reveal His divine power.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we expect that Jesus always speaks truthfully and penetrates to the deepest spiritual issues in our lives.**

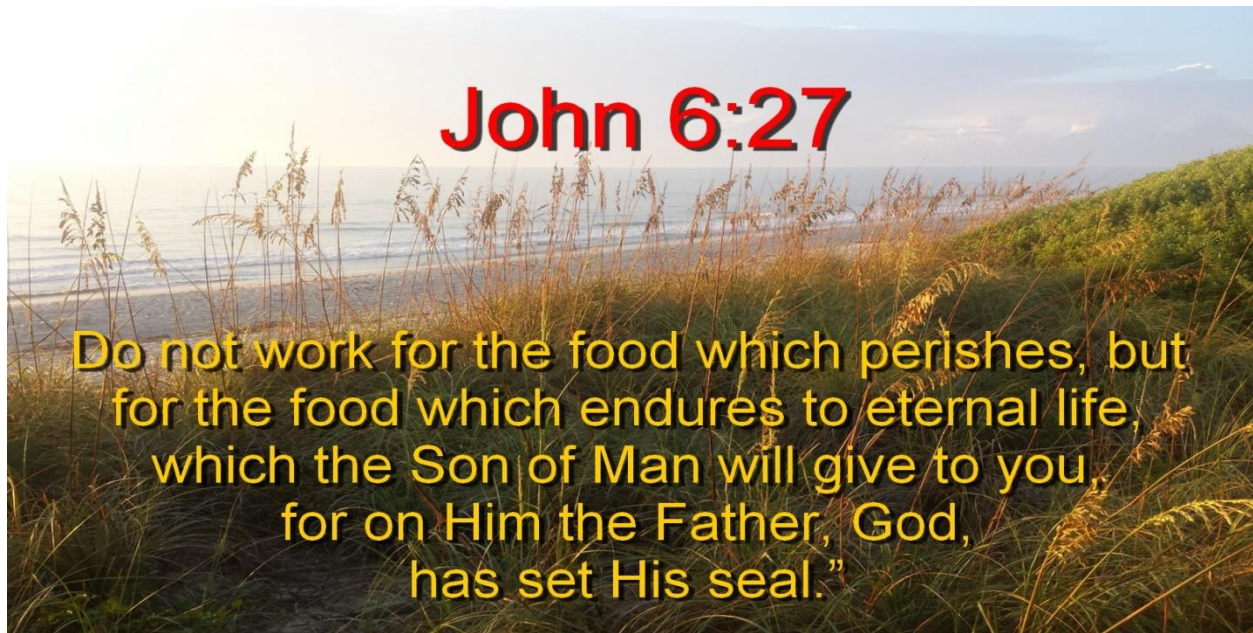
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we listen to Jesus answer questions in the Bible. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by learning to answer questions from unbelievers like Jesus answered them?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Thirty Nine

The Food Which Perishes Today



Why did Jesus command people to work for the food which endures to eternal life? Jesus commanded people to work for the food which endures to eternal life because all other food perishes, along with the people who neglect to eat the food enduring to eternal life.

Jesus used the best analogies. Jesus had worked a miracle with food, and then used that same concept of food to teach about receiving eternal life from Him. Jesus is the food which endures to eternal life. He is the Bread of Life.

Jesus taught using common themes. This theme of bread and eternal life dominates this section of the Gospel of John. What started as a quiet miracle will become the cornerstone of Jesus explaining how He is the Bread of Life, and people must eat that bread to have eternal life. Jesus also promised that every one who ate the Bread of Life would never hunger again.

Gives to You

1. **Bread.** Jesus had begun to prepare the hearts of the people in the crowd on the day that He first met them. He watered those hearts when He fed them with the loaves. Finally, He preached this message to them about the Bread of Life. Jesus has long-range plans for people, with different moving parts.

2. **Endures.** At Capernaum, Jesus warned the crowd of people against working for food which perishes. Then He explained that they should work for food which endures to eternal life. Jesus meant that they loved the physical food, but they should work for the spiritual food enduring to eternal life.

3. **Eternal.** In contrast to the bread which perishes, Jesus offered to give the Bread of Life to people so that they would have eternal life. The crowd ate the special bread Jesus made, but they were still hungry and wanted more. Jesus wanted them to never go hungry again.

4. **Salvation.** Jesus always evangelized. He came, in part, to preach the good news of salvation in Him by faith alone.

5. **Deity.** Jesus also proclaimed His deity and equality with the Father. Jesus identified God, the Father. Notice that Jesus implied that the Father is one Person of the Godhead. Jesus also declared that God the Father set His unique seal of approval on Jesus.

6. **Received.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we have eaten the Bread, which is Jesus, and received eternal life.

7. **Seal.** We rejoice today because we know that God the Father has set His seal upon God the Son, Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus for the Bread of Life which endures to eternity.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus that we never hunger after we have eaten the Bread of Life which He gives to us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we enjoy the Bread of Life we ate, and so were adopted into the family of God.**

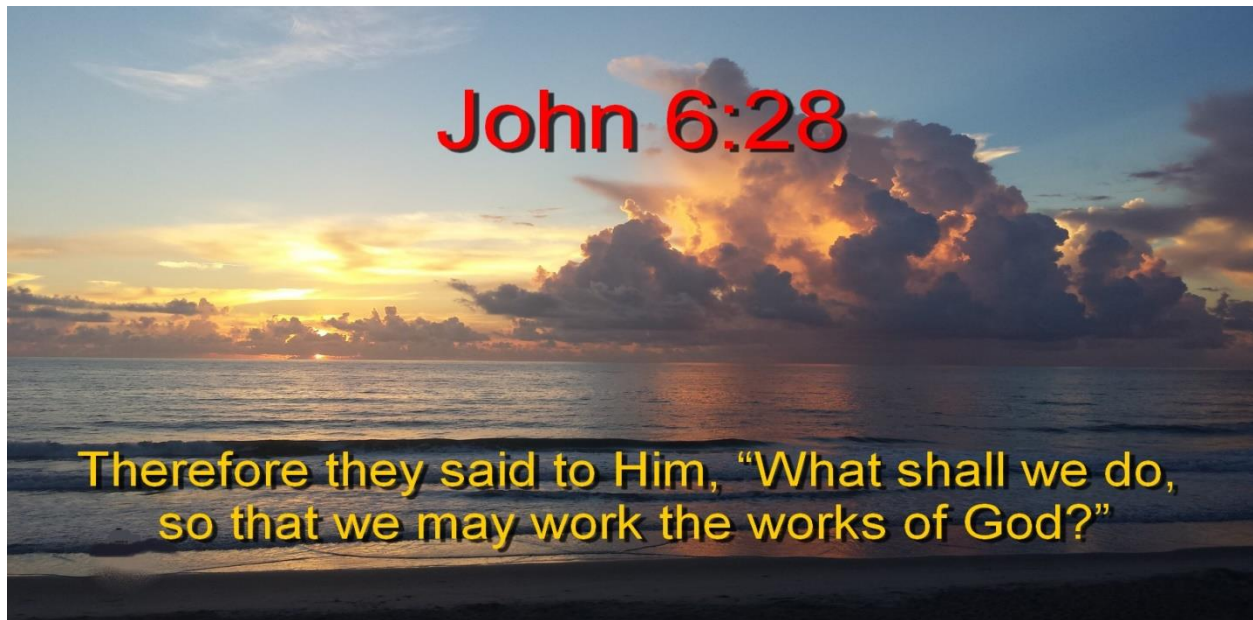
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by sharing with people the Bread of Life. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by knowing that you will never feel hungry again, because you have eaten the Bread of Life which endures to eternity?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Forty

What Shall We Do Today



What shall we do to work the works of God? The crowd asked Jesus what works they should do to work the works of God. Jesus had them thinking about doing the works of God, but they still did not understand that faith in Jesus as Savior was the key to eternal life.

Jesus inspired the most interesting questions. In this case, the crowd was seeking Jesus because they ate the bread He provided and they were filled. Jesus, however, began talking about bread that would endure to eternal life.

The people were thinking they had to do works to get eternal life and work the works of God. They did not understand that Jesus was offering Himself as the Bread of Life that endures to eternal life. As Jesus continued to speak to them, He would highlight the priority of faith in Jesus, not human works.

Works of God

1. **Exposed.** Jesus exposed that the crowd sought Him only because they ate and were filled. He replied that they should seek eternal life.

2. **Works.** The crowd asked about works they could do to do the works of God. Jesus had told them to work for the bread enduring to eternal life that Jesus would give them. Notice the free gift of eternal life.

3. **Law.** The crowd thought they had to keep the Law of Moses, or do other good works, to enter heaven.

4. **Gift.** Jesus preached salvation to them by receiving a free gift of eternal life from Him.

5. **Signs.** Perhaps the crowd also wanted to perform signs like Jesus. They too wanted to work the works of God.

6. **Faith.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know people will seek to enter heaven based upon their good works. They need to hear from us the good news of the free gift of salvation, not based upon our own works, but faith in Jesus and His completed work of salvation.

7. **Death.** We rejoice today because we know our own works resulted in the death penalty for us, but Jesus took that death penalty and died for us. We live because He died. He rose from the dead and will be coming back soon.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that people will be interested working the works of God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by sharing with people how believing in Jesus brings eternal life.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by encouraging one another with the promises of Jesus about working the works of God.**

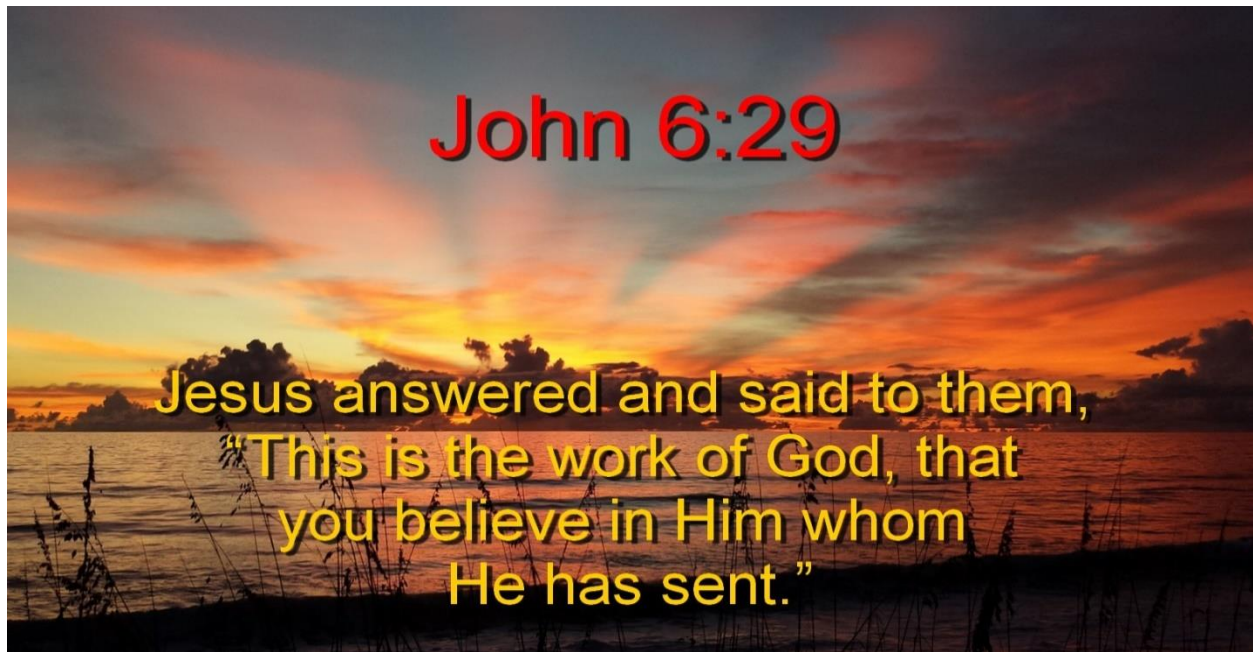
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by doing the works of God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by doing the works of God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Forty One

The Work of God Today



What is the work of God? Jesus said that the work of God is for people to believe in Him who has sent Jesus. Jesus gave brilliant, simple answers to questions.

At times people ask the wrong questions to Jesus. He still gives the right answers every time. Jesus used questions for a variety of reasons, but frequently He used questions to move conversations to a spiritual level. People often were concerned about their physical lives, but Jesus wanted them to have eternal life by faith in Him.

In this case the people wanted to work the works of God, so that they could eat of the bread which endures to eternity. Jesus then answered their question about doing works with the answer of faith. Belief in Jesus is the bread of life that endures to eternity. Jesus is the Bread of Life.

You Believe

1. **Basis.** Jesus presented the basis of salvation: faith in Jesus Himself, sent from God the Father.

2. **The Works.** The crowd wanted to work the works of God and Jesus revealed how to do those works.

3. **Explained.** Jesus explained that the work of God is faith in Jesus, Whom God sent.

4. **Faith in Jesus.** Even today, if you want to work the works of God, it all starts with faith in Jesus, sent from God the Father.

5. **Rejected.** Many people eat bread today and feel satisfied. Yet, they cannot do the works of God, because they have rejected saving faith in Jesus, Whom God sent. Religion never means automatic salvation.

6. **Our Faith.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that our faith is the work of God. Our works never bring salvation.

7. **Our Savior.** We rejoice today in the work of God: our faith in Jesus, our Savior, sent from God.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by working the works of God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we see Jesus expand our saving faith in Him to do all the works of God He has crafted for us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God when we join together by faith in sharing the Good News and living together doing the works of God.**

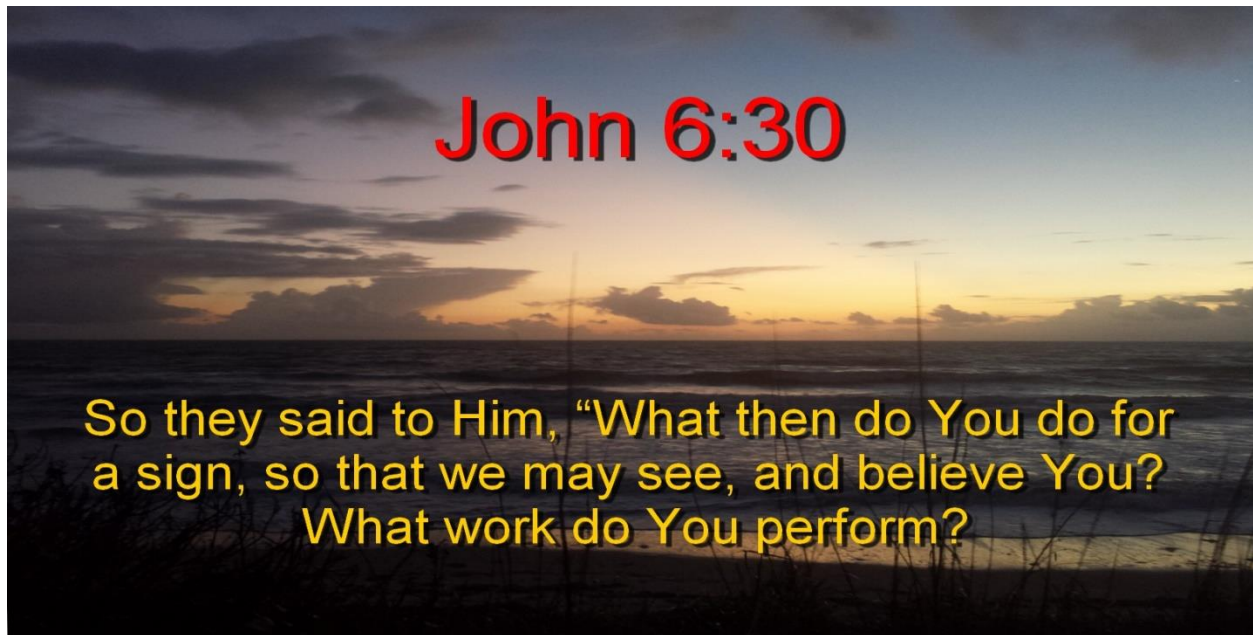
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by doing the works of God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by faith in Jesus, the Bread of Life which satisfies forever?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Forty Two

A Sign Today



What work do you perform? Some people ask the craziest questions. The crowd asked Jesus what sign He would perform, so that they may see it, and believe. Jesus had already told them that they did not seek Him because they saw signs. Jesus performed the sign of feeding five thousand men from five barley loaves and two fish, but they wanted more.

Jesus explained to them that they should work not for the food which perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man would give to them. Even so, they wanted a sign so that they could believe Him. They wanted Him to perform some work upon demand from them.

Jesus led the crowd carefully with every word He said to them. He wanted them to believe in Him and have eternal life. This crowd serves as a good example of many people hearing and seeing Jesus, and being moved by what they saw and heard to follow Jesus. Yet, they had not come to

saving faith. Jesus also offered eternal life to all the people who receive Him by faith alone.

We May See and Believe

1. **Ate.** Jesus had told the crowd that they did not seek Him because they saw signs, but because they ate of the loaves and were filled.

2. **Believe.** Jesus then explained that eternal life means that they must believe Jesus, as sent from God.

3. **Demanded.** The crowd balked at such teaching and demanded a sign from Jesus. Notice they claimed they would believe if Jesus would perform a sign or work upon their demand. People frequently demand that God do things upon their demand. They think they can command God to their will.

4. **Testimony.** You may recall that Jesus had provided testimony from different sources, including God the Father and the Scriptures. They all testified about Jesus, the Messiah, Savior of the world.

5. **How?** Jesus had already said, "If you will not believe his [Moses'] writings, how will you believe My words?"

6. **Signs.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know people often seek signs and miracles from Jesus. The Scriptures contain many signs declaring Jesus to be the Christ, God in the flesh, the Savior of the world.

7. **Divine Power.** We rejoice today because we believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior. We see His divine power at work in our lives every day.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing Jesus without seeing signs from Him.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by not demanding that Jesus work signs for us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we appreciate the many signs Jesus performed in the Bible.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing in Jesus without demanding that He work signs for us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by learning more about the signs Jesus has already performed?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Forty Three

Ate the Manna Today



What did the fathers eat in the wilderness? The crowd wanted to know how the bread Jesus offered compared to manna. Jesus will draw a clear distinction between manna in the wilderness and Jesus the Bread of Life.

When Jesus talks to people, He often stirs up spiritual questions from their heart. In this case, the Jewish crowd knew about their fathers eating manna in the wilderness. They did not know that Jesus provided manna to the people, because He was the God of Moses.

All the people who ate the manna in the wilderness died. That manna, like coriander seed, with a taste life wafers with honey, sustained the people of Israel in the wilderness for forty years. Yet, they all died, and most of them died in the wilderness, without reaching the promised land. Jesus did not want the crowd to die in their sins, but to trust Him as Savior.

Manna in the Wilderness

1. **Quoted.** Not only did the crowd demand a sign, but the people also quoted the Bible to Jesus to support their request.

2. **Manna.** The crowd said their fathers ate manna in the wilderness. Apparently, they sought a similar miracle or sign from Jesus.

3. **Grumbling.** You may recall that God provided manna in the wilderness, similar in some ways to the bread Jesus had already given to the crowd. In Genesis 16:1-7, God heard the grumbling of the fathers who regretted leaving Egypt with its slavery and oppression. God gave them manna, because He heard their grumbling against Yahweh.

4. **Faithless.** The crowd certainly proved, unintentionally, that they were just like their faithless fathers, grumbling against Yahweh in the wilderness.

5. **Provided.** The crowd also implied that Moses worked the sign of manna. In fact, Yahweh provided the manna and worked all the miracles.

6. **Believe.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we do not test God with our demands for action. We also believe the words of eternal life proclaimed by Jesus. We love Jesus and try to avoid grumbling against Him, Yahweh.

7. **All.** We rejoice today because Jesus provides bread for us. He Himself is bread, life, drink and all we will ever need.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by appreciating that Jesus is far superior to manna from heaven.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus because He gives us the bread of life.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we love Jesus for His great patience in putting up with all kinds of questions.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that Jesus is superior in every way to manna. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by displaying patience with people who ask unusual questions about Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Forty Four

Not Moses Today



Who have given the crowd bread out of heaven? Jesus indicated that His Father gives the true bread out of heaven.

Jesus answered the question about manna by revealing a far greater truth than manna from heaven. Jesus revealed that His Father gives the true bread, not manna, out of heaven. The bread given by His Father will always be far superior to the manna eaten by the fathers in the wilderness.

Jesus always draws people back to the spiritual level of communication. He seeks to draw people to faith in Himself, so that they receive the free gift of eternal life. The Father sanctified Jesus and sent Him into the world. Jesus is the true bread given by His Father to the world. The crowd still had no idea that Jesus meant He Himself is the bread given by the Father out of heaven. Moses never gave anyone the Bread of Life.

The True Bread out of Heaven

1. **Bread.** The crowd sought Jesus because of the bread they ate. Later, the crowd demanded a sign so that they might believe Jesus.

2. **Moses.** Although the crowd implied Moses gave their fathers bread, Jesus corrected them by declaring that God the Father gave them manna in the wilderness.

3. **Gives.** Jesus also made a larger and more beautiful proclamation. God the Father gives them the true bread out of heaven.

4. **Proof.** The greatest of all signs was Jesus standing there as God in the flesh, doing signs, wonders, and miracles. Jesus provided complete proof that His Father had sent Him to earth.

5. **True.** God gave Jesus to people as the true bread out of Heaven. This phrase described Jesus as preincarnate God living with His Father in heaven. Then His Father gave Jesus as true bread.

6. **Heaven.** Living Godly in the family of God means that the Father gave Jesus as the true bread out of heaven, so that we might have eternal life as a free gift.

7. **Forever.** Jesus and His Father love all of us. He is the true bread out of heaven, given for us, so that we might live forever in His love.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that the Father gave us the True Bread out of heaven.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we recognize the difference between manna and Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise the Father for sending the true Bread out of heaven, Jesus our Savior.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by letting people know that Jesus is the true bread out of heaven. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by sharing with people that God the Father has given us the true bread out of heaven?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Forty Five

Bread of God Today



What gives life to the world? The bread of God gives life to the world. Jesus taught that the bread of God comes down out of heaven and gives life to the world.

Remember that Jesus had told the crowd that they did not seek Him because He performed a sign, but because they ate the bread and were satisfied. They wanted more bread that satisfied them.

Jesus used their desire for bread to explain the true bread which comes down out of heaven. The bread from heaven gives life to the world. No other bread could give life to the world. Jesus was the Bread that comes down out of heaven.

Life to the World

1. **Salvation.** Jesus described in detail the plan of salvation. It centered upon eternal life in Jesus Christ, received individually by faith alone.
2. **Illustration.** Jesus used the illustration of bread. The crowd had eaten of the bread Jesus gave them and so they followed Him to Capernaum.
3. **Bread of God.** Jesus described the Bread of God. That divine bread was Jesus Himself. Jesus was the Bread of God which comes down out of Heaven and gives life to the world.
4. **Life.** Notice that Jesus, the Bread of God, gives life. Just as the Father has life in Himself, so Jesus has life in Himself.
5. **Jesus.** Jesus gives eternal life to the world. Not everyone receives the free gift of eternal life, but Jesus gives life to the world.
6. **Gives.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know and believe that Jesus is the Bread of God, who gives life to the world.
7. **Gift.** We rejoice today because Jesus gave us eternal life the moment we received His free gift by faith alone.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that we have the Bread out of heaven in our lives.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God because we know that the Bread out of heaven has given us eternal life.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus, the Bread that came down out of heaven.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we share the Bread that gives life with other people. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by sharing the Bread which gives life to the world?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Forty Six

Always Give Us Today



Why did the crowd ask Jesus to give them this bread? The crowd asked Jesus to give the bread that satisfies to eternity because they ate of the bread He provided and they wanted more.

Jesus created strong spiritual interest in the concepts He taught people. Because He taught in spiritual terms, many people could not understand what He was offering to them. Here, Jesus was offering spiritual life by faith in Him as the Bread of Life.

Jesus was always the master when it came to teaching. He provided the clearest teaching, right to the point, and penetrating deeply. Jesus always spoke the words given to Him by the Father. He was always accomplishing the work which the Father gave Him to do. God the Father sent Jesus to be the Bread of Life, which endures to eternal life for anyone who eats that Bread of Life. The crowd asked Him always to give them that Bread.

This Bread

1. **Heaven.** The crowd heard Jesus describe the Bread out of Heaven. He was describing Himself as God descending from heaven, taking flesh, and living among men.

2. **Spiritual.** Consider bread for a moment. When we eat bread, swallow it and digest it, it nourishes our bodies. Likewise, by faith, Jesus spiritually comes into our lives and abides with us forever. He brings eternal life with Him.

3. **Transforms.** When we eat the Bread out of Heaven, we become new creatures. Jesus transforms us by His power. The Bread of God changes everything in our spiritual lives.

4. **Want.** Notice the crowd wanted the bread out of Heaven. Yet, they did not want Jesus. They did not recognize Jesus as the Bread of God.

5. **Seek.** People often seek physical food, but never think much about spiritual food in Jesus.

6. **Rejecting.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we see people all around us hungering for food, but rejecting Jesus Christ.

7. **Nourishes.** We rejoice today because we have our faith growing stronger in Jesus every day. He nourishes us with His presence, love and power each day.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by helping people eat of the Bread out of heaven.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we meditate upon Jesus as the Bread of Life.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in sharing with people how Jesus offers to give them the Bread of Life today as a free gift.**

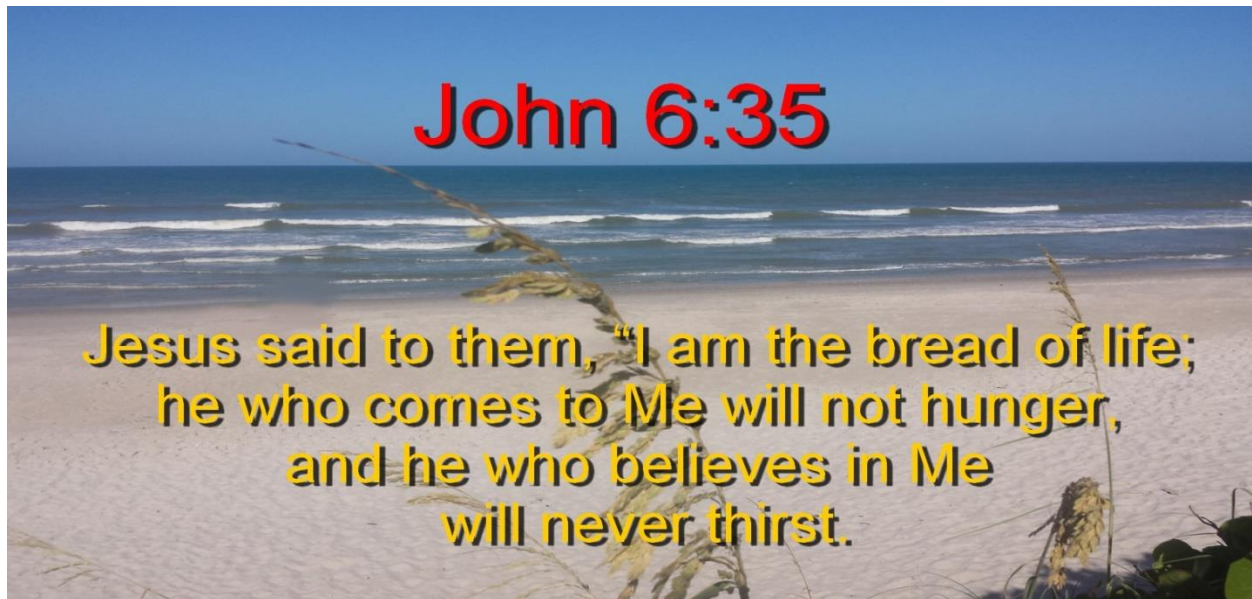
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by praising God that we always have the Bread of Life with us each day. We have eaten of that Bread and been nourished to eternal life. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by praising Jesus for satisfying us with Himself?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Forty Seven

I Am the Bread of Life Today



Is it possible to never hunger and never thirst? Jesus said that everyone who comes to Him will not hunger and everyone who believes in Him will never thirst.

Jesus offered the woman at the well water that will become in her a well of water springing up to eternal life. Now Jesus said that He could stop their hunger and thirst permanently. Jesus was speaking in spiritual terms, not physical terms.

Jesus disclosed: "I AM the bread of life." Jesus has created great interest in the crowd about no more hunger and no more thirst. Jesus said they could eat of the Bread which came down from heaven and be fully satisfied. Then Jesus explained if they would come to Him as the Bread of Life, then they would never hunger and if they would believe in Him, then they would never thirst.

Believes in Me

1. **Identified.** Jesus identified Himself to Moses at the burning bush as the "I AM" God. Jesus used this I AM phrase many times in the Gospel of John to identify Himself and reveal different aspects of Himself.

2. **I AM.** In our verse today, Jesus said: "I AM" the bread of life. He is the Bread of God, the Bread out of Heaven. John wrote simple Greek words, but those words revealed great truths about God.

3. **Never Hunger.** Jesus made two wonderful promises here. First, He said that He who comes to Me will never hunger. Notice that you must come to Jesus; all who come will never hunger. As a young child, I came to Jesus and have never hungered, just as Jesus promised. I seek no other Savior.

4. **Never Thirst.** Jesus also promised that if you believe in Him, you will never thirst. Since the day I believed in Jesus, I have never been thirsty. I came to Jesus and believed in Him. No more hunger and no more thirst in my life. Praise Jesus !

5. **Forever.** Jesus stands supreme as the I AM God. Yet, He humbled Himself and became the bread of God, sent from heaven, to remove our hunger and thirst forever.

6. **Believe.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we never hunger or thirst because we came to Jesus and believe in Him.

7. **Remains.** This verse brings me great joy every time I read it. The great I AM God, Jesus the King of kings, and Lord of lords, remains the Bread of Life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by praising God that we came to Jesus by faith one day.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we continue to believe in Jesus and recognize that we never hunger and never thirst in Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in praise and worship of Jesus Who declared: I Am the Bread of Life.**

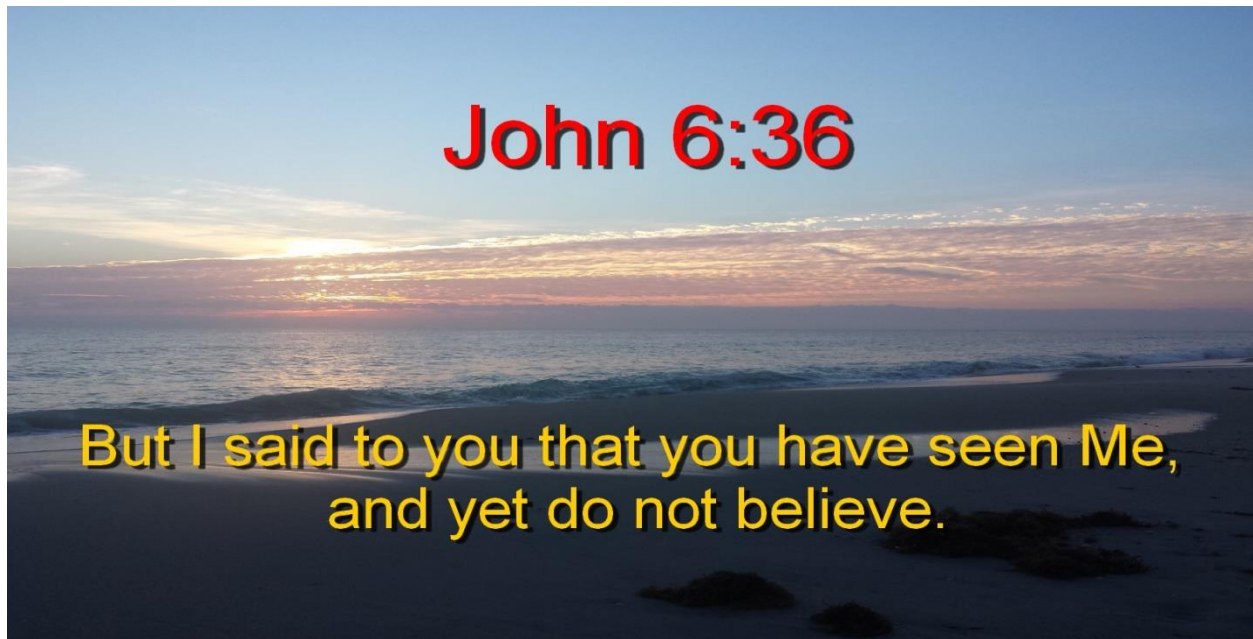
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by proclaiming that Jesus is the Bread of Life to people. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by letting people know they need not thirst or hunger ever again?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Forty Eight

You Have Seen Me Today



How many times have you heard “seeing is believing?” Jesus told the crowd that they had seen Him, but yet they did not believe.

Jesus meant that the crowd had seen Jesus in person, up close and personal. They had spent time listening to Him and seeing His works. They had eaten the bread and were satisfied. They had considerable, first-hand experience with Jesus and yet they did not believe.

Jesus worked the miracles, did the signs, taught and healed so that people would know that He was the Messiah, sent by His Father as the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world. By faith in Him, they could have the free gift of eternal life. The crowd heard Jesus say: “I AM the Bread of Life” and yet they did not believe Him.

You Do Not Believe

1. **Seen.** Jesus had preached the Gospel of the Kingdom to the crowd. They also had seen Jesus face to face.

2. **Faith.** Jesus always focused upon salvation by faith alone. Seeing does not always mean believing. The crowd saw Jesus, but did not believe Jesus.

3. **Saves.** Without faith, it is impossible to please God or be forgiven of sins. Faith saves us. No faith, no salvation.

4. **Believe.** I have heard people say: "If I could see Jesus, I would believe." Seeing Jesus does not save you; believing the Gospel preached by Jesus saves you.

5. **Hear.** God said: "So faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ." Jesus also said: "Blessed are those who do not see, and yet believed." We have not yet seen Jesus face to face, but we have the word of Christ and believed Him.

6. **Know.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we have not yet seen Jesus face to face, but we believe His word. We know Him and He knows us.

7. **Enlightened.** We rejoice today because the eyes of our hearts have been enlightened, so that we know Jesus and the hope of His calling, the riches of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing Jesus, even if we have never seen Him.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we help people to believe in Jesus, even if they have never seen Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as the people of God who have believed that Jesus said truly: “I AM the Bread of Life.”**

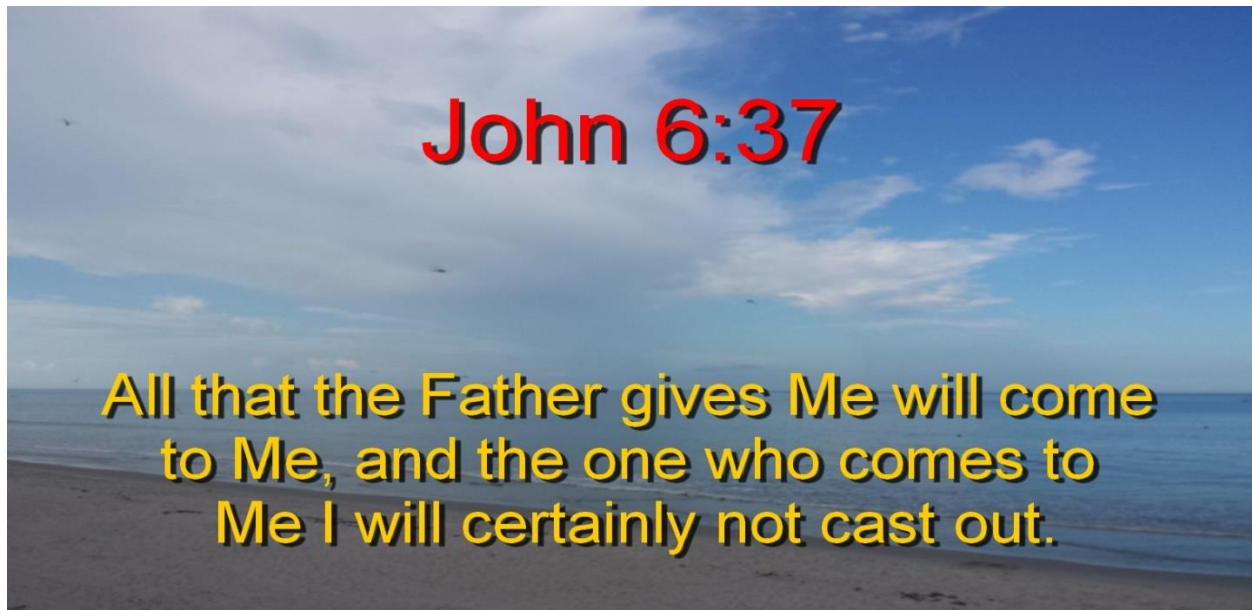
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with people who have never seen Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by believing Jesus for all things, even if you have never seen Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Forty Nine

The Father Gives To Me Today



Will Jesus cast out people who come to Him? Jesus promised that all that the Father gives to Him will come to Him, and the one who comes to Him He will certainly not cast out.

Jesus made wonderful promises. We do well to remember those promises and let God build our lives upon His word. Jesus indicated that the Father gives people to Jesus. All the people the Father gives to Jesus come to Jesus. Then all the people who come to Jesus He will never cast out.

Jesus taught that salvation starts with the Father giving people to Jesus. They come to Jesus and He keeps them forever. He never casts out a single person given to Him by His Father. As believers, we know that the Father gave us to Jesus and we remain eternally secure with Jesus. He will never cast us out, no matter what we do. We do not have a license to sin, but He gave us an irrevocable promise He will never cast us out.

Come to Me

1. **Explained.** Jesus explained how the Father gives people to Jesus and Jesus never casts out any of those people.

2. **Security.** Jesus taught eternal security. He never casts away anyone sent by His Father. Everyone given by the Father to Jesus will come to Jesus. Notice the process here.

3. **Gives.** Step One. God the Father gives certain people to God the Son.

4. **Come.** Step Two. All people given to Jesus come to Jesus. Nobody gets lost on the way from the Father to Jesus. Step Three. Jesus receives each person sent by the Father.

5. **Received.** Step Four. Jesus never casts out the person received from His Father.

6. **Salvation.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know our salvation includes God the Father giving us to Jesus. Jesus gladly received each one of us, and never casts out anyone. Our salvation rests eternally secure because of God's actions, not ours.

7. **Rest.** We rejoice today because Jesus will never cast us out, no matter how things go. We rest in the certain character of God and His promises.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that the Father gave us to Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we believe that all who come to Jesus, He will never cast out.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as the group of people given to Jesus, and He promised all of us that He will never cast us out.**

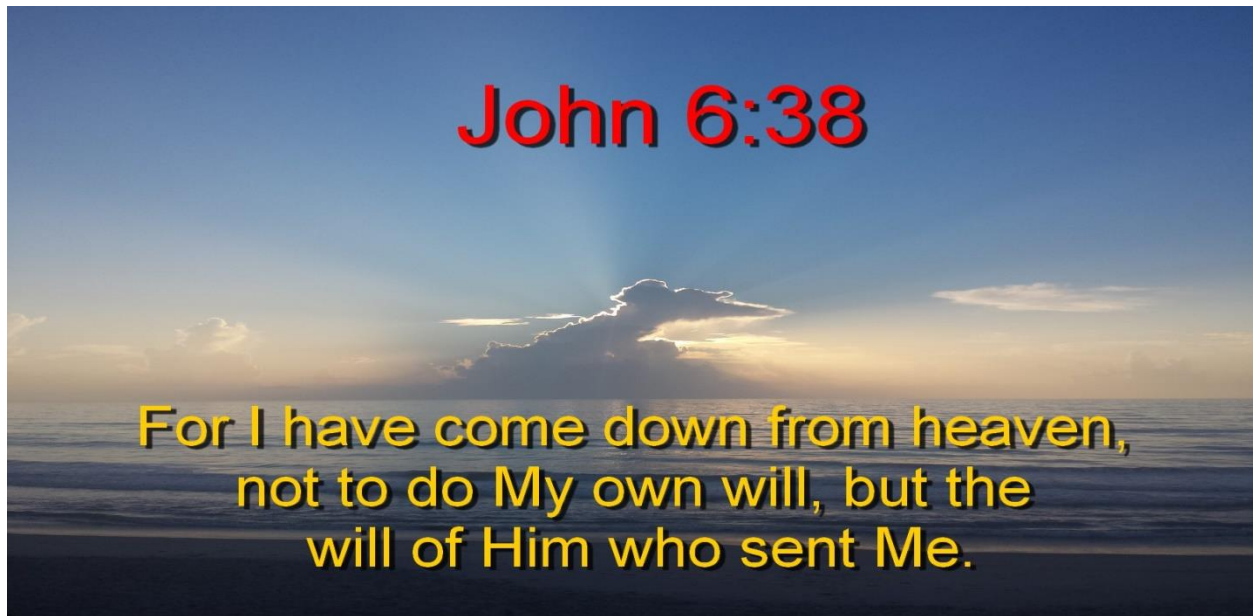
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus will never cast us out. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by looking for the people the Father has given to Jesus for salvation?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Fifty

My Own Will Today



Why did Jesus come down from heaven? He came down from heaven to do the will of His Father Who sent Him.

Jesus obeyed His Father in all things. He spoke the Father's words, performed the Father's works, and received the people the Father sent to Him.

Jesus did not come to do His own will, but the will of the Father Who sent Him. As we review the way Jesus talked with the crowd, He urged the crowd to believe in Him for salvation. Jesus was doing the will of His Father in speaking to them about the Bread of Heaven. The Father sent Jesus down to earth to present Himself as the Bread of Heaven. If people would believe in Jesus, and eat that Bread of Life, they would receive the free gift of eternal life. Yet, they had seen Jesus and they did not believe.

Will of Him

1. **Heaven.** Jesus came down from heaven, took flesh, and dwelt among men. He lived in heaven as God the Son before He took flesh and lived among men.

2. **Will.** Jesus came down from heaven not to do His own will. Jesus practiced something we should do every day: doing the Father's will, not our own.

3. **Harmony.** This verse, among others, proves that Jesus had a will of His own. He had a human will, just like we have. He also had a divine will, living always in harmony with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.

4. **See.** Notice that Jesus wanted the crowd to know about the Father's will each day. To see Jesus was to see His Father. To see Jesus act was to see the Father act.

5. **Submission.** Jesus never let His human will override the Father's will. Jesus perfectly modeled Godly submission all the time. By His grace, we can follow His example today.

6. **Live.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we live to do the Father's will each day, not our own.

7. **Follow.** We rejoice today when we follow the example of Jesus and do the Father's will, and not our own.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God as we focus upon Jesus doing the will of His Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we join Jesus in doing the will of His Father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise Jesus for coming down from Heaven to do the will of the Father, which included giving us to Jesus.**

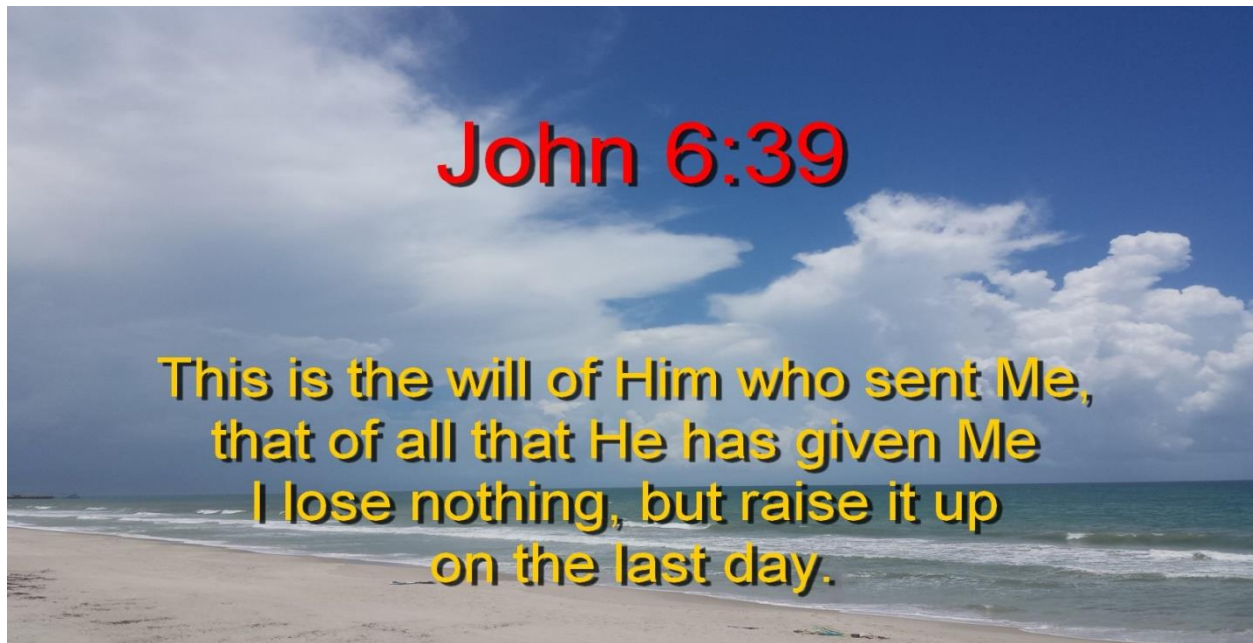
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by focusing upon Jesus Who came down from heaven to do the will of His Father. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by delighting in Jesus because He did His Father's will?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Fifty One

I Lose Nothing Today



What is the will of the Father for Jesus? The Father willed that Jesus lose nothing of all that the Father gave to Jesus.

Jesus explained that His Father had sent Him to Earth to do the will of His Father. Jesus was not acting on His own initiative, but also doing the will of His Father.

The Father gave some people to Jesus. All the people that the Father gave to Jesus, the Father willed that Jesus lose nothing of all that the Father gave to Him. The Father wills that Jesus raise up all the people that the Father gave to Jesus on the last day.

Believers go to the resurrection of life, not the resurrection of judgment where unbelievers go. In the future, when Jesus returns in the clouds resurrection, just before the seven years of Tribulation, Jesus will resurrect the bodies of the saints.

Raise It Up

1. **Truth.** Jesus revealed deep theology about eternal security for every believer. Jesus preached profound truths.

2. **Proclaimed.** Jesus proclaimed that He came down from heaven to do the will of His Father.

3. **Specifically.** Then Jesus explained specifically the Father's will. The Father's will meant that Jesus would not lose even one of all the people given to Jesus by the Father.

4. **Raise.** The Father's will also meant that Jesus would raise up on the last day each person given to Jesus by His Father.

5. **Eternal.** The Father has great, eternal plans for each person He gives to Jesus. The Father knew that Jesus would not lose one of us and Jesus would raise up our bodies on the last day.

6. **Resurrection.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus will never lose a single believer and Jesus will raise our bodies on the last day. Notice the plan of God means both Father and Son work in harmony, assuring both our eternal security and our bodily resurrection.

7. **Focus.** We rejoice today because we know Jesus will never lose us and Jesus will raise every believer on the last day. Notice our faith and our actions are not at issue here. God remains the focus for our future.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus did the will of God the Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus that He loses nothing of all that the Father gives to Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God because Jesus will raise up all the people that the Father gave to Him.**

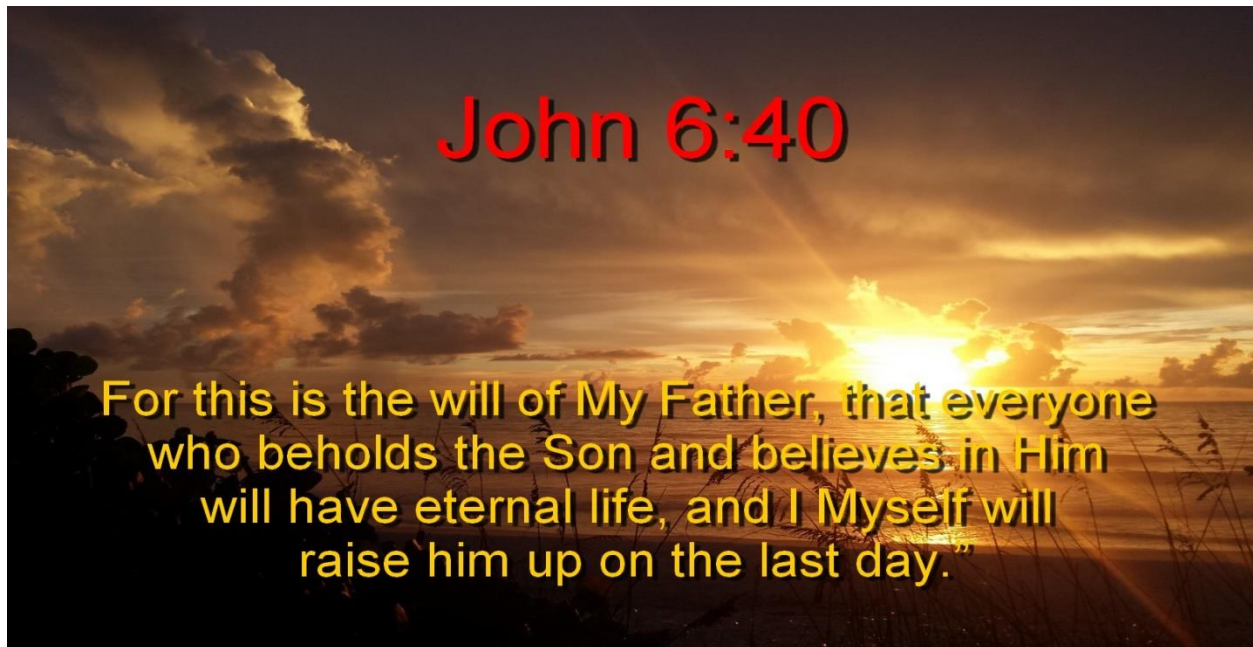
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by looking forward to the day that Jesus will raise up believers. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by remembering that Jesus will never lose you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Fifty Two

Beholds the Son Today



What does the Father will for everyone who beholds the Son? The Father wills that everyone who believes in Him will have eternal life, and I myself will raise him up on the last day.

The Father and the Son act in perfect harmony. The Son came to do the will of His Father. People on Earth will behold the Son and some will believe on Him for eternal life. Jesus Himself will raise him up on the last day.

Jesus sought for people to believe in Him. Everyone who sees the Son will not go to heaven. The one who saw Jesus must also believe in Him in order to have eternal life.

Jesus repeats His promise that He will raise up the believers on the last day. Jesus made many prophecies. He emphasized His role in resurrecting believers to life on the last day.

Believes in Him

1. **Father's Will.** Jesus knows the will of His Father and disclosed it to the crowd. As believers, the Bible presents very clear information about the will of God the Father.

2. **Jesus Came.** Jesus preached that He came down from heaven to do the will of the Father on earth.

3. **Beholds, Believes.** The Father wills that everyone who beholds Jesus and believes in Him will have eternal life. The Father wills to give eternal life through His Son, Jesus.

4. **Promised.** Jesus again promised that Jesus Himself will raise up every believer on the last day. One day, Jesus will return to the clouds of earth and bring with Him everyone who died in Christ. In the twinkling of an eye, everyone coming from heaven with Jesus and every believer alive on earth shall receive a resurrection body in that instant.

5. **Guarantee.** Both Jesus and His Father love every believer and guarantee our wonderful future with God, raised in immortality on the last day.

6. **Eternal Life.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know the Father wills every believer to have eternal life and Jesus will raise us up on the last day.

7. **Resurrection.** We rejoice today because Jesus proclaimed the Father's will to us and the will of Jesus Himself: eternal life and resurrection.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus will raise up believers on the last day.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that the Father wants people to behold Jesus and to believe in Him for salvation.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together in doing the will of God, and seeing people believe in Jesus, so that Jesus will raise up all of us on the last day.**

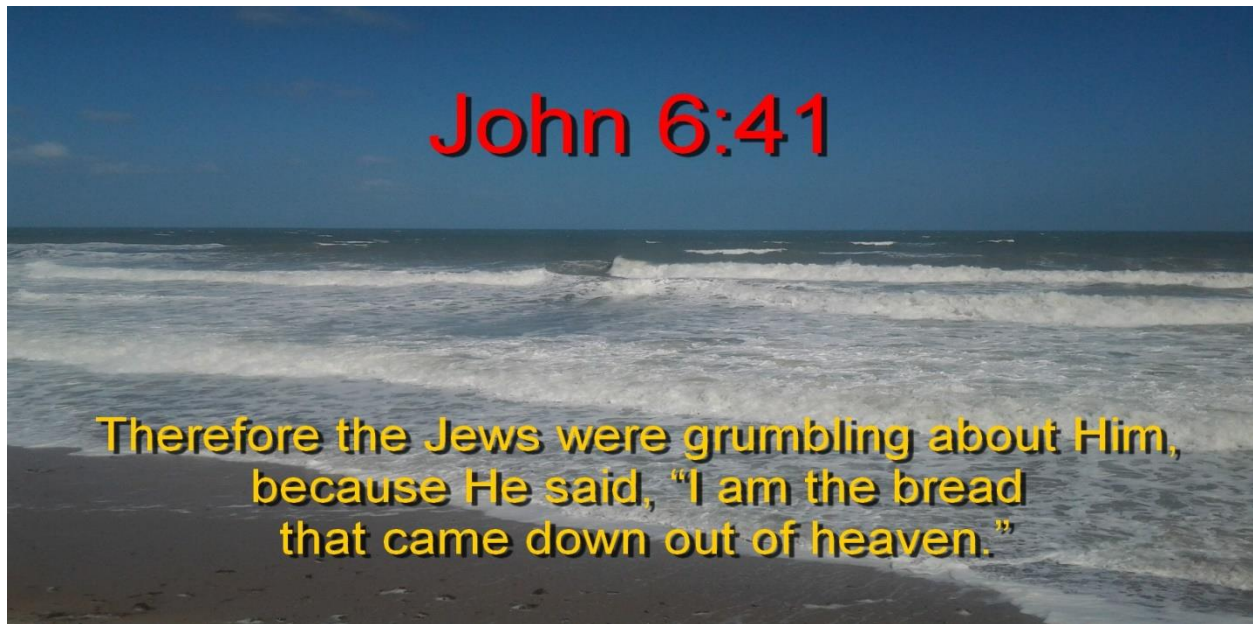
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by inviting people to get to know Jesus and believe in Him for eternal life. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by looking forward to the day when Jesus will raise you up on the last day?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Fifty Three

Grumbling about Him Today



Why were the Jews grumbling? They were grumbling because Jesus said: "I am the bread that came down out of heaven."

The Jews saw Jesus and heard Jesus. He spent time talking with them and revealing that the Father sent Him to do the Father's will. Jesus came down from heaven to do the will of God the Father.

Having listened to Jesus, the Jews were grumbling because Jesus declared Himself to be the bread that came down out of heaven. Having heard Jesus and witnessed His works of powers, the crowd still grumbled over the words of Jesus just like their forefathers had.

I Am the Bread

1. **Grumbled.** Jesus preached and upset many people with His sermons. At Capernaum, the Jews grumbled at His words.

2. **Preaching.** The Jews grumbled specifically about Jesus preaching that He was the bread that came down out of heaven.

3. **Born and Raised.** Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, but raised in Nazareth of Galilee, about 25 miles southwest as the crow flies from Capernaum where He was preaching. Jews in Capernaum knew Jews living in Nazareth.

4. **Claim.** The Jews understood that Jesus claimed that He came down out of heaven. He absolutely claimed to be God in the flesh.

5. **Heaven.** As the Jews clamored for a sign, Jesus said He came down out of heaven. Through His words and works, Jesus showed that He came down out of heaven.

6. **Demonstrate.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know people will grumble about Jesus, but we know He came down out of heaven to demonstrate His great love for us.

7. **Father.** We rejoice today because Jesus never let grumbling stop Him from doing His Father's will. We should be just like Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus is the Bread that came down out of heaven.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by expecting that some people will grumble about the things that Jesus said.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we understand that some people will grumble about the things we share with them about Jesus.**

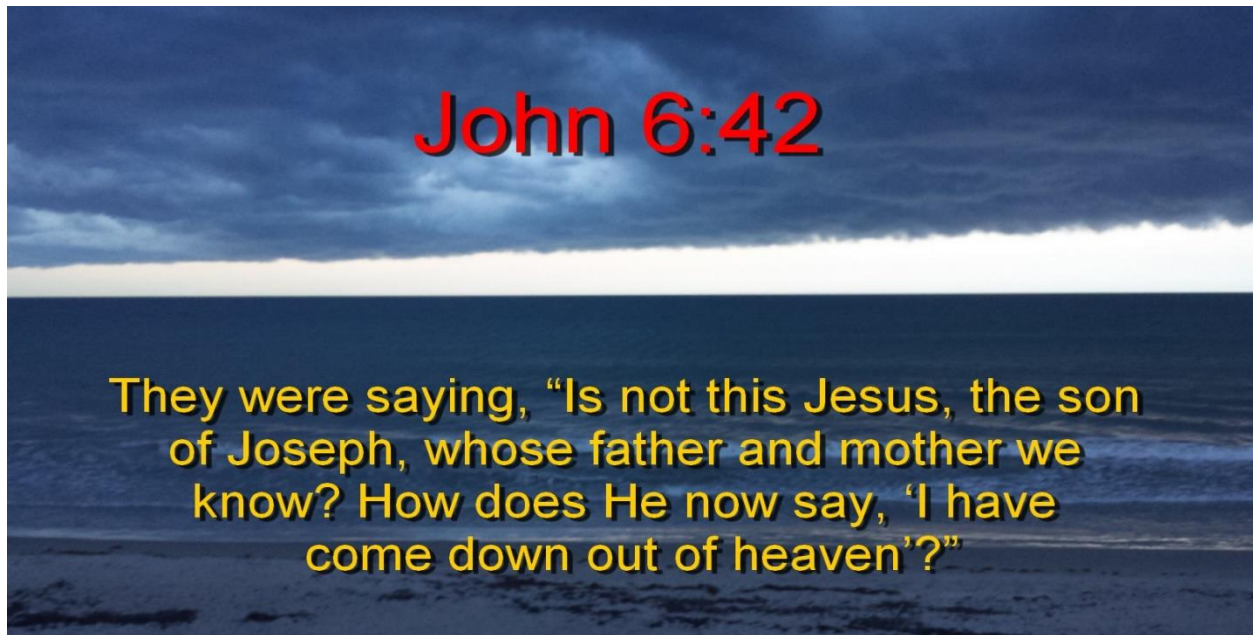
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that some people will grumble about the things that Jesus said. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by talking with people who grumble about Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Fifty Four

The Son of Joseph



Why did the people question that Jesus said He had come down from heaven? The people questioned that Jesus came down from heaven because they knew His father and mother.

The people knew the parents of Jesus, Joseph and Mary. They did not know that Joseph had nothing to do with the conception of Jesus. The Holy Spirit caused the conception of Mary supernaturally. Jesus was born of a virgin and grew up in the household of Joseph and Mary in Nazareth, having been born in Bethlehem and later fled to Egypt for a time. Then the family settled in Nazareth.

People do not see the spiritual truth about Jesus unless God the Father reveals Jesus to them. The Father then gives those people to Jesus and He keeps them safe. In the future, He promised to raise them up.

Now Say

1. **Incarnation.** The Jews did not understand the incarnation. They thought you were God or human, but you must be one or the other.

2. **Flesh.** Incarnation means that the invisible, immortal, eternal God, Who is Spirit, took flesh and became a man just like us, and yet remained God also.

3. **Both.** Jesus was both truly God and truly human.

4. **Conceived.** Mary, a virgin, bore Jesus, conceived in her by the Holy Spirit. Later, Mary and Joseph had other children naturally.

5. **Came.** The Jews did not understand that God the Son came down out of heaven, took flesh, and lived as a man among them. Jesus came, in part, to be the bread of eternal life.

6. **Dwelt.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know about incarnation: God the Son became flesh and dwelt among us.

7. **Faith.** We rejoice today because we believe Jesus is the bread that came down out of heaven, and, by faith alone, gave us eternal life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting people who think they know Jesus to deny Him.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we talk to people about how Jesus came down from heaven.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by expecting people to see Jesus, but not see Him as God.**

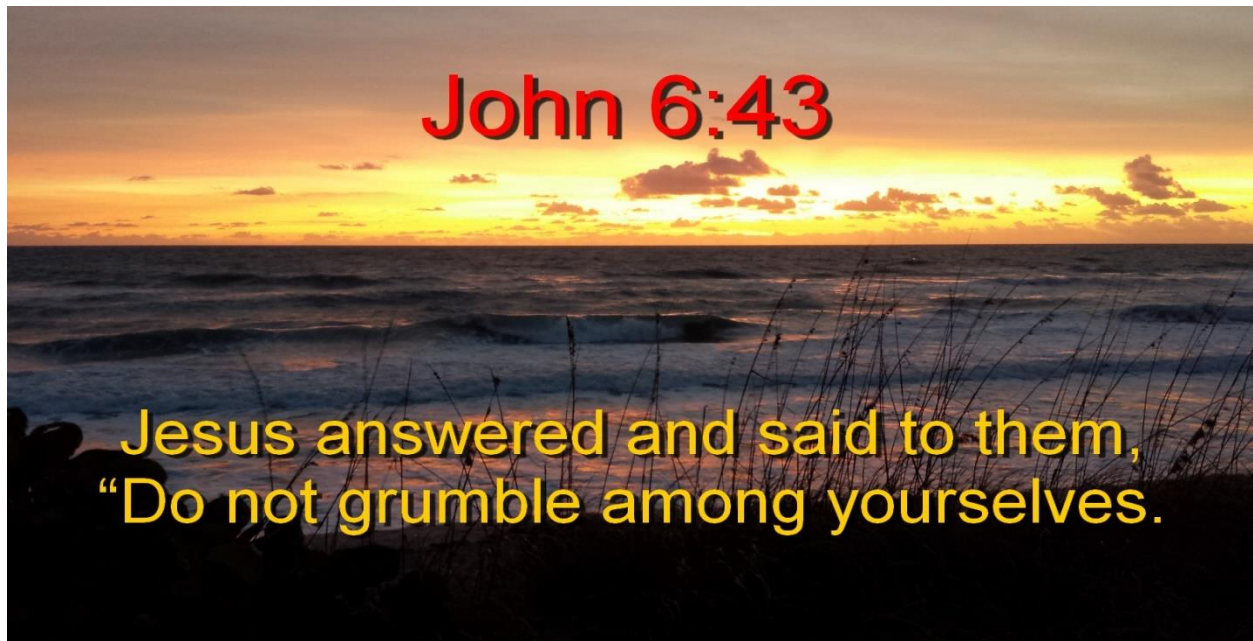
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by telling people that Jesus came down from heaven for us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by encouraging believers to think of Jesus as the Bread which came down from heaven?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Fifty Five

Do Not Grumble



Why were the people grumbling among themselves? The people were grumbling among themselves because some of them believed that Jesus did not come down from heaven because He was from Nazareth and they knew His parents.

People often miss the entire point by believing things that are not true. Jesus loved these people and sought to clear up their misunderstandings. He was patient, kind, and longsuffering with people

Part of His mission from the Father was to speak to these people and urge them to believe that He came down from heaven. They had a hard time believing that any human being could also be God in the flesh. They had not understood or believed in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Instead, they believed what they thought they knew about Jesus and Nazareth.

Among Yourselves

1. **Commanded.** Who cares if you grumble? Jesus cares. He commanded the Jews to stop grumbling.
2. **Rejected.** The Jews grumbled because they heard Jesus speak, but rejected both Him and His message.
3. **Knew.** The Jews knew Joseph, Mary and their children. They grumbled because Jesus said He came down out of heaven.
4. **Not Understand.** The Jews did not understand incarnation. Jesus answered their questions because He loved them.
5. **Grumble.** How do you treat people who grumble against you or against Jesus? Do you answer their questions and engage them? Jesus stayed focused upon doing His Father's will.
6. **Answer.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect some people to grumble about Jesus, but we should talk with them about Jesus and answer their questions.
7. **Loves.** We rejoice today because Jesus loves grumblers; He commands grumbling to stop, but loves sinners who grumble.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by encouraging people to stop grumbling about Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we have patience and longsuffering with people who grumble about Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by realizing that we all grumble at times, but Jesus always commands us to stop grumbling and believe what He is telling us in the Bible.**

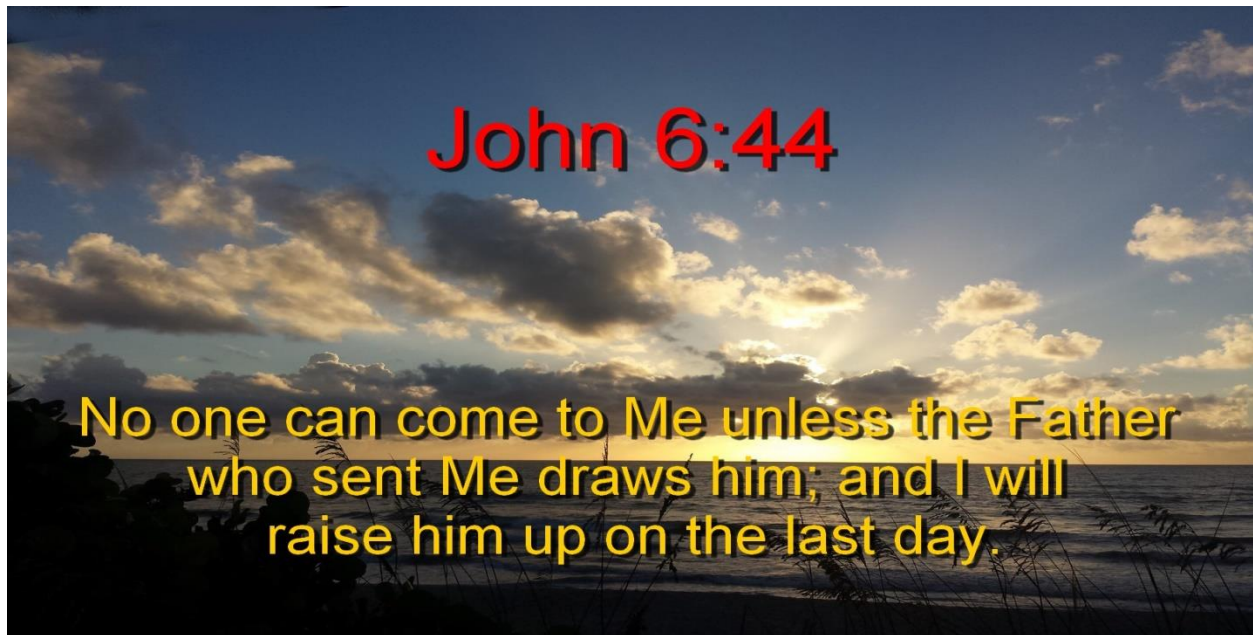
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by having patience with people who grumble against Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by helping people to stop grumbling about Jesus and start believing in Him for salvation?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Fifty Six

Unless the Father Today



Who can come to Jesus? Only people the Father draws to Jesus come to Jesus.

At another time in the ministry of Jesus Peter declared that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God. Jesus told Peter that flesh and blood had not revealed that to him, but the Father of Jesus in heaven.

Jesus told the crowd that only the people the Father draws to Jesus come to Jesus. Once the Father has given people to Jesus, Jesus never loses them. He will raise those people up on the last day.

Jesus explained to the crowd why only some of them would believe in Jesus as Savior. The grumbling crowd received an explanation from Jesus about why they did not believe Him, but people still grumble about Jesus.

Draws Him

1. **Promise.** Jesus had already proclaimed that His Father gave believers to Jesus. Of all the believers given to Him by the Father, Jesus never cast out a single believer and never lost a believer; He promised to raise each believer up on the last day.

2. **Draws.** Jesus then explained in greater detail that His Father draws people. Then the Father gives them to Jesus.

3. **Grumbling.** The Jews were grumbling about Jesus because the Father had not given them to Jesus.

4. **Given.** Only people drawn by the Father and given by the Father come to Jesus.

5. **Orchestrates.** Jesus wanted everyone to know how salvation proceeds. The Father orchestrates people coming to Jesus.

6. **Raise.** Living Godly in the family of God means that the Father draws us to Jesus and that Jesus will raise us up on the last day.

7. **Love.** We rejoice today because of the love bestowed upon us by God the Father drawing us and giving us to Jesus. He promised to raise us up on the last day.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by thanking the Father He drew each of us to Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by thanking the Father that He loved us and gave us Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by looking around us and thanking the Father that He drew so many people into the family of God.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by thanking the Father for drawing us to Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by looking forward to Jesus raising you up on the last day?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Fifty Seven

Heard and Learned Today



Who comes to Jesus? Jesus said that everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Jesus.

Jesus quoted Isaiah 54:13. Isaiah referred to people learning from God the Father. Jesus consistently emphasized that if people knew God the Father, then they would know Jesus. The Father revealed Jesus to people. Then Jesus revealed the Father to them and they learned even more about the Father. Jesus also said that He was the only way to the Father.

When people reject Jesus, they also reject the Father Who sent Jesus to them. Jesus created all things and His own creation rejected Him. He spoke to them about the Father they never knew, and most people still rejected Him. Happily then and now some people accepted Jesus.

Taught of God

1. **Reveal.** Jesus continued to reveal both the Father and the Son to the crowd.

2. **Quoted.** Quoting the Old Testament (ALL CAPS), Jesus quoted the prophets to prove that God teaches people.

3. **Hear.** Some people hear and learn from the Father. Please recall that Jesus revealed the ministry of the Father to the grumbling crowd before Him.

4. **Learn.** Jesus then revealed that everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Jesus.

5. **Truths.** Jesus taught us important truths about the Father and Jesus. Some people first hear and learn from the Father before they come to Jesus. We know that unless the Father draws a person, they will not come to Jesus.

6. **Know.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that we heard and learned from the Father; then we came to Jesus.

7. **Teaching.** We rejoice today because Jesus revealed the Father's loving ministry of teaching us and then giving us to Jesus. Jesus promised He would never cast us out and never lose even one of us. He promised to raise us up on the last day.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by the Father teaching us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we learn from the Father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we thank the Father for teaching us.**

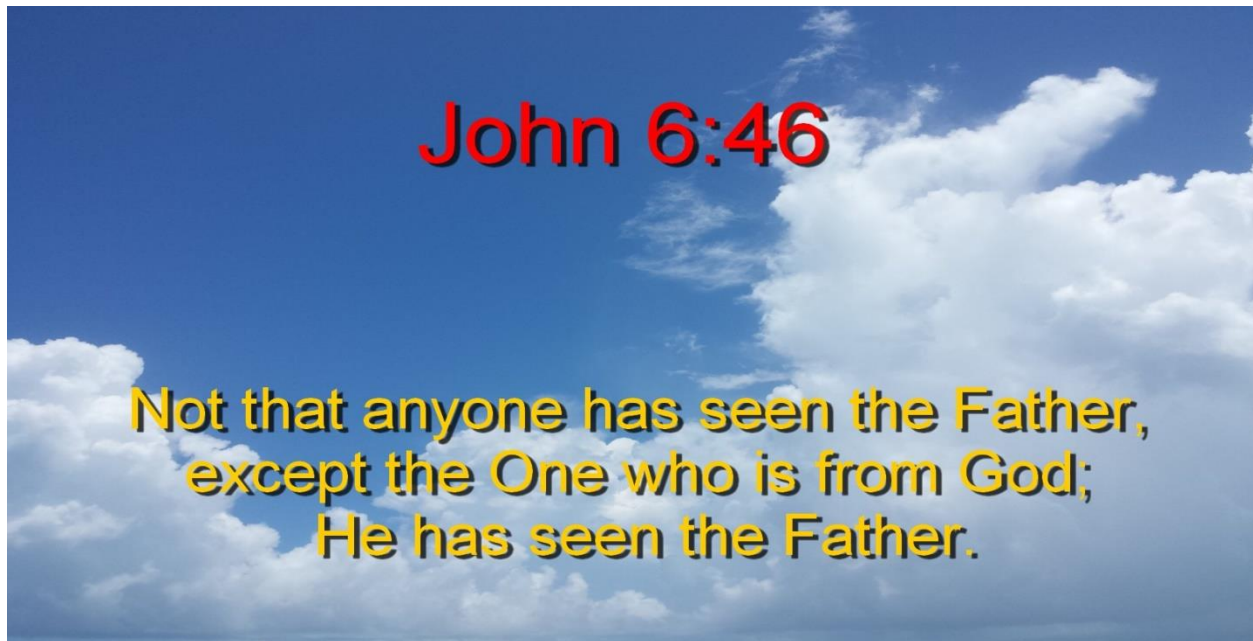
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by thanking the Father for teaching us so that we listen to the Father and learn from the Father. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by listening and learning from God the Father?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Fifty Eight

Seen the Father



Has anyone seen the Father? Jesus said that no one has seen the Father except the One Who is from God.

In the Old Testament, Angel of Yahweh appeared at different times and places. He talked with people and appeared as a man. He was the visible representation of God in the flesh.

Jesus wanted the people before Him to know that they had never seen God the Father. He alone had seen God the Father. To see Jesus was to see God the Father, for Jesus was the exact representation of the Father.

Jesus explained in detail why the people would not accept that He came down from heaven to be the Bread of Life. He came to be the Savior of the world, but the world as a group rejected Him. Even so, He laid down His life and bore our sins in His body on the cross that we might become the righteousness of God in Him and die to sin.

From God

1. **Father.** Jesus continued His message to the crowd about His Father, Who taught believers.

2. **No One.** Jesus declared that no one has seen the Father, except Jesus, the One Who is from God.

3. **Spirit.** You may recall that Jesus told the woman at the well that God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.

4. **Seen.** Jesus also proclaimed that He Himself has seen the Father, because Jesus came down out of heaven, sent by His Father.

5. **One.** Jesus said later that everyone who has seen Jesus in the flesh has seen the Father. The Father lived in Jesus and Jesus is one with the Father.

6. **Bible.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we see Jesus when we read the Bible. Jesus wrote the Bible so that we would both know Him and be saved.

7. **Not Yet.** We rejoice today because we have not yet seen Jesus face to face, but we will see our beloved Savior in person in the future. Seeing Jesus is seeing the Father too.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that no one has seen the Father except Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we know that Jesus reveals the Father to us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise God for sending Jesus to provide the way to the Father.**

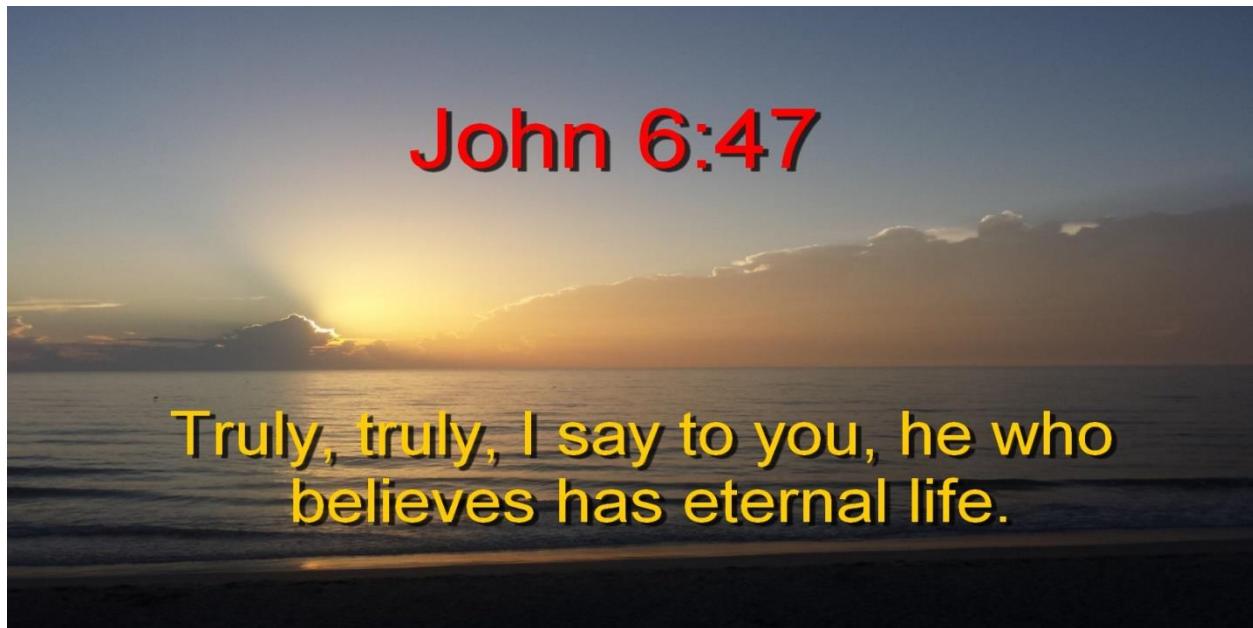
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus has seen the Father. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and see Jesus revealing the Father to you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Fifty Nine

Believes in Me



Who has eternal life? Only the people who believe in Jesus. Jesus had just taught that the only people who come to Him are the ones the Father gave to Him.

Jesus made many great promises. No promise is greater than every believer has eternal life. Eternal life means that we know God and Jesus Christ Whom He has sent. Jesus said that everyone who lives and believes in Him will never die.

Jesus also explained the importance of faith. Without faith in Jesus as Savior, you will not have eternal life. Without eternal life, the wrath of God abides upon you and you face the resurrection of judgment. Jesus will sit in judgment upon every person who does not have faith in Him and they will face an eternity of punishment.

Believes

1. **Emphasis.** Jesus emphasized faith and eternal life. Jesus employed the phrase, "Truly, truly." The Greek words are transliterated "Amen, amen." Jesus used that phrase to draw special attention to the words which follow.

2. **Faith.** The entire point Jesus made came down to "believes." Faith saves us. By faith we receive eternal life and salvation.

3. **Has.** The one who believes has eternal life. Jesus declared the believer has eternal life right now.

4. **Belief.** Jesus laid the foundation of salvation by revealing Himself to the world as the Son of God. Our faith saves us at the moment of belief.

5. **Starts.** Eternal life does not begin at physical death; it starts at the moment you are born again.

6. **Truth.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we accept as absolute truth that our believing brings us eternal life, which is to know Jesus, and the Father Who sent Him.

7. **Eternal.** We rejoice today because we truly believe and we truly have eternal life in Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing in Jesus as Savior.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God we enjoy the eternal life Jesus gave us as a free gift by grace through faith.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we delight in our faith which brings all of us into the family of God where we all enjoy eternal life.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by enjoying the eternal life Jesus gave us by faith. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by sharing the free gift of eternal life with other people?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Sixty

I AM Today



Who is the Bread of Life? Jesus declared He is the Bread of Life.

Jesus had done a great miracle by feeding the five thousand men with a few fish and a few loaves. He multiplied the food so that everyone was satisfied. The crowd followed Jesus and wanted more bread from Jesus.

Jesus used the opportunity to explain to the crowd that they should seek the bread which will satisfy them for eternity. They will never be hungry again. They asked Him for that bread. Jesus then explained that Bread came down from heaven. Anyone who eats that Bread from heaven will never be hungry again. The people wanted to know what works they could do to get that bread. Jesus then explained that they must believe in Him as Savior, sent from God the Father to do His will on earth.

The Bread of Life

1. **Salvation.** Jesus continued His discourse on the bread of life. As the Jews grumbled against Him, Jesus explained His salvation and His Father's activity.

2. **I AM.** As we have seen before, Jesus said "I AM." This phrase, "I AM," looks back to the Old Testament and Moses at the burning bush. Jesus revealed Himself there as the "I AM" God. The Jews were familiar with that name for God.

3. **Simple.** Jesus used wonderful, simple images to reveal deep spiritual truths. Jesus used the image of bread to reveal great spiritual truths about Himself.

4. **Daily.** The bread of life communicates a daily item, bread, which many people eat daily to sustain life and satisfy hunger.

5. **Spiritual.** Jesus called Himself the bread of life because we must spiritually ingest Jesus by faith. We gain eternal life and we will never hunger again.

6. **True.** Living Godly in the family of God means everyone in the family of God has partaken of Jesus, the only true bread of life.

7. **Life.** We rejoice today because Jesus declared: "I AM the bread of life." By faith we have eaten that bread that came down out of heaven and we have received eternal life as a free gift from Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by declaring Him to be the Bread of Life.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by recognizing that Jesus made many “I AM” statements in the Gospel of John, reminding us of the “I AM” God of the Old Testament.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we enjoy the Bread of Life each day, so that we never hunger.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus truly is the Bread of Life, our Savior. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by enjoying the feeling of being satisfied with Jesus today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Sixty One

They Died Today



Who ate the manna? Jesus told the crowd that their fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.

As Jesus revealed that He is the Bread of Life, He contrasted the manna in the Old Testament to Himself. The forefathers of the crowd ate the manna in the wilderness as they left Egypt and travelled to the promised land. Because of their unbelief, God caused them to live in the wilderness for forty years. The manna their fathers ate did not bring eternal life. It was only temporary food.

In contrast, Jesus said He was the Bread of Life. If you ate the Bread of Life, then you would have eternal life. You could only eat the Bread of Life by receiving Jesus by faith. You would only come to Jesus if the Father first gave you to Jesus. Once you came to Jesus, and believed in Him for salvation, then He would give you the Bread of Life and never cast you out.

Your Fathers Ate

1. **Life.** Some Jews grumbled against Jesus. Yet, Jesus took time to show them that He is the bread of life.

2. **Died.** Jesus referred to the Jewish ancestors who died out in the desert after leaving Egypt and following Moses into the wilderness.

3. **Manna.** God supplied manna, but manna never brought anyone eternal life. Only Jesus gives eternal life, by faith alone.

4. **Declaration.** Jesus distinguished His declaration that He is the bread of life from the manna. The fathers ate the manna and they died.

5. **I AM.** Jesus does not leave us in doubt about His words: "I AM the bread of life." As God in the flesh, everyone who believes that He is the bread of life receives eternal life.

6. **Gives.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know the Jews ate manna in the wilderness and they died. As the bread out of heaven, Jesus gives eternal life by faith alone.

7. **Faith.** We rejoice today because unlike manna that saved no one, Jesus our Savior is the bread of life that brings eternal life by faith alone to everyone who believes.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that the people of Israel ate manna in the wilderness and died.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God knowing everyone who eats of the Bread of Life has eternal life.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus for giving us the Bread of Life.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering how the Bread of Life far exceeds the manna in the wilderness. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and enjoy the Bread of Life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Sixty Two

Eat Today



What can you eat and never die? Jesus taught that everyone who eats the Bread of Life will never die.

The fathers who ate manna in the wilderness all died. Jesus distinguished manna from the Bread of Life. God provided manna to sustain the physical lives of the people of Israel wandering in the desert because of sin. The crowd understood the miracle of the manna, but they did not understand the God who performed the miracle. The crowd never knew God as Savior, just like the people in the wilderness ate the manna, but never knew God as Savior.

Jesus wanted the crowd to believe in Him as Savior. He offered them the Bread of Life. If anyone ate the Bread of Life, then they would never die. Jesus was referring to eternal life, which is spiritual. The physical body may die, but the spirit continues to live eternally. Jesus said that everyone who lives and believes in Him would never die.

Not Die

1. **Understand.** To know Jesus better, learn to understand the things He said in the Bible.

2. **Contradict.** Most of the people I talk with listen to videos on the internet. Some of those videos claim to present Bible stories. Yet, the people who watch them do not know anything about Jesus. Many videos contradict the Bible.

3. **Compare.** I urge people to compare the videos they watch with the Bible. Here, Jesus continued His revelation of the bread of life.

4. **Eternal Life.** Jesus offered a great promise: eternal life. To receive eternal life, people must eat the bread that came down out of heaven.

5. **Promised.** Every person who eats the bread that came down out of heaven will not die. Jesus promised.

6. **Eaten.** Living Godly in the family of God means that each believer has eaten of the bread that came down out of heaven and so we will not die.

7. **Never Die.** We rejoice today because Jesus is the bread of life. He came down out of heaven. We ate the bread and Jesus promised we will never die.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that everyone who eats of the Bread of Life will never die.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by knowing that the Bread of Life came down out of heaven.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus, the Bread of Life, which came down out of heaven so that we may eat the Bread of Life and have eternal life.**

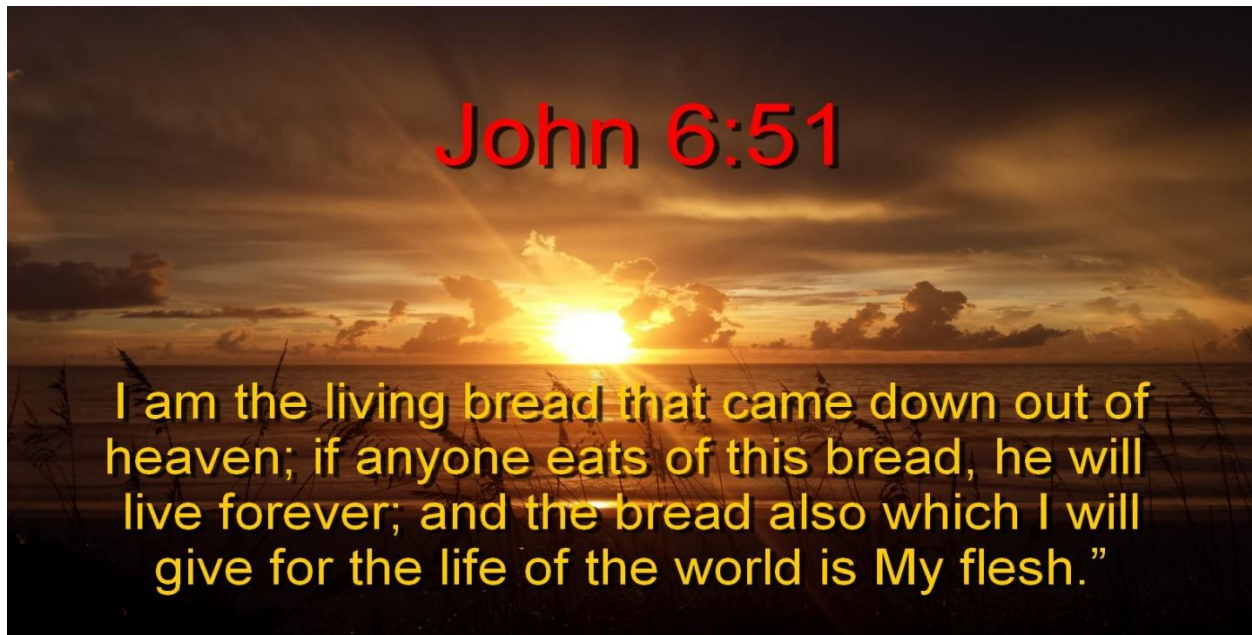
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by meditating upon the Bread of Life. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by thanking God for the Bread of Life before you eat your meal today?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Sixty Three

The Living Bread Today



Who is the Living Bread which came down out of heaven? Jesus described Himself as the Living Bread which came down out of heaven.

Jesus promised that if anyone eats of the Living Bread, then they will live forever. Jesus elaborated that the bread which He will give for the life of the world is His flesh.

Jesus described substitutionary atonement. Jesus substituted for us on the cross. I belonged on the cross to die for my sins. Jesus substituted for me on the cross and died in my place. Jesus would give His flesh for our lives. He would sacrifice His flesh to take away our sins, so that we would not die the death we deserve, but live forever. My flesh could never take away my sins, but Jesus' flesh took away all the sins of the world.

My Flesh

1. **Yahweh.** Jesus used the "I AM" phrase again, declaring His identity as Yahweh.
2. **Living.** Jesus explained that He Himself is the living bread. If anyone eats the living bread, you will live forever.
3. **Give.** Jesus declared that He will give His flesh for the life of the world.
4. **Flesh.** Jesus plainly stated His flesh is the bread which He gives for the life of the world.
5. **Substituted.** Jesus knew He must give His life for the life of the world. Jesus substituted His life in exchange for our lives.
6. **Believe.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe that Jesus gave His life for my life.
7. **Faith.** We rejoice today because Jesus gave His flesh on the cross, dying in my place, so that I now have eternal life by faith alone.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus is the Living Bread.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by dwelling upon Jesus Who gave His flesh for the life of the world.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by sharing the Living Bread with hungry people.**

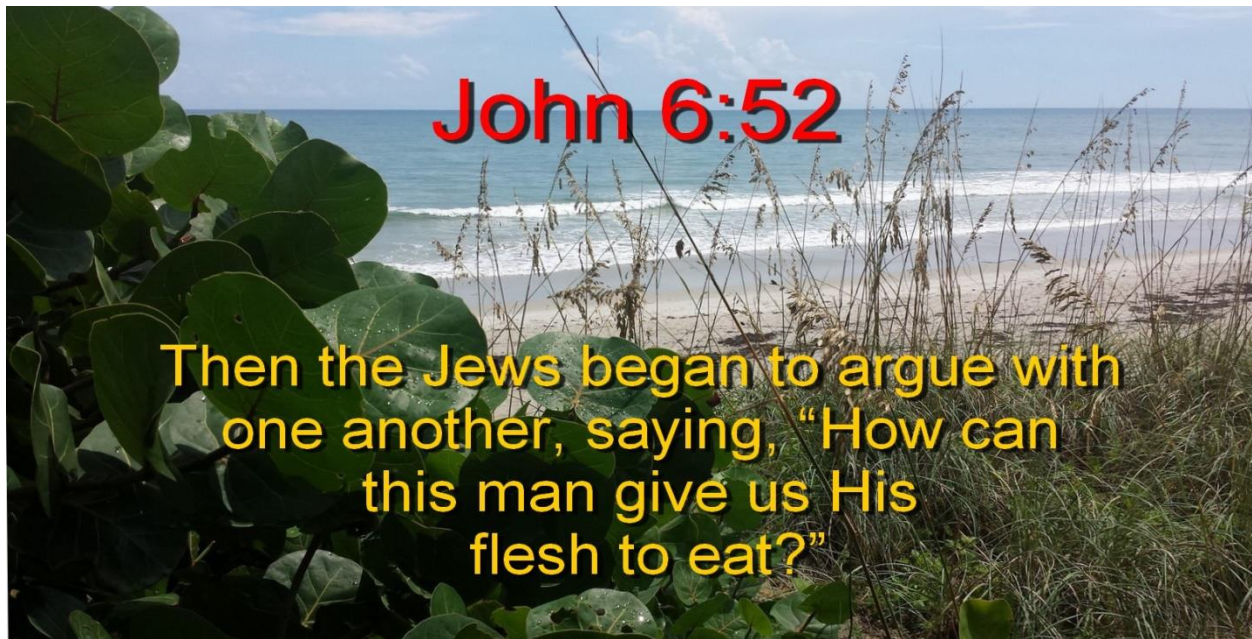
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by sharing the Living Bread with hungry people. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by seeing the hungry mouths all around you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Sixty Four

Argue Today



What were the Jews arguing about? The Jews were arguing about how Jesus could give them His flesh to eat.

Jesus often spoke about spiritual things. The Jews had been listening to Jesus describe Himself as the Bread of Life, which the Father sent down from heaven.

The Jews had eaten of the bread Jesus gave them. They were seeking Jesus because of that bread, not because of His works. The Jews were thinking physical bread, like the manna their fathers ate in the wilderness.

Jesus explained that He was the Bread of Life. He said that everyone who ate of that bread and believed would have eternal life. The Jews did not even begin to understand what Jesus meant. Instead, they argued among themselves.

Flesh To Eat

1. **Divided.** Jesus commanded unity among believers, but His words frequently divided the Jews listening to Him.

2. **Spiritual.** In this case, the Jews did not comprehend the spiritual nature of His revelations.

3. **Body.** Jesus revealed Himself as the bread from heaven. He linked that revelation with giving His body for the life of the world.

4. **Messiah.** Jesus further linked those revelations with faith directed towards Jesus as Savior, Messiah, and divine Son of God.

5. **Not Taught.** The Jews argued because they did not believe Jesus they had not been taught of God.

6. **Faith.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we do not argue about Jesus giving us His flesh to eat, because by faith we know that Jesus gave His body and life so that we may have eternal life.

7. **Received.** We rejoice today because God the Father gave us to Jesus, and Jesus received each one of us. Yet, Jesus still had to give His body as the bread of life which we eat by faith alone.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that people will argue about what Jesus said.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that Jesus spoke in spiritual terms that only some people will understand.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we rejoice that God has given us understanding that Jesus truly is the Bread of Life and we have eaten His flesh.**

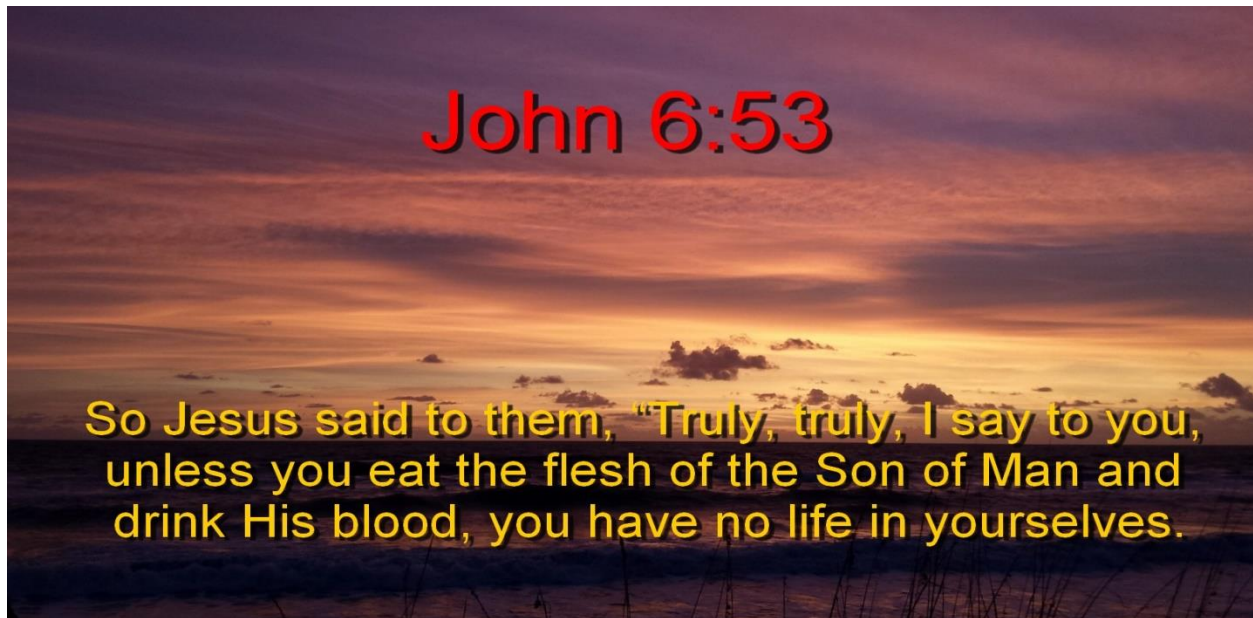
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by understanding what it means to eat the flesh of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by dwelling upon the flesh of Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Sixty Five

Unless You Eat Today



If you have never eaten the flesh of Jesus nor drunk His blood, then what are you like? Jesus said unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves.

Jesus used spiritual symbols to communicate deep spiritual truths. As believers, we understand the spiritual nature of the terms Jesus used. We must believe in Him and receive Him and His words into our life through grace by faith.

Jesus always emphasized faith in Him. He talked to people to offer them the free gift of eternal life. He used many different symbols to represent the basic truth that people must understand His message of salvation and receive Him as Savior by faith. If they declined His offer of salvation, then they had no life in themselves. Jesus alone provides eternal life.

No Life

1. **Declaration.** Jesus made an exclusive declaration here. Unless you eat His flesh and drink His blood, you have no life in yourself.

2. **Salvation.** Jesus preached only one Gospel: salvation by faith in Him as God the Savior.

3. **Faith.** Jesus did not mean you must eat the bread and wine at communion (the Lord's Supper) to go to heaven. God teaches from cover to cover in the Bible that salvation only comes through Jesus Christ, by grace through faith alone.

4. **World.** Jesus had already revealed that He would give His flesh for the life of the world.

5. **Exclusive.** Jesus made the exclusive claim to the Jews that no one will go to heaven without eating His flesh and drinking His blood. Jesus revealed that He is the living bread that came down out of heaven.

6. **Without.** Living Godly in the family of God means that without eating the living flesh of Jesus, we would not be going to heaven.

7. **Gave.** We rejoice today because we love Jesus, Who gave His flesh for us to eat and enjoy His salvation by faith alone.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing in the gift of Jesus so that we have eternal life.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we meditate upon eating the flesh and drinking the blood of the Son of Man.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in thanking Jesus for giving His flesh and blood for us.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by inviting people to eat the flesh and drink the blood of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by remembering the flesh and blood of Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Sixty Six

Eternal Life Today



Who will Jesus raise up on the last day? Jesus will raise up people who eat His flesh and drink His blood.

Jesus explained eternal life in more detail. Jesus said that if a person eats His flesh and drinks His blood, that person has eternal life. Jesus was talking about faith. He used the illustration of bread, flesh, and blood to describe how faith works and what faith means.

Jesus described faith as eating the flesh. Jesus changes us. He was not talking about physical flesh and physical drink. He was talking of spiritual flesh and spiritual drink. Remember how Jesus talked with the woman at the well about spiritual water becoming a well of water springing up to eternal life so that she would never thirst again.

Jesus promised to raise up everyone who ate His flesh and drank His blood. Jesus made many promises and prophecies.

Raise

1. **Why?** Have you ever pondered: "If I have eternal life, why do I need resurrection?"
2. **Both.** Jesus promised both resurrection and eternal life to everyone who eats His flesh.
3. **Life.** Eternal life begins the moment you eat His flesh. Resurrection takes place on the last day.
4. **Body.** Resurrection means bodily resurrection. We will gain a glorified body like Jesus had after He was resurrected. That body had flesh and bones and could eat a meal. Yet, the wounds in His hands and feet were visible and touchable. His body could also pass through closed doors and does not decay.
5. **Last Day.** At the moment of physical death on earth, we are present with the Lord and absent from our bodies. Resurrection comes on the last day.
6. **Moment.** Living Godly in the family of God means that all believers eat the flesh of Jesus and gain eternal life at that moment.
7. **Glorified.** We rejoice today because on the last day Jesus will raise us up and we will each receive a glorified body like Jesus has.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by encouraging people to eat the flesh and drink the blood of Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we praise Jesus for helping us understand faith.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we celebrate eating the flesh of Jesus and drinking His blood.**

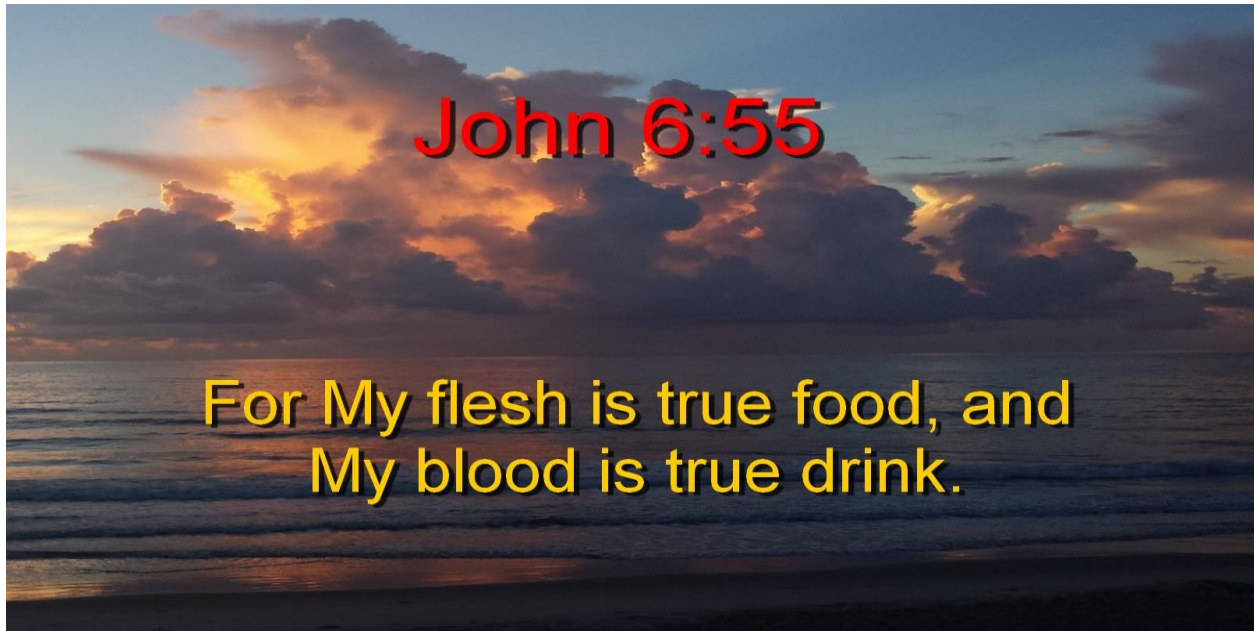
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by thanking Jesus for giving us His flesh and blood for our salvation. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by worshiping Jesus for His great gifts?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Sixty Seven

My Flesh, My Blood Today



What is true food and true drink? Jesus said that His flesh is true food and His blood is true drink.

Jesus taught spiritual things using spiritual truth. Unless God opens the hearts and minds of people to understand what Jesus was saying, they will continue in unbelief and grumbling against Jesus.

Jesus loves sinners. He seeks to save them. Everyone that the Father gives to Him comes to Him. He never loses even one of them. Everyone who eats His flesh and drinks His blood He will raise up on the last day.

Jesus spoke very plainly. My flesh is true food and My blood is true drink. Jesus described those things as true, because He loved to emphasize the truth. Jesus always told the truth. He never lied. We can always depend upon what Jesus tells us.

True Food and True Drink

1. **Eat.** Jesus revealed that eternal life results from eating true food and drinking true drink.

2. **Illustrate.** Jesus used food and drink to illustrate how to obtain eternal life.

3. **True.** Jesus also used "true." Although the people were acquainted with all kinds of food and drink, Jesus described true food and true drink.

4. **Only.** By using the term "true," Jesus identified His flesh and His blood as the only flesh and blood that could bring eternal life.

5. **Manna.** The fathers ate manna and died. Manna was never true food.

6. **Received.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we have eaten the true food and true drink, because we have received eternal life in Jesus by faith alone.

7. **Obtainable.** We rejoice today because Jesus made eternal life obtainable: eat His true flesh and drink His true blood.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing Jesus always spoke the truth.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we believe that the flesh of Jesus was true food and the blood of Jesus was true drink.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we celebrate the true food and true drink of Jesus.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we urge others to believe the truths that Jesus taught us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and tell the truth about Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Sixty Eight

Abides in Me Today



Who abides in Jesus? The one who eats His flesh and drinks His blood. Jesus also abides in that person.

Jesus stressed the importance of eating His flesh and drinking His blood. Only Jesus gave true food and drink. Everything else was false.

Jesus also emphasized that all people who eat His flesh and drink His blood abide in Him and He in them. This personal relationship characterizes the relationship with Jesus based upon faith.

Jesus lives. He lives in the believer and the believer lives in Jesus. We are seated with Him at the right hand of God, because our lives are hidden in Jesus. We have so many wonderful promises in Jesus.

Abides in Me

1. **Revelation.** Jesus expanded upon the revelation about His flesh and His blood.

2. **Continuous.** Jesus introduced the truth that Jesus abides in every believer and every believer abides in Jesus. The term "abides" in this context means the continuous, indwelling spiritual presence amounting to spiritual union and establishing a family relationship.

3. **Indwells.** Jesus indwells the believer and the believer indwells Jesus. Your family is in you and you are in your family.

4. **Union.** Jesus described a spiritual union between Himself and every born again believer.

5. **Residence.** At the moment of salvation, Jesus takes up eternal residence in you; likewise, you take up eternal residence in Him. Both of these events happen simultaneously and instantaneously and last forever and ever.

6. **Abides.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we rejoice that Jesus abides in us and we in Him for all eternity.

7. **Permanent.** We rejoice today because Jesus lives in us. We have eaten His flesh and have drunk His blood. Permanent change happened at the moment of salvation, when we became new creatures in Christ.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus abides in us and we in Him.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we trust in the abiding presence of Jesus in our lives.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we realize that Jesus abides in every believer and every believer abides in Him.**

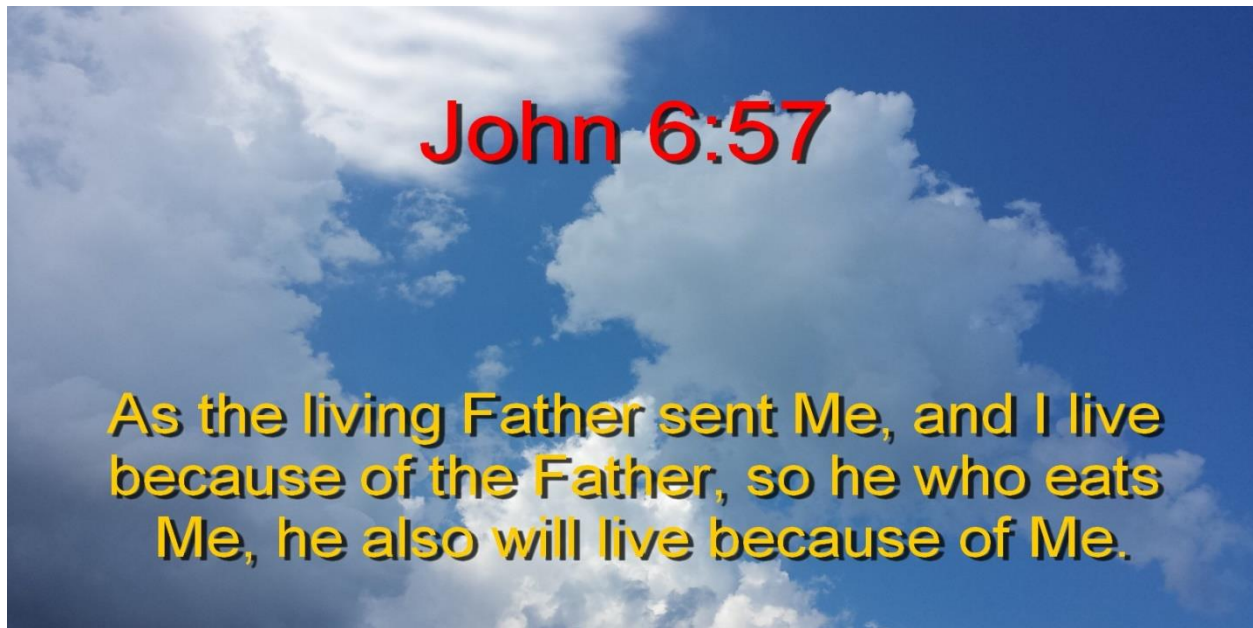
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by focusing upon the abiding presence of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting the abiding presence of Jesus in you and you in Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Sixty Nine

I Live Today



Why do we live? We live because of Jesus.

Jesus explained that the living Father sent Jesus, and Jesus lives because of the Father. So, every person who eats Jesus, that person will also live because of Jesus.

Jesus referred to God the Father as the living Father. Jesus had emphasized that everyone who believes in Him will have eternal life. Jesus will also raise every believer on the last day.

Jesus also said He lived because of the Father. Notice that Jesus linked living with being sent by the Father. Therefore, Jesus was referring to His life on earth was the result of Jesus being sent to earth by His Father. Jesus said because He lived because of the Father, so also we live because of Jesus. Every person who eats Jesus will have life because of Jesus.

Because of Me

1. **Images.** Jesus used simple, but profound, images to communicate deep truths. Jesus continued His revelation concerning the bread of life.

2. **Sent.** Jesus again proclaimed that His Father sent Jesus into the world.

3. **Relationship.** Jesus also proclaimed, again, that He lives because of the Father. Understanding this relationship between God the Father and God the Son remains a basic truth for all born again believers.

4. **Everyone.** Because the Father sent Jesus to earth, and because Jesus lives because of the Father, therefore everyone who eats Jesus has life in themselves because of Jesus and His Father.

5. **Also.** Notice the phrase "also will live." This phrase shows us that because we ate Jesus, we "also will live" just like Jesus lives.

6. **Planned.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we ate Jesus, and so we also live like Jesus. We also have a great relationship with the Father, because we ate Jesus, just as the Father planned by sending Jesus to earth.

7. **Creation.** We rejoice today because we ate Jesus. He lives in us and we live Him. We are a new creation in Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by focusing upon Jesus being sent by the Father to give us eternal life.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that we live because of Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God because we all have eaten of Jesus.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that we live because we ate Jesus and live because of Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by glorifying the Father for sending Jesus so we may live in Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Seventy

Came Down Today



Who will live forever? Every person who eats the Bread of Life will live forever.

Jesus declared that everyone who eats Him eats the Bread which came down out of heaven. The fathers ate manna and died. He who eats the Bread of Life will live forever.

The crowd asked Jesus about their fathers eating manna in the wilderness. Jesus highlighted that their fathers died in the wilderness. The manna did not give anyone eternal life. In contrast, everyone who eats the Bread of Life will live forever.

Jesus consistently declared that He was the Bread of Heaven, sent to earth by the living Father. The Father planned for Jesus to be the Bread of Life, so that some people would eat Jesus and have eternal life.

Ate and Died

1. **New.** Jesus often explained new things by comparing them with old things.

2. **Old.** Jesus described the fathers who ate manna and died. In contrast to that old food, eating the new bread out of heaven brings eternal life.

3. **Focused.** Jesus focused upon two things here: (1) the bread which came down out of heaven; and (2) eating that bread means you will live forever.

4. **Developed.** Jesus carefully developed those two themes to reveal Himself: (1) He came down out of heaven; and (2) eating Jesus results in eternal life.

5. **Contrast.** Jesus used the bread of life sermon to contrast death by rejecting Him and life by eating Him.

6. **Life.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know eating manna never brought eternal life to anyone. Yet, everyone who eats of the bread out of heaven (Jesus) receives eternal life.

7. **Have.** We rejoice today that we have eternal life in Jesus, because we ate the bread out of heaven.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by praising God for sending Jesus to be the Bread which gives us eternal life.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we recognize that Jesus is infinitely superior to manna.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by glorifying God for that the living Father gave us Jesus, and He gave us eternal life.**

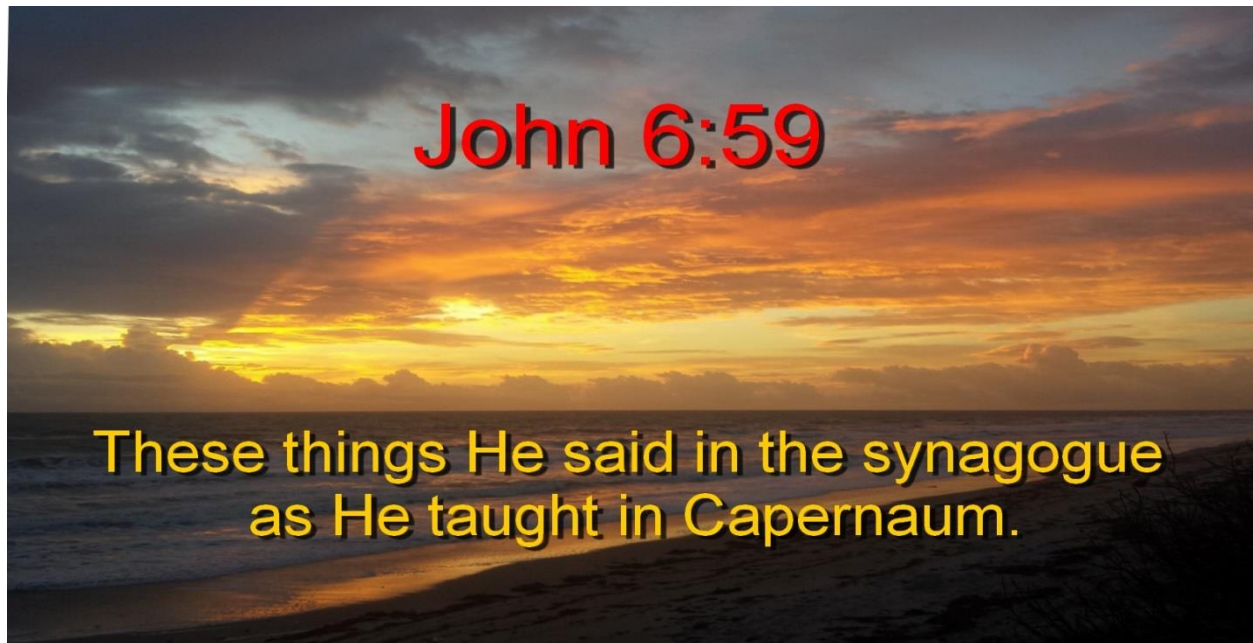
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by thanking God that Jesus infinitely exceeds manna. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and thank Jesus for being the Bread which came down out of heaven so that we may have eternal life in Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Seventy One

Synagogue Today



Where did Jesus teach in Capernaum? Jesus taught in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Jesus made Capernaum His base of operations for the Galilean ministry. He traveled from there and returned to there. Jesus travelled by foot and by boat. He visited different places and sometimes travelled for days.

Jesus had a mission to travel throughout Israel revealing Himself as the Son of God, the Son of Man, the Messiah, and the Savior of the World. He used many different symbols to describe Himself and eternal life. Yet, Jesus always stressed the need for personal faith for salvation. He offered proof that He was Messiah, and offered the free gift of eternal life to everyone.

He Taught

1. **Crowd.** Jesus first fed five thousand people with five loaves and two fish. The crowd followed Jesus to Capernaum.

2. **Capernaum.** Capernaum, not His hometown of Nazareth (where His hometown, His Relatives, and His household all rejected Him), served as the Galilean base of operations for Jesus during His Galilean ministry.

3. **Synagogue.** Jesus taught in the Capernaum synagogue. He presented Himself as the Messiah of Israel to the people of Israel, but they generally rejected Him.

4. **Teaching.** Jesus spent time teaching in the synagogues of Israel. He astounded the audiences as He taught with authority.

5. **Rejected.** Jesus spent time revealing Himself in synagogues, where Jews and others met together for religious reasons, but they never knew God, because they generally rejected Jesus, the Son of God in the flesh, the Messiah of Israel.

6. **We Hear.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we still hear and see Jesus preaching in the synagogue as we read John 6 in the Bible today.

7. **Learn.** We rejoice today because Jesus teaches us the truth every day. We have taken His yoke upon us and learn from Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that salvation is of the Jews.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we thank God He loves both Jews and Gentiles.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we study the teaching ministry of Jesus to learn more about loving God.**

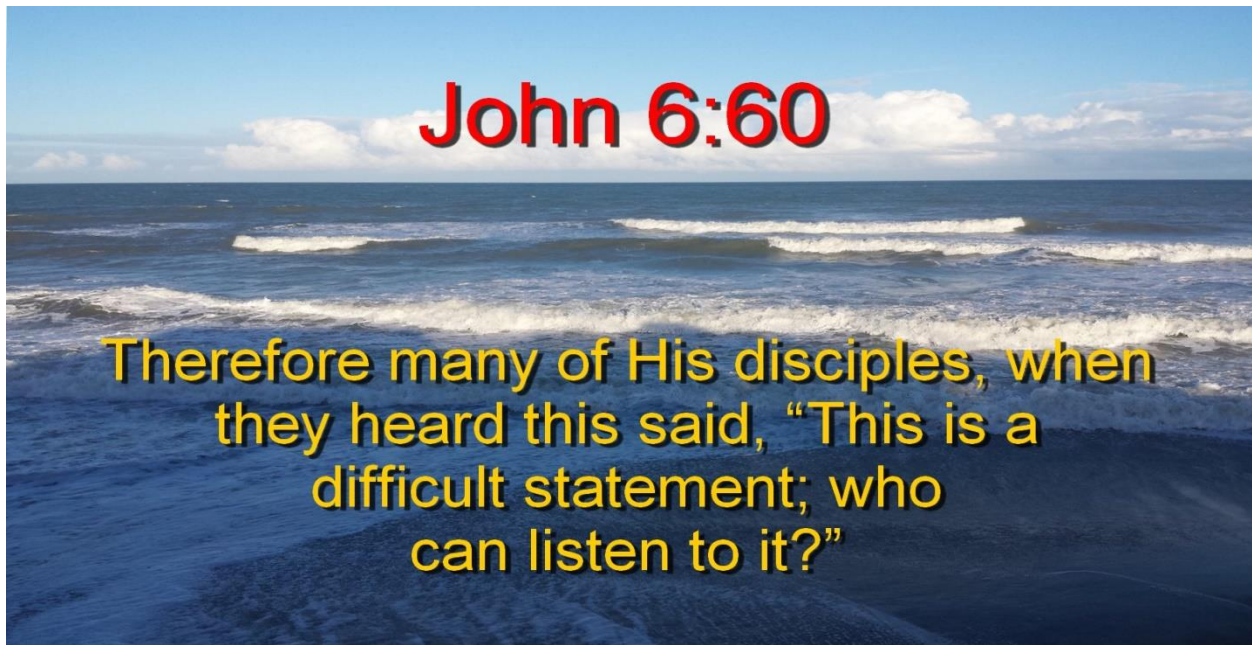
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus was Jewish and loved Jews and Gentiles. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by sharing the love of Jesus with Jews and Gentiles?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Seventy Two

His Disciples



Did the disciples of Jesus understand everything Jesus said? The disciples of Jesus thought that the Bread of Life sermon was a very difficult statement, especially the part about eating His flesh and drinking His blood.

Jesus had many disciples. They came from different walks of life, and from different parts of Israel. Jesus called very different people to learn from Him. Jesus also knew from the beginning that Judas Iscariot was the son of destruction and that he would betray Jesus.

Jesus often explained His teachings to the disciples in more detail than He shared with the crowds. God had chosen the twelve disciples to know Jesus and to learn more about God. Even so, the disciples did not always understand what Jesus was talking about. Later, some things He said earlier became clear as they saw the fulfillment of His words.

Statement Is Difficult

1. **Bread of Life.** Jesus revealed that He is the bread of life which came down from heaven.

2. **Disciples.** By this time, many people had become disciples of Jesus, but not all of them had been born again.

3. **Difficult.** Many of the disciples of Jesus said that His statement was "difficult." They could not comprehend what He was saying.

4. **Revealed.** Jesus often interacted with people in the crowds. At times, Jesus even revealed their thoughts, motives, and feelings.

5. **Listen.** Jesus loved the crowds and came to be a ransom for all. Therefore, He frequently took time to respond to their questions and objections. We learn many things by listening to Jesus reply to people. We too should listen carefully when we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

6. **Stirred.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus revealed powerful truths that stirred up people because they did not understand the words of Jesus.

7. **We Understood.** We rejoice today because we understood and received by faith the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Jesus loves us, today and forever.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus said some things that His disciples found difficult to understand.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by believing everything Jesus taught us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to study the words of Jesus, even when some of them seem difficult to us.**

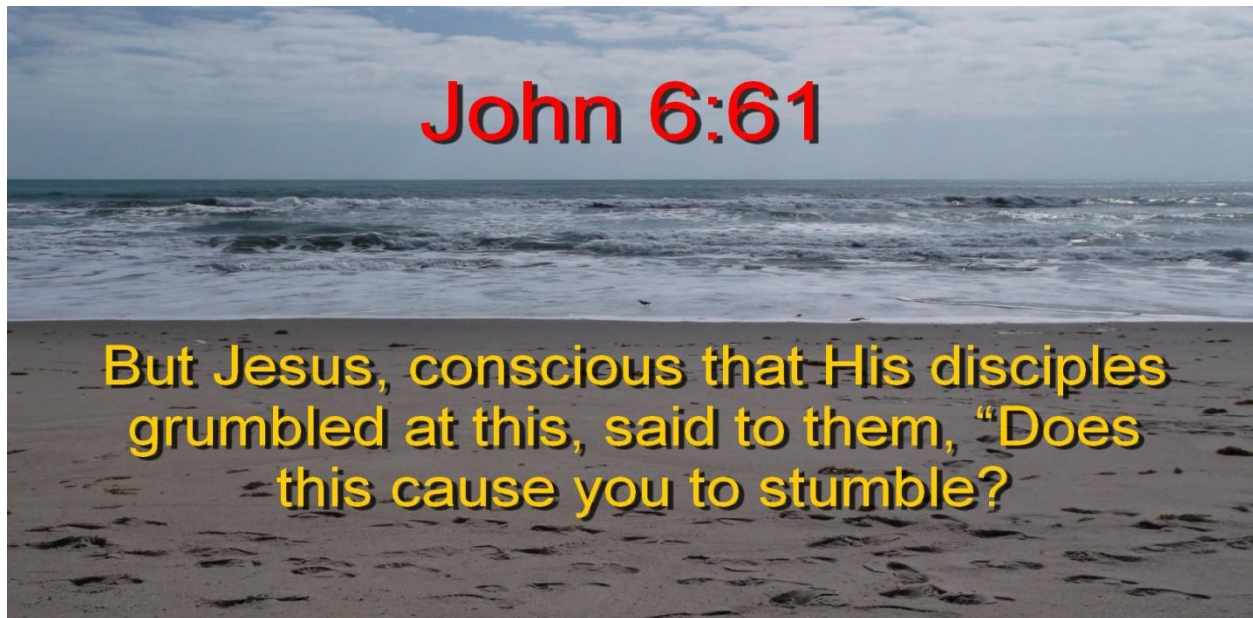
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing the words of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by encouraging other people to learn from Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Seventy Three

Conscious Today



Did the disciples of Jesus grumble? The disciples of Jesus grumbled at the saying of Jesus that people should eat His flesh and drink His blood.

The people in the synagogue grumbled that Jesus said things about His blood and His flesh that caused even His disciples to grumble. They did not understand what Jesus was saying.

Jesus also noticed that His disciples were grumbling. Jesus had perfect perception of all things going on around Him. Jesus loved His disciples and asked them many questions.

Jesus asked His disciples if this made them stumble. Jesus wanted to focus their attention upon His words. He wanted them to understand His sayings and would take time to explain it to them.

Grumble and Stumble

1. **Stumbling.** Jesus connected grumbling and stumbling. Jesus knew and cared about His disciples.

2. **Conscious.** Please notice that Jesus was conscious of the disciples' reaction to His message. Literally, Jesus knew within Himself that the disciples grumbled.

3. **Linked.** Jesus linked their grumbling with stumbling. Jesus recognized their stumbling, and asked if His sermon provoked their stumbling.

4. **Cared.** Jesus preached astonishing sermons. He also cared deeply about everyone, especially His disciples.

5. **Granted.** Jesus explained His messages carefully to the disciples, as they were able to receive it. God granted them greater revelation from Jesus concerning the kingdom of God.

6. **Truth.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect Jesus to sanctify us in the truth; His word is truth.

7. **Sanctify.** We rejoice today because Jesus cares if we grumble and stumble. He loves to feed us and to sanctify us in His word so that we love Jesus more.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by counting upon Jesus to help us understand His words.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we listen carefully to the words of Jesus and avoid grumbling when we do not understand His words.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we all listen to Jesus and learn from Him, because He is gentle and humble in heart.**

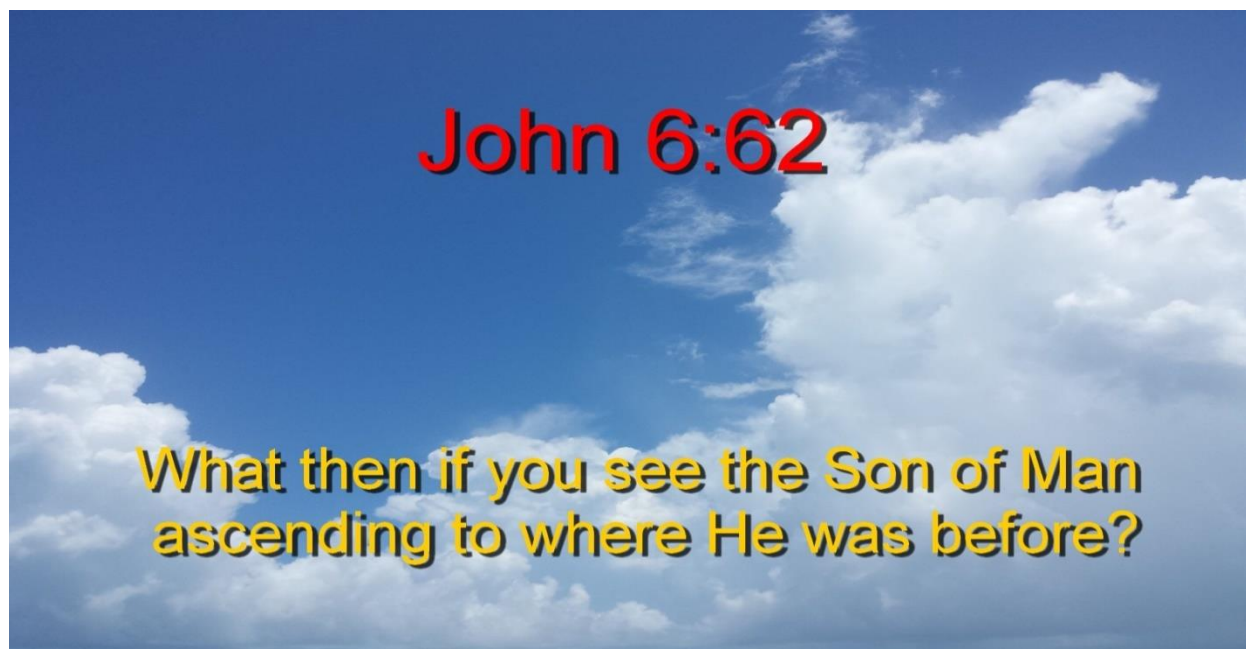
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by avoiding grumbling over the words of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by listening to Jesus as you listen to the Bible?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Seventy Four

Ascending Today



Did Jesus ask what if questions? Jesus asked His disciples what if they saw Jesus ascending to where He was before.

Jesus implied that His ascension would be a great event. He also implied that His ascension would take place after His death and resurrection. His disciples, however, had difficulty with the teaching that Jesus would die and be resurrected. Then He would ascend, and then come back later to reign in glory upon earth.

Jesus described Himself as the Bread that came down out of heaven. He then revealed that He would also be going back to heaven. His disciples grumbled that He said they must eat His flesh and drink His blood. Jesus confronted the grumbling with questions intended to focus their attention upon the words of Jesus and His love for them. They will see many great things in the future.

If You See

1. **Questions.** Jesus addressed the grumbling and stumbling disciples. Jesus often probed the hearts and minds of people with His questions.
2. **Son of Man.** Jesus often called Himself the Son of Man. Daniel, the Old Testament prophet, witnessed the Son of Man receive dominion, glory and a kingdom from the Ancient of Days.
3. **Ascending.** Jesus also mentioned the Son of Man ascending to heaven where He was before. Please recall that Jesus described Himself as the bread which came from heaven. Jesus lived in heaven as God before He took flesh and became the God-Man on earth.
4. **Challenged.** Putting all these ideas together, Jesus challenged the crowd to believe that He was God in the flesh, descended from heaven, and soon to ascend back to heaven.
5. **Greater.** Jesus challenged them with greater truths about Himself. If they grumbled and stumbled over the easy truth about the bread of life, how could they believe the greater truth that Jesus was going to ascend back into heaven before their eyes?
6. **Expand.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we love for Jesus to expand our faith to believe everything He has revealed to us, without stumbling or grumbling.
7. **Redemption.** We rejoice today because Jesus loves us and paid the price of redemption for us, and then ascended back into heaven in front of eyewitnesses.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting Jesus to return any day.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we look back upon the ascension of Jesus and marvel at His works.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to worship Jesus, ascended now to the right hand of God the Father.**

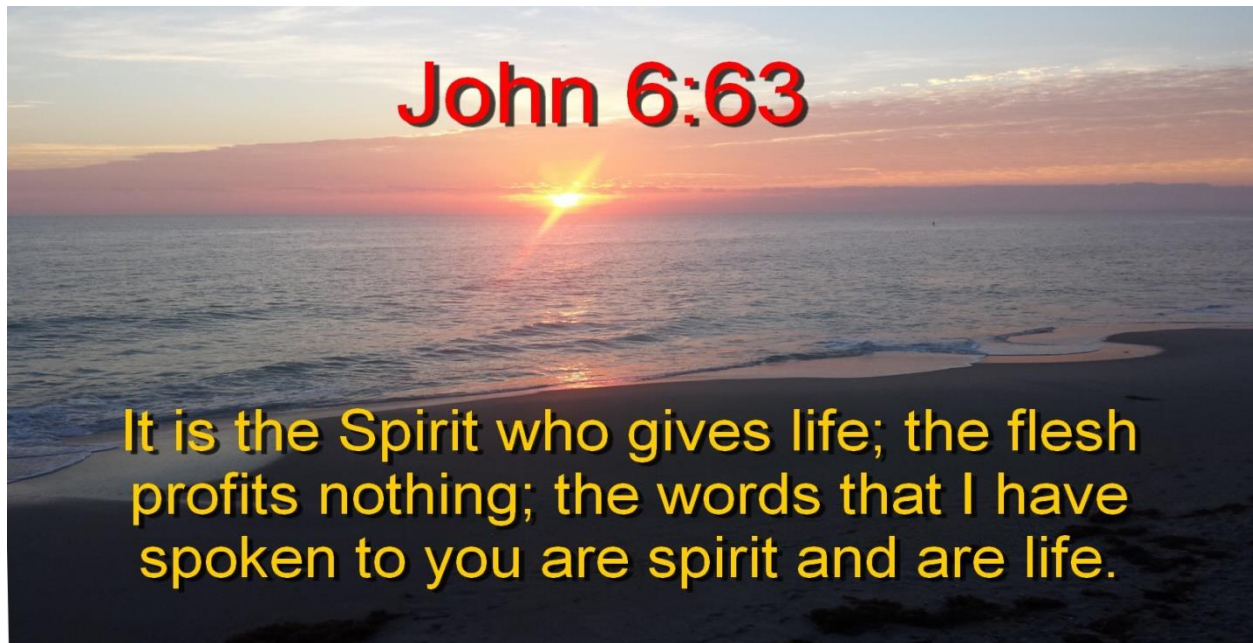
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by looking for Jesus to return to the clouds of earth from heaven where He ascended. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by worshipping the ascended Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Seventy Five

Gives Life



What are the words of spirit and life? Jesus spoke the words of spirit and life.

Jesus revealed that the Spirit gives life. The flesh profits nothing. Therefore, when Jesus spoke about eating His flesh and drinking His blood, Jesus was talking about spiritual life. He was not talking about eating His physical flesh and drinking His physical blood.

Jesus also revealed that the words which He spoke are spirit and life. The Holy Spirit would use the words that Jesus spoke to bring eternal, spiritual life to everyone who believed. The crowd in the synagogue thought in terms of the flesh and never understood the words of Jesus which are spirit and life.

Flesh Profits Nothing

1. **Flesh.** Jesus explained the meaning of bread of life. Jesus made it profoundly simple. The Holy Spirit gives life; the flesh profits nothing.

2. **Nothing.** When Jesus talked about eating His flesh and drinking His blood, He was talking spiritually. He did not mean literal flesh and blood. The flesh profits nothing.

3. **Spirit.** Notice that Jesus revealed that the Holy Spirit gives life. The Father draws you to Jesus, Jesus receives you and will never lose you, and the Holy Spirit gives you life.

4. **Life.** People say all kinds of things each day. Often people do not know what they are talking about. Jesus, however, always knew what He was talking about. His words are spirit and life.

5. **Words.** Jesus meant that the very words that His disciples reacted to with grumbling and stumbling were actually spirit and life.

6. **Gives.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believed the words of Jesus, which are spirit and life. The Holy Spirit gave us life.

7. **Believe.** We rejoice today because we have received eternal life. We believe the words of Jesus are spirit and life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that the flesh profits nothing.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we trust the Holy Spirit to lead us in the ways of Jesus with words of spirit and truth.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God worshiping God for giving us the words of spirit and life.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by living in the words of spirit and life. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by delighting in the words of spirit and life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Seventy Six

Do Not Believe Today



John 6:64

But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him.

Did Jesus know who would betray Him? Jesus told the people in the synagogue in Capernaum that He knew who it was who would betray Him.

Jesus knew the people who did not believe in Him. He also knew that Judas was the son of destruction. Jesus could distinguish the believers from the unbelievers. He knew from the beginning the people who did not believe.

Jesus lived with divine knowledge. He knew the hearts and minds of people. As God in the flesh, Jesus had all knowledge and all power. He chose to limit the display of His divine qualities. He chose to live like a human being, with a real body of flesh and blood.

Jesus taught that people would have to eat of His flesh and drink of His blood to have eternal life. Unless they believed in Him, they would not have eternal life.

Jesus Knew

1. **Knew.** At supper on the night before Jesus died, only one of the disciples knew who among them was going to betray Jesus. Jesus revealed His betrayer to them as Judas Iscariot.

2. **Judas.** Jesus had treated Judas no differently than He treated the other disciples. They had no clue Judas was the betrayer.

3. **Betrayer.** Yet, Jesus knew that Judas was the betrayer, even at the time Jesus called Judas to follow Him.

4. **Clue.** In our verse today, Jesus gave all of the disciples a clue that He knew they were not all believers.

5. **Enemy.** Jesus knew His betrayer. He kept that enemy close. Jesus knew that the devil would enter into Judas and Judas would betray Him that same night. Judas was also a thief, because he pilfered money from the money box entrusted to him.

6. **Peace.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we relax in peace, because Jesus knows all about us and, as God, nothing takes Him by surprise today.

7. **Forgave Us.** We rejoice today because Jesus knows us inside and out; Jesus loves sinners and called us to Himself as Savior. All of us were once unbelievers, but at the moment of salvation by faith alone, He forgave our sins and we received the free gift of eternal life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to know all things as He guides us through life.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that not every person who claims to be a disciple of Jesus has eternal life.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we understand that betrayers live among us.**

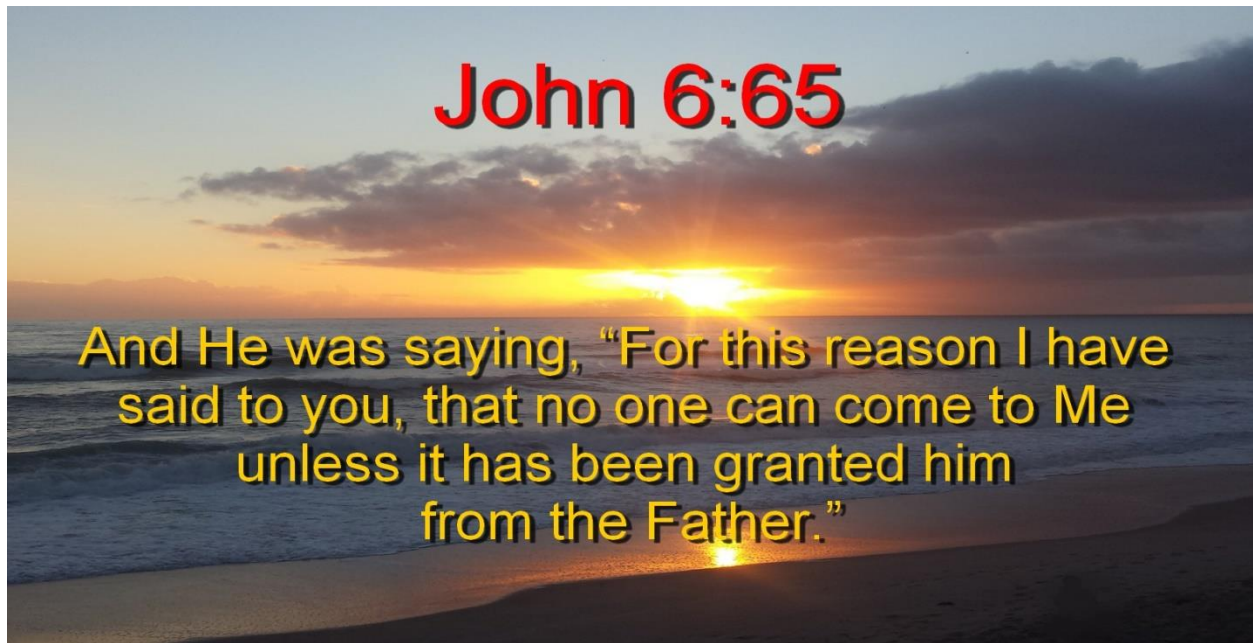
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to know everyone around us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today worshiping Jesus for His loving patience for everyone?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Seventy Seven

No One Can Come Today



Who can come to faith in Jesus? Jesus explained that the only people who can come to Him are those people the Father granted to come to Jesus.

Jesus disclosed that people do not believe because the Father did not grant to them to come to Jesus. Unless the Father grants people to come to Jesus, they will never come to Jesus.

Jesus challenged people to understand the spiritual world around them. People did not grasp the truths of the spiritual world Jesus shared with them. Just because people do not appreciate the spiritual world does not mean it does not exist. People may think that they can ignore Jesus, but they are sadly mistaken. Unless people eat His flesh and drink His blood, they will not have eternal life.

Granted Him

1. **Rejected.** Jesus explained why the grumblers and stumblers rejected Him. The only people who come to Jesus have been sent by the Father to Jesus.

2. **Unbelievers.** Jesus revealed very deep and important theology here. Some of His disciples were unbelievers, and so they grumbled and stumbled.

3. **True.** True believers can also grumble, like Peter did when he rebuked Jesus, telling Jesus to stop telling people Jesus was going to suffer, die, and then be raised from the dead.

4. **Preached.** Jesus wanted everyone to hear that Jesus preached the Gospel to everyone, but the Father grants to some that they may come to Jesus.

5. **Reasons.** Notice too the phrase: "For this reason." Jesus gave precise reasons to people which explained their actions on a spiritual level. They rejected Jesus because the Father had not granted them to come to Jesus. Therefore, they rejected Jesus and stumbled and grumbled over His words.

6. **Granted.** Living Godly in the family of God means that the Father granted to us, before we became born again believers, to come to Jesus and receive Him as Savior. Remember too that the Holy Spirit gives life.

7. **Come.** We rejoice today because the Father granted that we should come to Jesus and receive Him as Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that no one comes to Jesus unless it has been granted them by the Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we praise the Father for granting us to come to Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as people the Father granted to come to Jesus.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus and His Father for granting us the right to become children of God, and such we are. Will you live Godly in the family of God today knowing that the Father granted you to come to Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Seventy Eight Were Not Walking Today



Why did many of the disciples of Jesus stop walking with Him? Many of the disciples of Jesus withdrew and were not walking with Him anymore because He taught them about the Bread of Life.

When Jesus said that people must eat His flesh and drink His blood, some of the disciples following Jesus stopped walking with Him. Notice that they did not walk with Him anymore.

Today we see the same thing. Some people walk with Jesus for a while and then withdraw from Jesus. They leave and never walk with Jesus anymore.

Jesus knew all of His disciples. He knew those people who were never granted by the Father to come to Jesus. He also knew His own, because the Father gave them to Jesus and He never lost one of them. He gave them eternal life and promised to raise them up on the last day.

Withdrew

1. **Explained.** Jesus explained to the grumbling and stumbling disciples that He was the Son of Man and was going to ascend to heaven.

2. **Spoken.** He also preached to them the necessity of eating His flesh and drinking His blood. He said that the flesh profits nothing, but the words He had spoken are spirit and life.

3. **Salvation.** All disciples must understand that discipleship starts with salvation. Until you eat the flesh and drink the blood of Jesus, then you are not truly His disciple.

4. **Disciple.** Until you eat of the living Bread which came down out of heaven, you are not truly a disciple of Christ.

5. **Jesus Knows.** Jesus always knows His disciples, and the others who call themselves disciples and hang out with true disciples, but have never been born again.

6. **Withdraw.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that many disciples withdraw because they never received the free gift of salvation and they reject the teachings of Jesus.

7. **Words.** We rejoice today because we learn from Jesus each day and receive His words with gladness, for they are the words of eternal life.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that many disciples may withdraw from following Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as recall that Judas Iscariot was a disciple, and He did not withdraw from following Jesus until just before the crucifixion.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by recognizing that some unbelievers follow Jesus every day, and hang out with believers, but never had saving faith.**

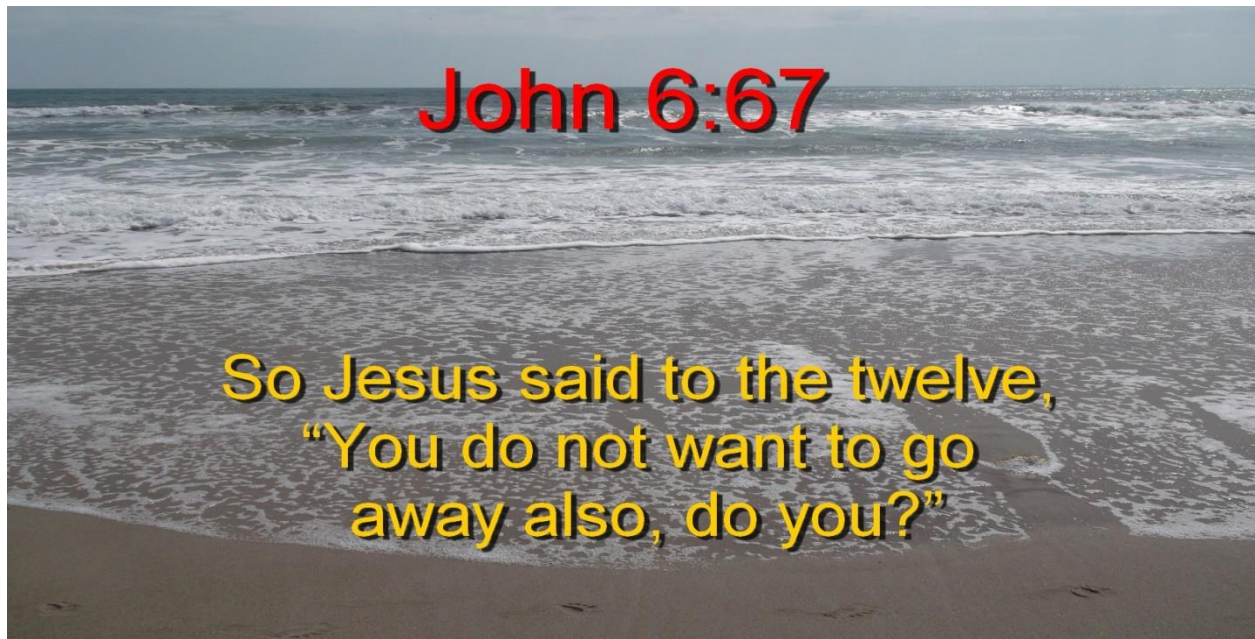
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that unbelievers may withdraw from following Christ. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by never withdrawing from following Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Seventy Nine

Twelve Today



Why did Jesus ask the twelve disciples if they also wanted to withdraw from Him and go away? Jesus asked the twelve disciples if they also wanted to withdraw from Him and go away because many of the disciples had just withdrawn from following Jesus anymore.

Jesus said things that made some people grumble. Jesus understood that some people did not believe in Him for salvation. They saw His works of powers, but they did not believe in Him as Savior.

Jesus knew the hearts of people. He also explained that no one could come to Him for salvation unless the Father gave them to Jesus. Jesus spoke deep spiritual truths, but not many people could understand Jesus.

Go Away?

1. **The Twelve.** Jesus turned His question to the twelve disciples. After many other disciples had left, Jesus put a probing question to the twelve.
2. **Expected.** Jesus asked them, "You do not want to go away, do you?" That question expected a "no" answer.
3. **Intentions.** Jesus knew their hearts and intentions. He many times asked people questions to focus their attention.
4. **Chosen.** Jesus had chosen the twelve disciples, but He knew that Judas Iscariot would betray Him.
5. **Pretend.** Some disciples just pretend to follow Jesus, but others have given their entire lives to Jesus and follow Him all day, each day.
6. **Follow.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we intend to follow Jesus with all of our hearts, all day, every day.
7. **Intend.** We rejoice today because we do not intend to go away from Jesus, even if other disciples grumble and stumble and go away from Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by staying with Jesus, even if we do not understand everything He said.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we stay with Jesus even when many people leave Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we stay in fellowship with Christ and other believers who stay with Jesus.**

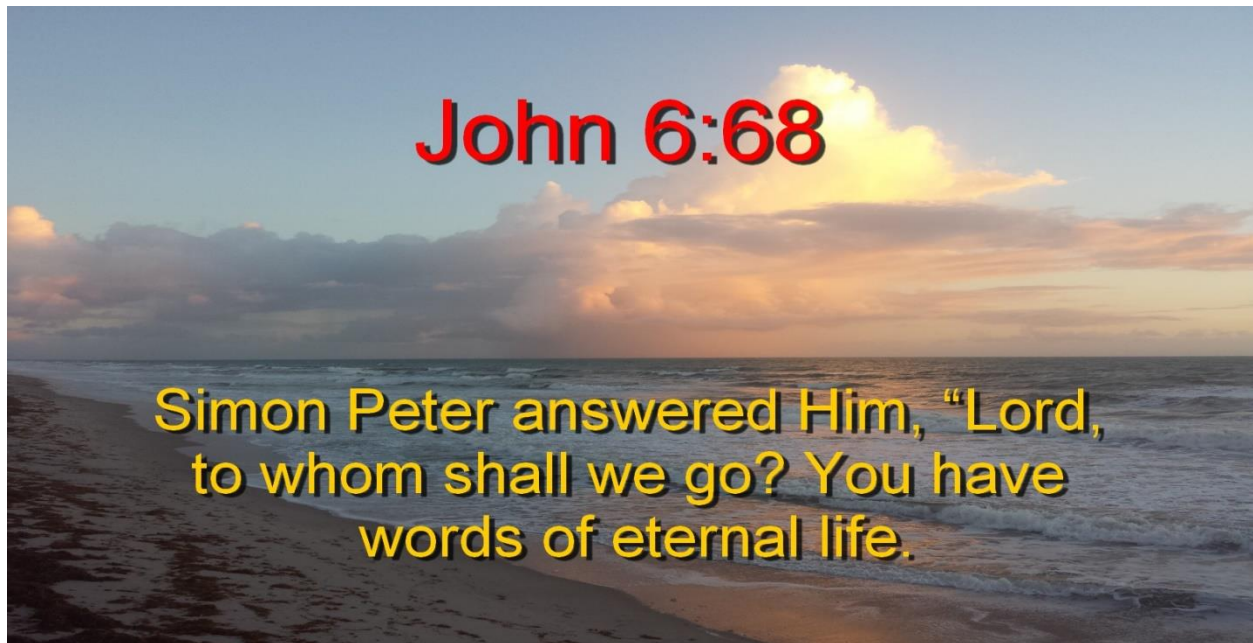
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by understanding that many people may leave Jesus because they grumble over His teachings. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by staying with Jesus no matter what?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eighty

Shall We Go Today?



Why did Simon Peter stay with Jesus when many other disciples left Jesus? Simon Peter answered Jesus saying that Jesus had the words of eternal life.

Simon Peter also said that only Jesus had the words of eternal life. No one else had such words. Even though the disciples grumbled over the words of Jesus, they still knew that the words of Jesus were spirit and truth, giving eternal life to all who believed in Jesus for salvation.

Jesus told Simon Peter that God the Father had revealed to him that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God. He called Simon Peter blessed for having such knowledge from the Father.

When other people left Jesus and stopped following Him, the twelve disciples stayed with Jesus. Even Judas Iscariot, the betrayer of Jesus,

stayed when others left. Staying with Jesus did not mean that Judas Iscariot had saving faith.

Words of Eternal Life

1. **Leave?** As many disciples went away, Jesus asked the twelve disciples if they also wanted to leave.

2. **Peter.** Simon Peter answered. His answer reflects saving faith in the Person, words and works of Jesus Christ.

3. **Answer.** Jesus asked a "yes" or "no" question. Simon Peter gave a detailed answer, more than just a yes or no.

4. **Acknowledged.** Simon Peter first acknowledged that the disciples had no other person to follow. He expressed his loyalty to Jesus.

5. **Stayed.** Simon Peter then expressed his conviction that only Jesus has the words of eternal life. While others grumbled, stumbled, and strayed, Simon Peter understood the uniqueness of Jesus and the truth of His words of eternal life. The twelve stayed with Jesus.

6. **Believe.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we believe the words of eternal life spoken by Jesus.

7. **Gift.** We rejoice today because eternal life started for each of us on the day we received the free gift of salvation. We have no intention of ever leaving Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by recalling that only Jesus has the words of eternal life.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by recalling that we know that Jesus has the words of eternal life, and believe them, because the Father has given us to Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship the Father and the Son for their wonderful plan to bring us to eternal life through the ministry of Jesus Christ.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by living for Jesus and holding fast the words of eternal life. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by holding fast to God as He holds you fast?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eighty One

We Have Believed Today



Why did Peter say that we have believe and have come to know that Jesus is the Holy One of God? Peter made that great declaration because Jesus asked the twelve if they were going away like many other disciples.

Jesus knew the answer before they spoke. Jesus used that question to promote faith in Him. The twelve were not leaving because of their faith in Jesus and their knowledge that He was truly the Holy One of God.

While they grumbled at His teaching about eating his flesh and drinking His blood, they were not leaving Jesus. They had faith in Him, except for Judas Iscariot, and they knew that Jesus was the Holy One of God. No one else had the words of eternal life.

Holy One of God

1. **Believed**. Simon Peter said that the twelve have believed that Jesus had the words of eternal life.
2. **Know**. Simon Peter also said that they had come to know that You are the Holy One of God.
3. **Relationship**. Faith and knowledge go hand in hand. We hear the words of eternal life, we believe the words of eternal life, and we know that Jesus is the Holy One of God.
4. **Grumbling**. Believers may grumble at times. The disciples grumbled over the words of Jesus.
5. **Understand**. People must understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ to believe it.
6. **Both**. Living Godly in the family of God involves both faith and knowledge about Jesus.
7. **Holy**. We rejoice today because we know that Jesus is the Holy One of God.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing that Jesus is the Holy One of God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus is the Holy One of God.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in following Jesus because He is the Holy One of God.**

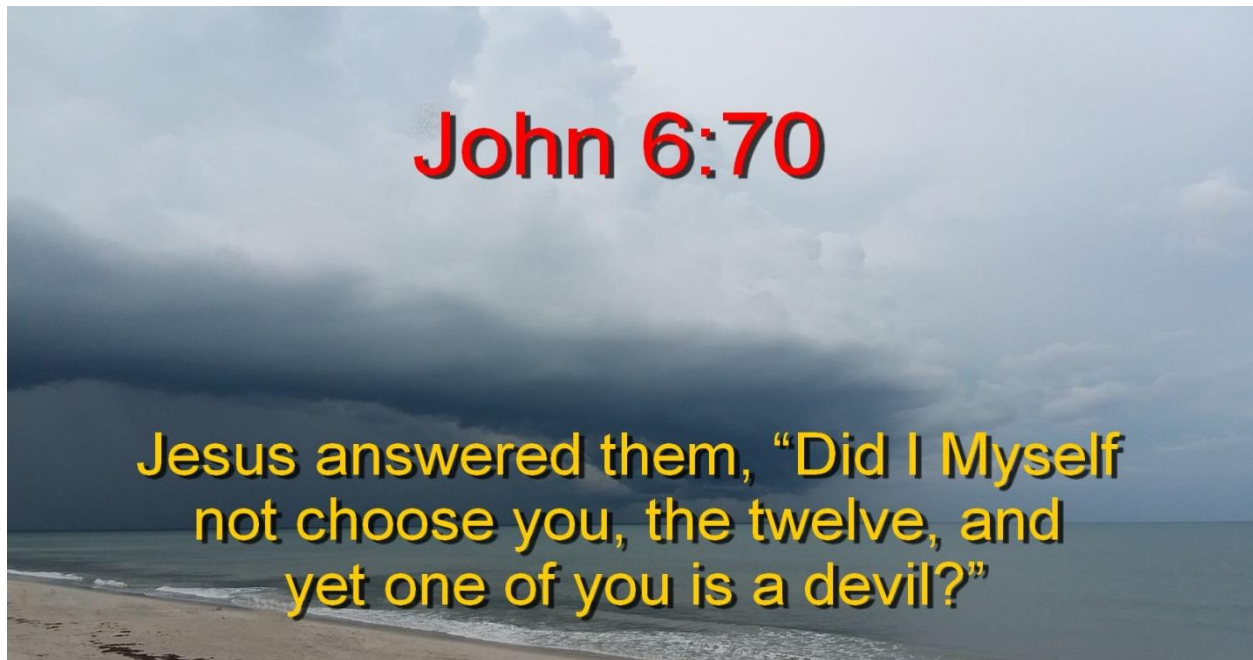
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by following Jesus, the Holy One of God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by worshiping Jesus as the Holy One of God?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eighty Two

I Myself Today



Why did Jesus say one of the twelve was a devil? Jesus let them know that one of the twelve was a devil.

Jesus Himself chose all twelve of the disciples. Even so, Jesus chose a devil to be with Him. Jesus was talking about Judas Iscariot, a devil, the son of destruction. Jesus knew about Judas Iscariot before He chose him to be one of the twelve. Jesus even knew that Judas Iscariot would betray Him. The ways of God are not the ways of man.

Simon said that all twelve had faith and knew that Jesus was the Holy One of God. While the demons recognized Jesus as the Holy One of God, they, like Judas, did not have faith in Him for salvation.

A Devil

1. **Conversation.** I love those simple words: "Jesus answered." Jesus took flesh, in part, to live on earth and have back and forth conversations with people of all kinds.

2. **Devil.** Jesus replied to the loyal and faithful statement of Simon Peter. Simon Peter may have thought he was speaking for all twelve of the disciples, but Simon Peter did not know that one of the twelve was a devil. Judas Iscariot, the devil disciple, blended in with the eleven.

3. **Disguise.** The eleven had no idea that Judas was a devil. You may recall that the servants of satan disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, but their deeds are evil.

4. **Evil.** Jesus called Judas Iscariot a devil. Judas Iscariot did not just have a bad day, he was thoroughly evil and the son of perdition.

5. **Prophesied.** Jesus wanted the twelve to know two things. First, false disciples hang out with real disciples. Second, although Jesus chose a devil to be His disciple, Jesus knew the devil disciple would betray Him, but God's ultimate plan had already been prophesied in the Old Testament, including the betrayal.

6. **Warns.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect Jesus to answer our questions. He also warns us that devil disciples live among us, but they are not a part of the family of God.

7. **Brethren.** We rejoice today because Jesus answers our questions today, often through the Scriptures. Jesus knows His own brethren, and warns us that devil disciples live among us, but He knows all things.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that God chose us to be disciples of Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by recognizing that unbelievers hang out with believers.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God praising Jesus that He loves to disciple people.**

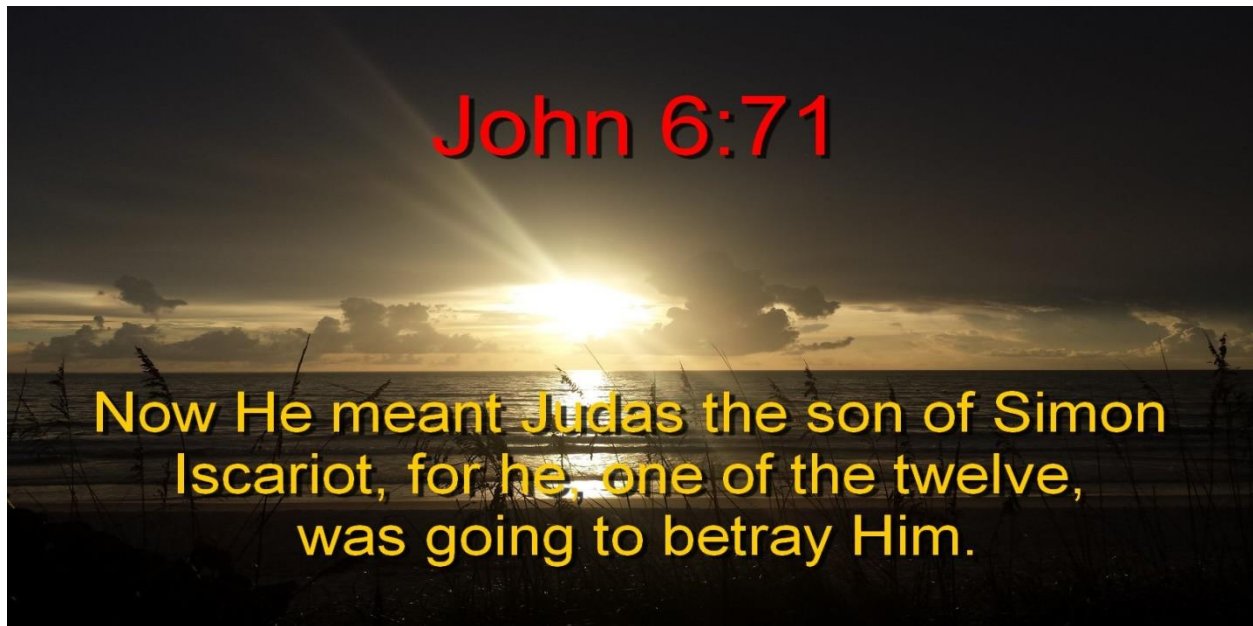
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus because He knows the believers and unbelievers. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by ministering to the unbelievers among us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eighty Three

The Son of Simon Iscariot Today



Who was going to betray Jesus? Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. Jesus identified Judas the betrayer to the twelve disciples.

Some family names stand for great faithfulness to God. Judas Iscariot stands for the man who betrayed Jesus to death. God judges individuals for salvation, not families.

Jesus has a family name also. He stands for the family of God. We have joined His family by being born from above into the family of God. God predestined us to adoption in His Son, Jesus.

Jesus had perfect reasons for calling Judas Iscariot into the group of the twelve disciples, although Judas was never called into the family of God.

Going To Betray Him

1. **Twelve.** Jesus said He chose His twelve disciples, and yet one of them was a devil. Jesus did not name Judas Iscariot here.

2. **One.** In our verse today, we learn that Jesus meant Judas Iscariot, because Jesus knew Judas Iscariot was going to betray Him.

3. **Devil.** Please consider the flow here. Jesus told the crowd to eat His flesh and drink His blood. Many disciples stumbled, grumbled and departed. The twelve stayed with Jesus, because He had the words of eternal life. Yet, just like with the larger group of disciples, even a devil was among the twelve, and Jesus chose him.

4. **Never.** We must always be careful about other people, to know if they are born again or not. Judas walked with Jesus for years, but was never born again. Just because someone sits next to you at church or in a Bible study, never imagine that person has been born again.

5. **Act?** Take time to find out about the people you know. Have they been born again, or do they just act like a believer?

6. **Pretending.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we joined His family at the moment we were born again. Others may grumble, stumble and walk away, but they were never in the family of God, but just pretending, like Judas.

7. **Family.** We rejoice today because Jesus received us into His family and promised to raise each one of us up on the last day. He never loses anyone in His family.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus for His willingness to be betrayed for us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we see some of the depths of God's plan for our redemption.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship our Savior for going to the cross for us, betrayed into the hands of men.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus for His willingness to be betrayed to death for us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by loving Jesus more for His love for us?

HALLELUJAH !

7

Learning about Godliness and Division Today

Jesus divided families, crowds, religious groups, soldiers and many others. Some believed in Him for salvation, and the others did not.

Jesus also divided His physical family. His brothers urged Him to go to the Feast in Jerusalem where people wanted to kill Him. His brothers did not believe in Him. Jesus told them that their time was opportune, but His time was not there yet. He explained to them that the world cannot hate them, but the world hated Him because He testified that their deeds were evil. Jesus went up to the Feast after they left.

When Jesus arrived in Jerusalem, the Jews were seeking Him and were asking where He was. Many people were grumbling. Some were saying Jesus was a good man and others were saying He led people astray. No one was speaking openly of Him because they feared the Jews.

In the middle of the Feast, Jesus went up to the temple and began to teach. He astonished the Jews with His knowledge. Jesus said that His teaching was not His own, but His Who sent Jesus. Jesus said if anyone was willing to do His will, then they would know of the teaching, whether it was of God or His alone. Jesus said He did not seek His own glory, but the glory of the One Who sent Him; He is true and has no unrighteousness in Him.

Jesus then asked the crowd why they sought to kill Him. They said He had a demon and no one sought to kill Him. Jesus then explained that He did one deed and they marveled. Jesus told them not to judge by appearance, but to consider that He made an entire man well on the Sabbath. Moses allowed circumcision on the Sabbath. So why would they contend that Jesus should not heal an entire man on the Sabbath?

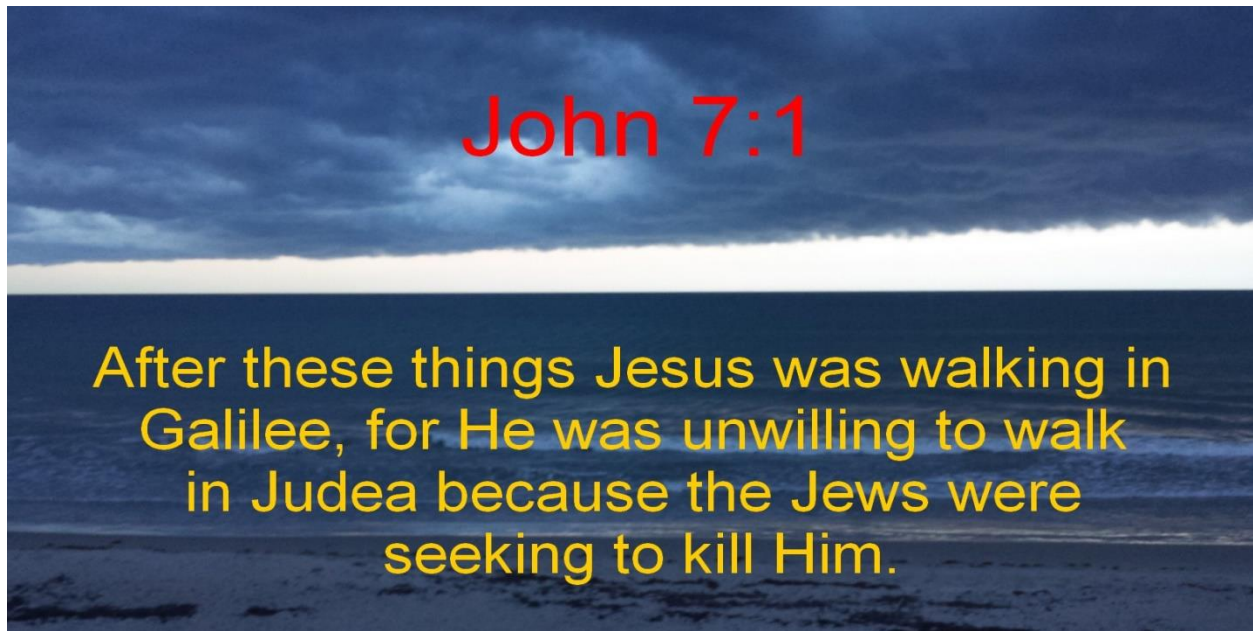
The crowd remained divided. Some people said that Jesus was the man they were seeking to kill and He was teaching publicly. Others said He could not be the expected One because people knew (they thought) He was from Nazareth; no one would know where the expected One was from. Jesus then told them that they both know Him and where He was from. He told them that they did not know the One Who sent Him. They again sought to seize Him, but no one laid a hand on Him because His hour had not come. Many of the crowd believed in Him and said that when the Christ comes, He would not perform more signs that Jesus did.

The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent officers to arrest Jesus. The officers returned empty-handed. When questioned, they said that they heard Jesus and no one ever spoke like Jesus spoke. The Pharisees said none of the rulers or Pharisees believed in Him, but the crowd was accursed because it does not know the Law. Nicodemus, who came to Jesus by night, reminded the leaders that their Law does not judge a man until it first hears from him and knows what he is doing. They answered Nicodemus saying that no prophet arises from Galilee. They even questioned whether Nicodemus was from Galilee.

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eighty Four

Unwilling Today



Why was Jesus walking in Galilee? He was walking in Galilee because the Jews in Judea were seeking to kill Him.

Consider the depths of the plan of God. Jesus stayed away from Judea because the Jews wanted to kill Him. Yet, he took Judas Iscariot with Him as one of the twelve. Judas heard all the detailed explanations of the general messages Jesus preached to the crowds. He watched the miracles, saw the compassion, witnessed the love. Judas knew all about Jesus, and still betrayed Him.

Jesus perfectly understood Judas and was never surprised by the things Judas did. Jesus predicted His betrayal, His arrest, His trial, His manner of death, His resurrection, His Ascension, His return to glory, and many other things. Jesus knew the future, and demonstrated His love for all of us every day.

Walking in Galilee

1. **Unwillingness.** Jesus was unwilling to do something. Have you ever thought about the unwillingness of Jesus? He did not want to do certain things.
2. **Avoiding.** Jesus was unwilling to walk in Judea, the area around Jerusalem. He had a sound reason for avoiding Judea.
3. **Kill.** Jesus avoided Judea because the Jews there were seeking to kill Him.
4. **No Fear.** Jesus did not avoid Judea because He feared death or feared the Jews.
5. **Plan.** Jesus followed God's plan for daily travels. Jesus was always at the right place at the right time.
6. **Follow.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we follow God's travel plans for our lives. At times, we avoid places where people want to kill us.
7. **Travels.** We rejoice today because Jesus always travels with us. He lovingly plans all of our steps as we follow Him, and, at times, He helps us avoid going to places where people want to kill us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by staying away from people who seek to kill us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by following God's lead to be at the right place at the right time for ministry.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to minister where Jesus leads us at that moment.**

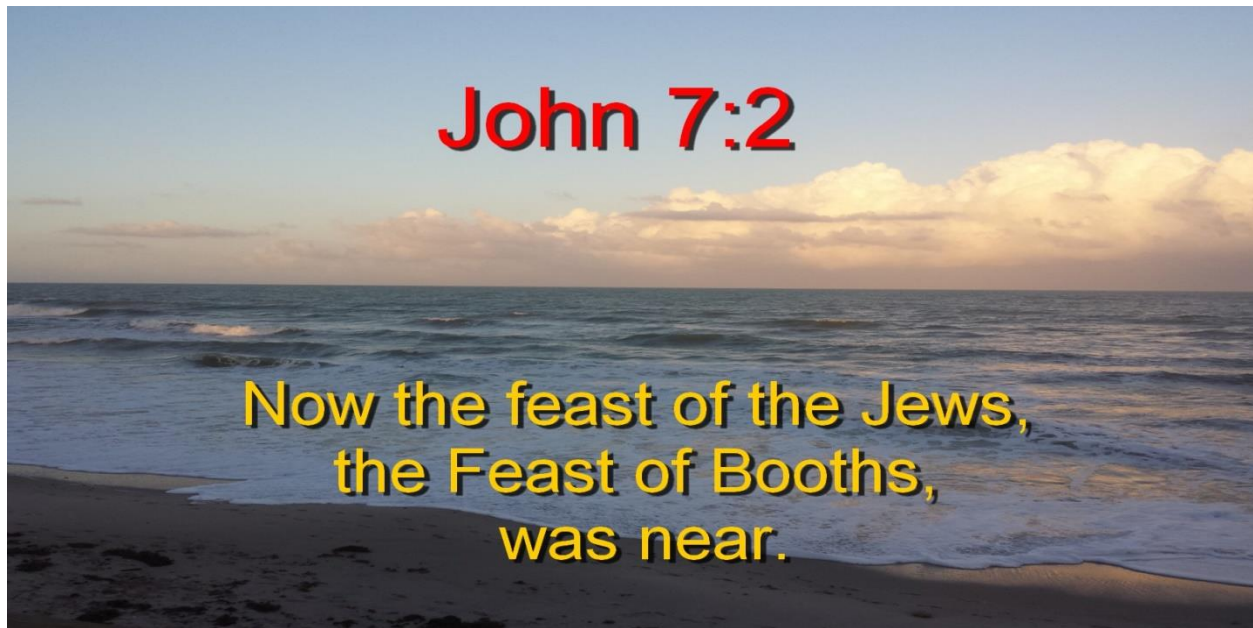
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by knowing that we may stay away from people who seek to harm us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following Jesus to minister in the best places?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eighty Five

The Feast of the Jews



What happens when the Feast of Booths draws near? All the Jews were required by the Old Testament to go to Jerusalem for the Feast of Booths each year.

Moses received a revelation from God to remember that Yahweh made the people of Israel to dwell in booths in when He brought them out of the land of Egypt. Therefore, God commanded the people of Israel to dwell in booths for seven days each year to remember Yahweh's deliverance from Israel and the people dwelling in booths.

Jesus had left Judea, the land of Jerusalem, because the Jews there sought to kill Jesus. The time had come when Jesus would have to return to Jerusalem for the Feast of Booths. Jesus said He had no place to lay His head and so the Feast of Booths had special significance for Jesus and His disciples.

The Feast of Booths

1. **Feast.** Three times each year all the people of Israel were to gather in Jerusalem to feast together: the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks and the Feast of Booths.

2. **Harvest.** During the Feast of Booths, the people were to live in booths for seven days, celebrating the harvest provided by Yahweh. They also remembered that Yahweh led the people out of Egypt, and made them dwell in booths.

3. **Mandatory.** Please recall that Jesus was avoiding Judea because the Jews were seeking to kill Him. Jerusalem, the place of the mandatory feasts, was in Judea.

4. **Not Afraid.** Jesus never operated on fear. He was not afraid to go to Jerusalem, but He had work from His Father to do elsewhere.

5. **Problem.** Jesus certainly faced a problem. He had to attend the Feast of Booths in Jerusalem, but the Jews there sought to kill Him.

6. **Obey.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we obey God, even when obedience may have risks and serious perils.

7. **Perfect.** We rejoice today because Jesus set the perfect example for us. At the right time, Jesus would lay down His life for us; no one took it from Him. He alone had the power to lay it down, and to take it up again.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering the great deliverance by Yahweh of the people of Israel.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus kept the Old Testament Law to fulfill all righteousness.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus, the same yesterday, today, and forever.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by learning from the Old Testament about the ways of God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing in the great things God has done for His people?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eighty Six

His Brothers Today



John 7:3

Therefore His brothers said to Him, "Leave here and go into Judea, so that Your disciples also may see Your works which You are doing."

Why did the brothers of Jesus command Him to leave Galilee? The brothers of Jesus commanded Jesus to leave Galilee so that His disciples could see the works Jesus was doing.

Brothers often love to command brothers to do things. In this case, Jesus was the oldest child of the family. The Father of Jesus was the Holy Spirit. So, the brothers of Jesus were actually half-brothers.

In this context, the brothers were actually commanding Jesus to return to the area where the Jews sought to kill Jesus. At face value, the brothers appeared to be urging Jesus to return to harm's way. The brothers of Jesus already knew about the miracles which Jesus had been working. Jesus performed miracles in Galilee and in Judea. So their reason for commanding Jesus to return to Judea seems suspect.

Leave

1. **Orders.** People often gave orders to Jesus. Here, His brothers commanded Him to leave and go to Judea.

2. **Commanded.** The prior verses informed us that the Jews in Judea wanted to kill Jesus. Now His brothers commanded Him to go Judea.

3. **Leave.** Notice the word "Therefore" in our verse today. Because of the preceding verses, His brothers commanded Jesus to leave and go to Judea.

4. **Reasons.** His brothers gave reasons for Jesus to leave, but their expressed reasons were not the real reasons given in verses one and two. They advised Jesus on how to make disciples: go to Judea so your disciples may see Your works.

5. **No Honor.** You may recall that His hometown of Nazareth, His relatives, and His own household did not honor Him.

6. **Follow Him.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we avoid commanding Jesus: (a) to do our will; or (b) to follow our plans; or (c) to obey our directives in how to make disciples; or (d) to leave us and go where we tell Him to go. Instead, we simply follow Him and obey Him.

7. **Leads.** We rejoice today because Jesus leads us in love daily, demonstrating His loving power in our lives.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting people to give Jesus orders.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we follow the commands of Jesus, and not the commands of other people intent on opposing God's plans.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by obeying Jesus, not commanding Jesus to do our will.**

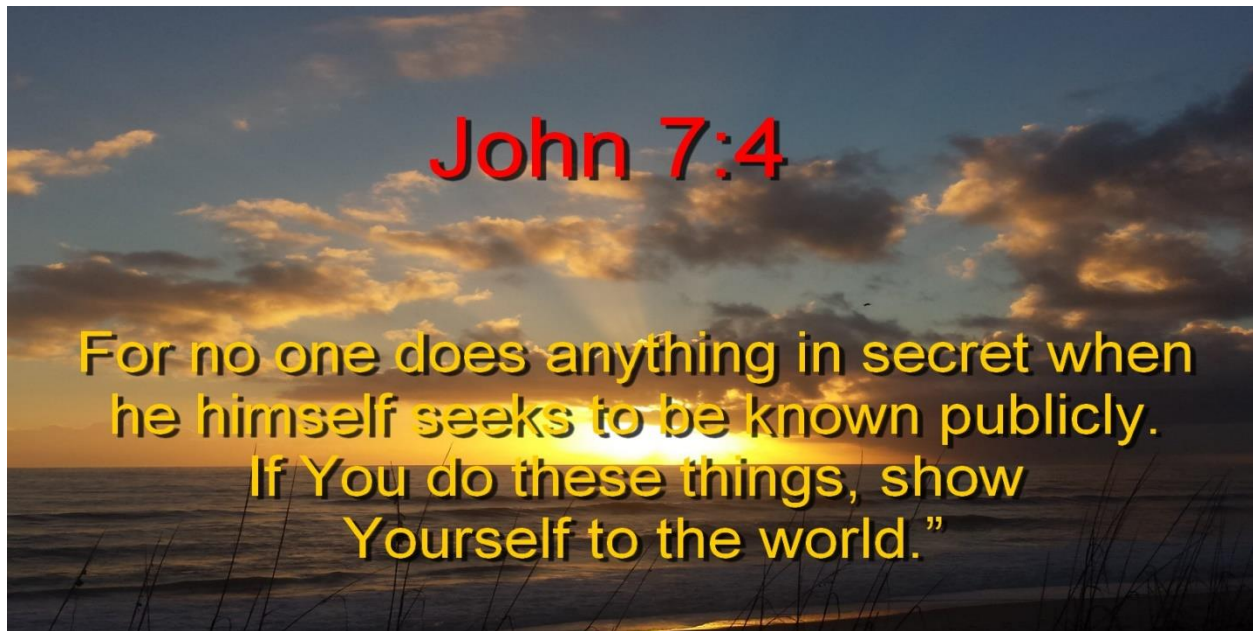
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting opposition from family members. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following the commands of Jesus, and not telling Him how to run your life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eighty Seven

Secret Today



Why did the brothers of Jesus think He wanted to be known publicly? Jesus wanted everyone to know He was the Messiah of Israel, the Son of God in the flesh.

The brothers of Jesus also argued that if Jesus did miracles and taught in the name of God the Father, then He must show Himself to the world. The problem with the brothers was that they also wanted Jesus to return to Judea, where the Jews were seeking to kill Him.

Jesus knew all about His half-brothers. Many Christians today cannot name the half-brothers of Jesus: James, Joseph, Simon and Jude. While the brothers of Jesus opposed the plans of Jesus, later they will become believers.

Known Publicly

1. **Direction.** The brothers of Jesus continued to command Jesus to follow their plans for His life. Be very careful of all the people who tell you what to do and how to do it. Only the Bible should provide spiritual direction for your life.

2. **Assumption.** The brothers of Jesus started with a faulty assumption. They thought Jesus had been acting in secret. In fact, Jesus had been preaching and working miracles in many public places, including Jerusalem.

3. **Public.** Not only did Jesus proclaim Himself as Messiah, God in the flesh, but He did so publicly and crowds followed Him. He preached the kingdom of God, and the King had come. Jesus made a real offer of the kingdom to the people of Israel, but they rejected Him and the kingdom of God.

4. **Preaching.** The brothers of Jesus also commanded Jesus to show Himself to the world, if He did those things. Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of salvation to the world, starting in Israel. His works and His words and others, including His heavenly Father, testified to His deity and purpose to give His life a ransom for many, while preaching the words of eternal life.

5. **Accomplished.** Jesus never needed advice about His plans and purposes. He always followed His Father's plans and purposes and accomplished all that His Father gave Him to do.

6. **Distinguish.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we distinguish the commands of evil people from the commands of God. We follow God, not people.

7. **Offer.** We rejoice today because Jesus made Himself known to the world, so that He might offer the world the free gift of salvation by faith alone. He died for us, and was raised in power to sit with God in glory.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that people will tell Jesus how to conduct His ministry.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect people to tell us how to conduct our ministries as we use our spiritual gifts for the glory of God.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to follow Jesus in ministry and His public ministry in which He showed the world His Father's love and plans for the redemption of souls.**

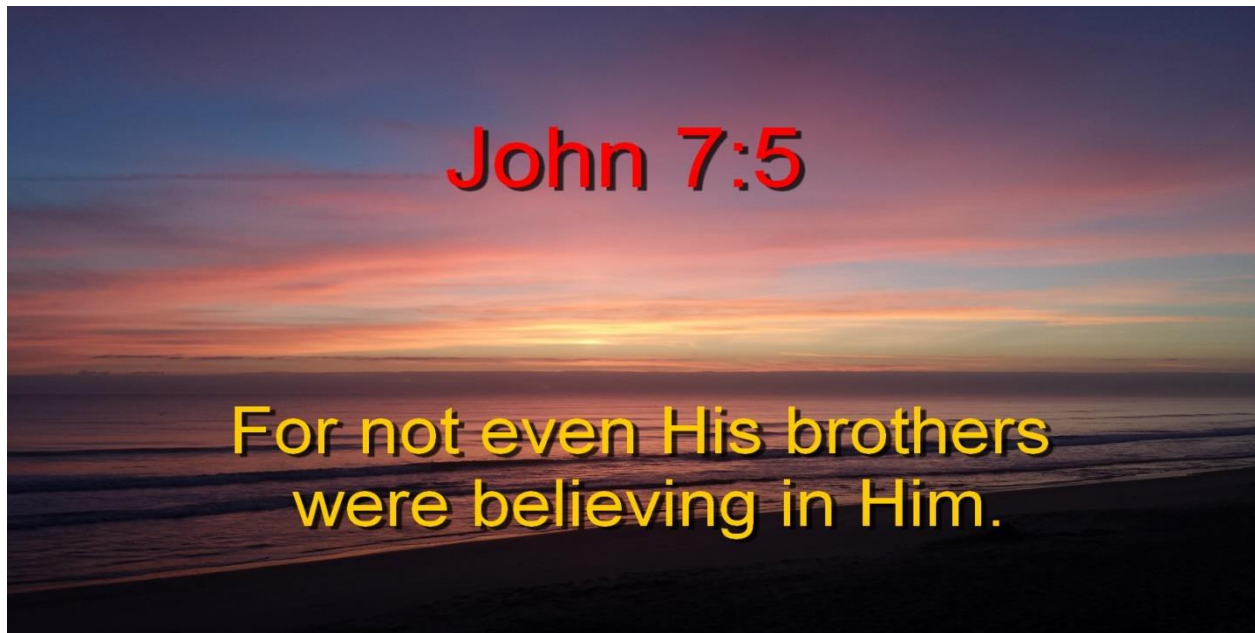
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by following Jesus in ministry, while expecting many unbelievers to give us unsolicited advice about how to minister. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by walking with Jesus and listening to Him while unbelievers give ministry advice?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eighty Eight

His Brothers Today



Were the brothers of Jesus believing in Him? The brothers of Jesus were not believers when they were commanding Jesus how to perform His ministry.

The brothers of Jesus commanded Him what to do, how to do it, when to do it, and where to do it. They did not know God as Savior and yet they told God the Savior how to conduct His ministry. People can oppose the work of Jesus in many ways.

You may recall when Jesus returned to Nazareth, His own family, His own relatives and His hometown all opposed Him. Jesus said that He came to bring sword that would divide families. Jesus always practiced what He preached, and so expected and understood the opposition He received from His own brothers.

Not Even His Brothers

1. **Hometown.** Before Jesus sent out His disciples on their first missionary journey, Jesus took them to His hometown of Nazareth. There His hometown, His relatives, and His household all rejected Him as Messiah.

2. **Commands.** Unbelievers love to tell believers what to do.

3. **Brothers.** In the previous verses, the brothers of Jesus gave Him lots of commands about where He should go and what He should do.

4. **Unbelievers.** Unbelievers always love to tell believers what to do and how to do it. Be sure when you seek any type of counseling or advice that you are listening to a mature, born again believer who will provide insight from Scripture with passages you can read for yourself.

5. **In Time.** Jesus loved the world, including His unbelieving brothers. In time, they would become believers.

6. **Continue.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we understand that some of our family members may reject Jesus as Messiah. Even so, we continue to pray for them and continue to share the Gospel with them. One day they may believe, like the brothers of Jesus. Until then, ignore their spiritual advice and commands.

7. **Sharing.** We rejoice today because family members may still receive the free gift of eternal life at any time before death. It is not over until it is over. Maybe one of your unsaved family members may be saved today--maybe tomorrow. Keep praying and sharing the Gospel. Keep praising Jesus for our salvation.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that our physical brothers may not be a part of the family of God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus, not our blood relatives who do not believe in Jesus for salvation.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by keeping the salvation of our physical family members before God at all times.**

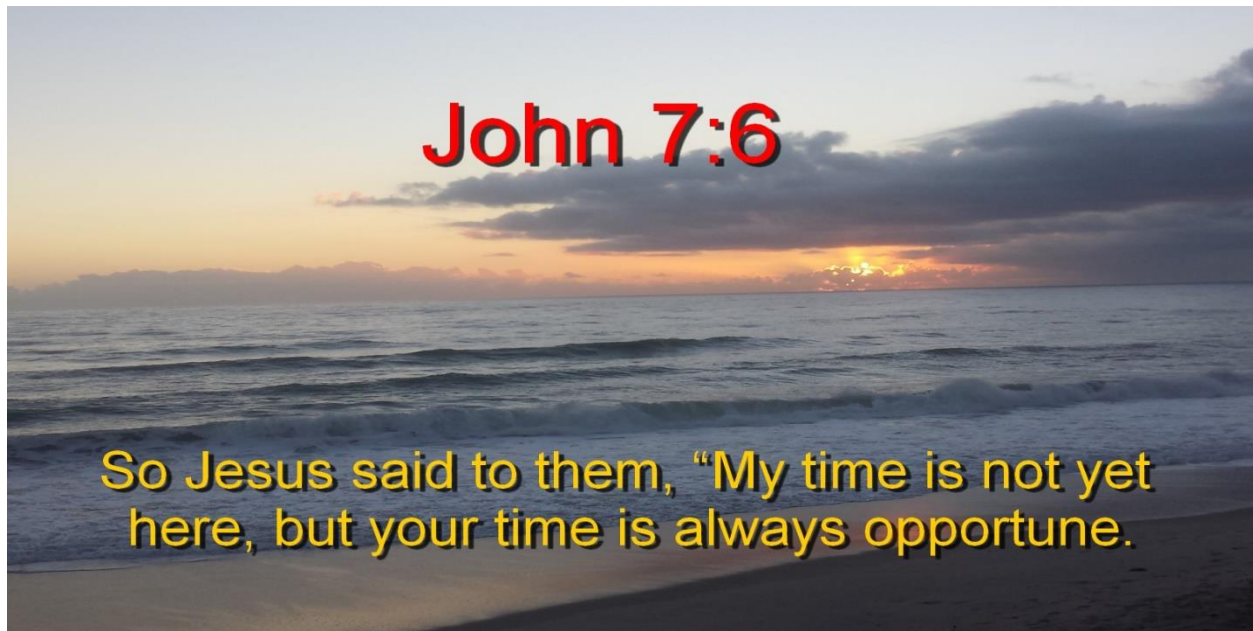
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that our physical family will always oppose God if they do not believe in Jesus for salvation. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by expecting that your physical family will oppose your work for God if they do not have eternal life?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Eighty Nine

My Time Today



What did Jesus say to His brothers about going to the Feast? Jesus said His time was not yet here.

Jesus knew all things. He knew the time and place of His arrest, His crucifixion, His resurrection and His ascension. He also knew about His brothers. They did not believe in Him at this point in their lives. The world could not hate them because they were still of the world.

Jesus explained to His brothers that despite their urging to go up to the Feast immediately, He was not going up to the Feast yet. His time had not yet come. His brothers were urging Him to go up to the Feast in Jerusalem, even though they knew that the Jews there were seeking to kill Jesus.

Jesus also told His brothers that their time was always opportune. On one level, Jesus was telling them they could go whenever they wanted. On

another level, He was telling them today was the day to believe in Him for salvation.

Your Time

1. **Time.** Jesus had a keen sense of time; time enough to accomplish all the works His Father gave Him to do. We should share His sense of time.

2. **Go.** The unbelieving brothers of Jesus commanded Him to go to Jerusalem, where the Jews were seeking to kill Him.

3. **Not Yet.** Jesus replied to His brothers with a time answer: "My time is not yet here." Jesus meant a special moment in time, not just an ordinary time. His time to die was yet future.

4. **Opportune.** Jesus also said the time of His brothers was opportune, or here right now. Jesus meant they were doing evil right then, but they could repent right then, believe the Gospel, and receive eternal life.

5. **Act.** Jesus knew time and the time for each person to act. Today will always be the opportune time for unbelievers to receive the free gift of salvation.

6. **Temporal.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that Jesus holds all time in His hands. What we see is temporal, but the unseen is eternal.

7. **Eternal.** We rejoice today because Jesus called us to Himself, so that we would receive eternal life today, and live in His love forever.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by following God's timing for our lives.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God in knowing the difference between the opportune time and the wrong time.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by encouraging one another to consider God's timing for events.**

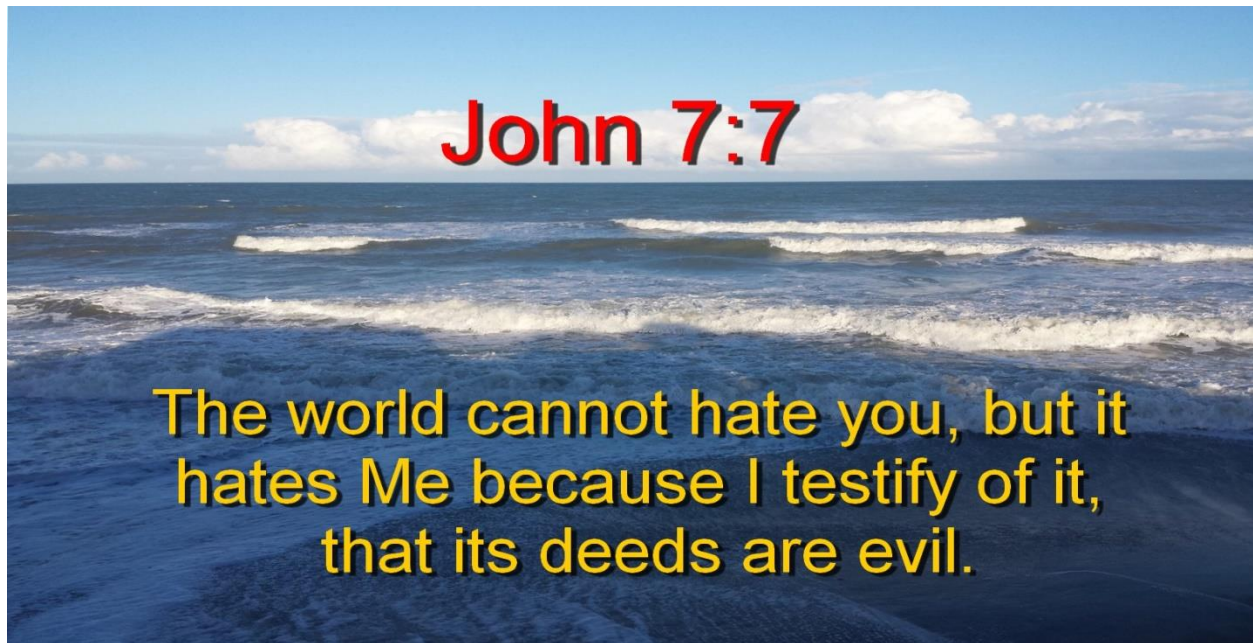
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus for His desire to follow His Father's plans about when to go where. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by considering if it is God's time for us to do something He desires?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Ninety

The World Today



Why does the world hate Jesus? The world hates Jesus because He testified that its deeds are evil.

Jesus explained that His half-brothers could not be hated by the world. Jesus meant that His brothers were part of that world system opposed to God. In the opening chapters of the Gospel of John, we read about how Jesus created the world and then came to His own people. They rejected Him.

Because the brothers of Jesus did not believe in as Savior, they were opposed to Him. They had never seen Jesus sin in any way. Even so, they hated Jesus without cause. If we expect that the world will treat us better than the world treated Jesus, then you are of this world.

Hates Me

1. **Hatred.** Do people hate you? People hated Jesus and He knew exactly why they hated Him. He wanted them and us to know about that hatred.
2. **Perish.** Jesus told His brothers that world cannot hate them. Remember that God so loved the world that He sent Jesus into the world so that whoever believed in Him would not perish, but have eternal life.
3. **Unbelieving.** Jesus was very precise, as always. Jesus said the world cannot hate His unbelieving brothers. Cannot is an important word.
4. **Evil.** In contrast, the world does hate Jesus. He also explained why the world hated Him. Jesus testified that their deeds were evil.
5. **Deeds.** The world hates believers who expose their evil deeds, just like Jesus did, and testify that the deeds of the world are evil.
6. **World.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect the world to hate us, because, like Jesus, we testify that their deeds are evil.
7. **Testify.** We rejoice today knowing that we testify to the world that their deeds are evil. All the time, we know Jesus loves us as we testify against the world.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that the world will love its own.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by expecting that the world will always hate Jesus and those that follow Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by believing that God so loved the world that He gave His unique Son, so that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life.**

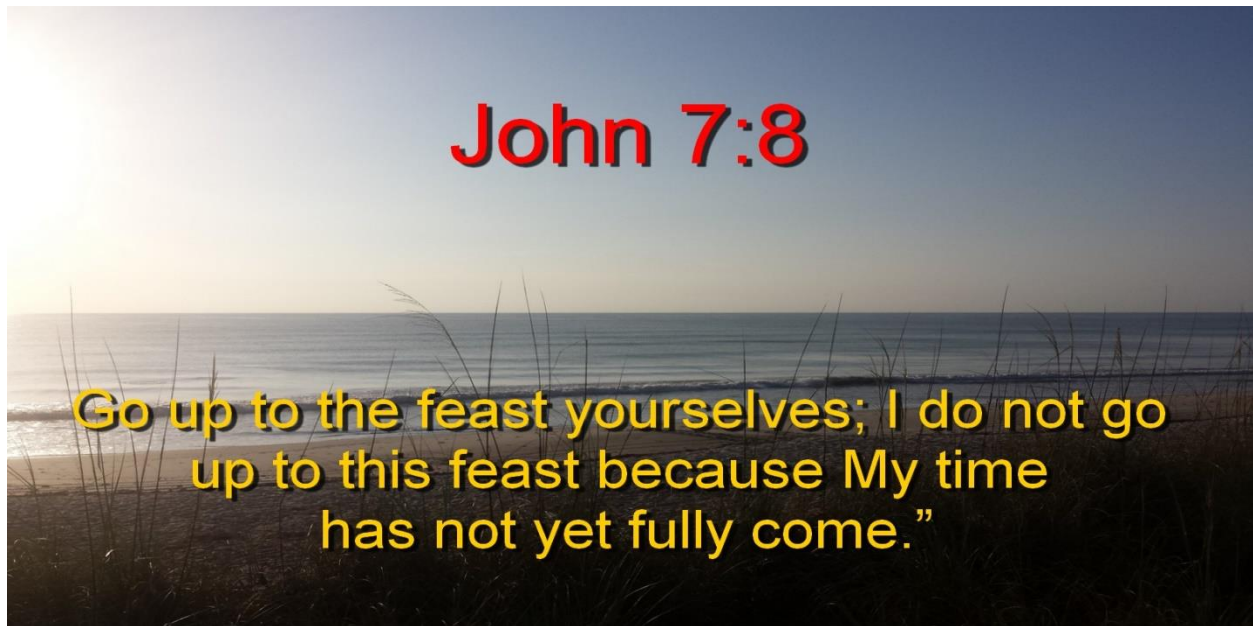
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting the world to hate Jesus and His followers. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by remembering that God loves the world and sent Jesus to die for the sins of the world?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Ninety One

Go Up Yourselfs



Why did Jesus tell His half-brothers to go up to the feast themselves? Jesus told His brothers to go up to the feast by themselves because His time had not yet fully come.

Jesus meant that they were part of the world and did not face any danger from the Jews who sought to kill Jesus. Jesus was fully aware of when and where His death would occur. At the time of His death, He could say that He had accomplished all the work which His Father had given Him to do.

Jesus knew that His time would come in due time. The disciples of Jesus should know about the importance of time in the life of Jesus on earth. He always had all the time necessary to do the Father's will. Jesus had time for the wedding wine, Jesus had time for Nicodemus, Jesus had time for the woman at the well and the city of Sychar, Jesus had time for

Pallet Man, and Jesus had time to heal an official's son. Jesus had time for many people, not to mention time to feed crowds.

Not Yet Fully Come

1. **Feast.** The unbelieving brothers of Jesus commanded Jesus to go up to the Feast, where the Jews were seeking to kill Him.

2. **Now.** Jesus commanded His brothers to go up to the Feast, just as the Old Testament Law required. Jesus explained in the Greek text that they should go now--completed, final action.

3. **Time.** Jesus then said I am not going now, in this moment, to the feast. The contrast between complete action and temporary action is clear. Jesus also gave a reason He did not go. He said His time had not yet fully come. A clearer translation may be His time had not yet been fulfilled. He still had a ways to go in time.

4. **Not Yet.** Jesus meant that He keenly understood time. He knew that His hour was closer each day, but His time to offer Himself as the sacrifice for sin had not yet fully come.

5. **Evil Days.** In our lives, we would do well to share the keen sense of time that Jesus showed. God told us to redeem the time, for the days are evil.

6. **Guidance.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect unbelievers to tell Jesus what He should do and when He should do it. As believers, we follow Jesus Who always knows what to do and when to do it; He never needs anyone's guidance.

7. **Perfect.** We rejoice today because Jesus always knows the right time to do everything. Our timing will always be perfect when we perfectly follow God's timing for our lives.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding the importance of time to do God' will.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we know that God will always put us in the right place and the right time as we follow Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to bring us to the right people so that we can be at the right place in God's time.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to lead us to the right place at the right time. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by living on God's schedule?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Ninety Two

Stayed Today



Why did Jesus stay in Galilee? Jesus stayed in Galilee because the time was not right for Him to go to Judea.

Jesus followed His Father's timetable. He went from place to place to do the will and the work of His Father. In each place, Jesus did the things He saw His Father doing and in the manner His Father did things. Jesus spread love everywhere He went.

Jesus knew the hearts of His half-brothers. They were not looking out for His best interest. They knew nothing about discipling men. In fact as unsaved people, they were unable to know the spiritual things of God.

Galilee

1. **Not Yet.** The brothers of Jesus commanded Him to go Jerusalem for the Feast. Jesus explained to them that His time had not yet come, but theirs was always opportune.

2. **Galilee.** The Jews in Judea were seeking to kill Him, so Jesus stayed in Galilee.

3. **Timetable.** Jesus never relied upon other people to give Him advice. At times, He traveled to help people, but He always followed His own timetable.

4. **Continued.** While Jesus was in Galilee, He continued His ministry so that Galilee of the Gentiles would see a great light.

5. **God's Plan.** At times, God calls us to stay behind while others go ahead. Jesus always had perfect timing because He followed God's plan for His life and travels. Jesus did not worry about travel plans because He knew it would all work out.

6. **Stay.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we never mind staying behind, when it means we follow God's plan for our lives.

7. **Harmony.** We rejoice today because Jesus never failed to do God's will, even when it meant staying behind. As God in the flesh, Jesus always lived in harmony with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by staying where Jesus leads us to stay.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we recognize that God keeps us in a place as long as He has work for us to do there.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by trusting God to lead all of us in harmony and love.**

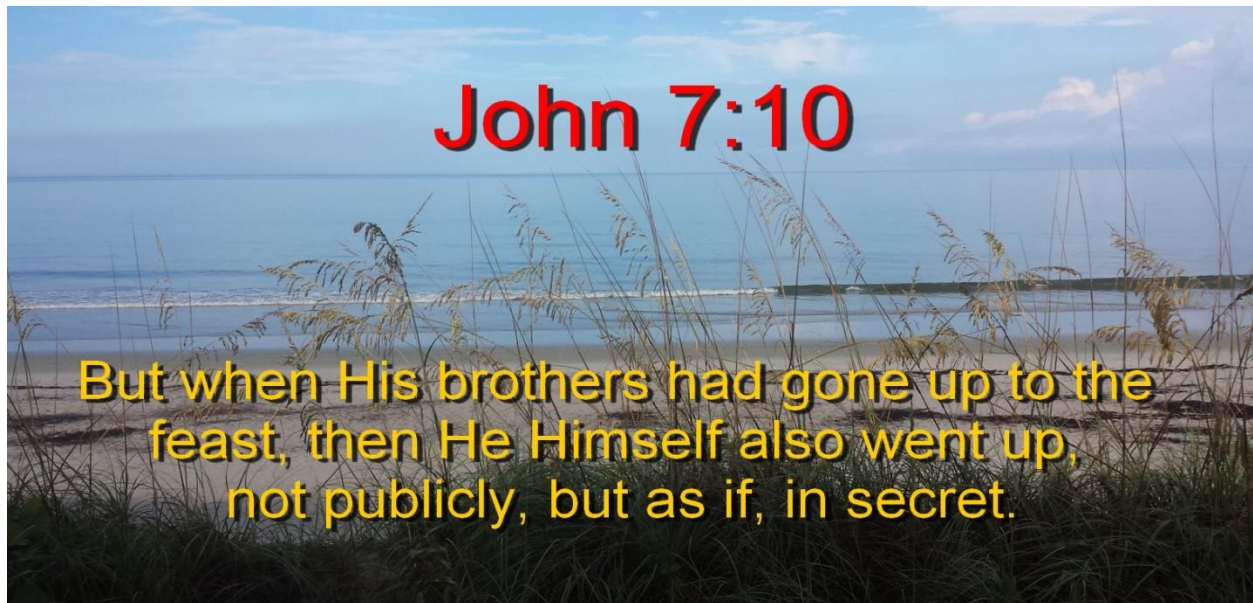
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to keep us in the right place until we finish doing God's will there. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by waiting until God says move?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Ninety Three

He Himself Went Up Today



Why did Jesus go up to the feast as if in secret? Jesus went up as if in secret so that He could disclose publicly His presence at the time and place of His Father's choosing.

Jesus did not do everything in public. He prayed in private, He spent time away from His disciples, and did other things out of the public eye. Yet, Jesus said later that He was never alone, because the Father was always with Him. Jesus made us the same promise, that we would never be alone.

Jesus had no intention of hiding in Jerusalem. He would step back into the public eye and continue His public ministry. Jesus had already cleansed the temple and taught in the temple. He knew where and when to disclose His presence even before He arrived. He followed His Father's plans.

In Secret

1. **Duty.** Under the Old Testament Law, Jesus had an absolute duty to attend the Feast in Jerusalem.
2. **Commands.** His brothers commanded Him to go up before them, but He did not follow their commands.
3. **Kill Him.** The Jews in Judea wanted to kill Jesus. You can understand the issue before Jesus about going to Jerusalem where they wanted to kill Him.
4. **Secret.** Jesus did go to Jerusalem for the Feast, but in secret, after His brothers had left for Jerusalem.
5. **Avoided.** Jesus avoided traveling with His unbelieving brothers. They were not His true family, but only human relatives.
6. **Travel.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we travel in secret at times, especially if people are seeking to kill you.
7. **Danger.** We rejoice today because Jesus knew when to travel in public and when to travel in secret. Likewise, Jesus helps us to avoid unnecessary danger, without being afraid.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by taking prudent steps to avoid persecution, as the Father leads us.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect that God will bless us and keep us in God's hands.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we make travel plans only by following the destination, itinerary and goals of God.**

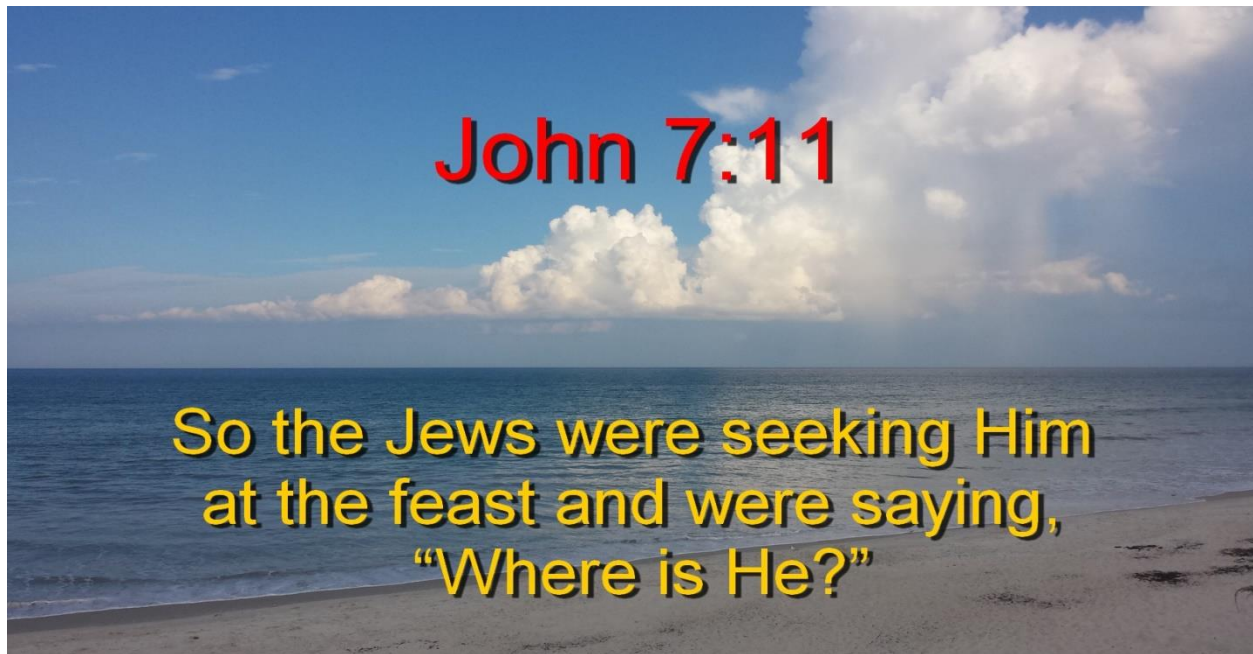
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by following God's itinerary and God's ways for moving us from one place to another. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by believing that sometimes a little secrecy helps?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Ninety Four

Seeking Him Today



Why do people seek Jesus? People seek Jesus for a wide variety of reasons.

The Jews in Jerusalem were seeking to kill Jesus. They knew that all Jews had to come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast. Therefore, they knew Jesus would come, but they had to find Him. The Jews began saying: Where is He?

Not everyone seeks Jesus because they want to follow Him. Some people seek Jesus for good motives and others for very bad motives. Jesus always knows the difference because He sees the heart.

The devil schemes to harm believers. The Jews were seeking to kill Jesus when He returned to Jerusalem. Notice they had a coordinated attack upon Jesus. Even so, we know Jesus returned to Jerusalem.

Seeking Him

1. **Went.** Jesus went up to Jerusalem in secret to celebrate the Feast.
2. **Mandatory.** The Jews there had been seeking to kill Jesus. Because Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament Law, He attended the mandatory Feasts.
3. **Feast.** While Jesus was in Galilee, the Jews in Judea had not forgotten Him. They knew under the Old Testament Law that Jesus had to come to Jerusalem for the Feast.
4. **Seeking.** Throughout the Gospels, many kinds of people were seeking Jesus. They were rich and poor, healthy and sick, believers and unbelievers, Greeks, Romans, soldiers, civilians, rulers, servants, men and women.
5. **Because.** Those people were seeking Jesus because of His amazing teaching, His miracles, and because He had the words of eternal life.
6. **Savior.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we found Jesus and He found us. We no longer seek a Savior, because we have Jesus as Lord and Savior for all eternity and He has us.
7. **Ministry.** We rejoice today because people still seek Jesus, and He has entrusted to us the ministry of sharing with seekers our faith in Jesus our Savior and making disciples for Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding the schemes of the devil.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we follow God's plans for our lives, and fear only God.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in Christ to overcome the world by our faith.**

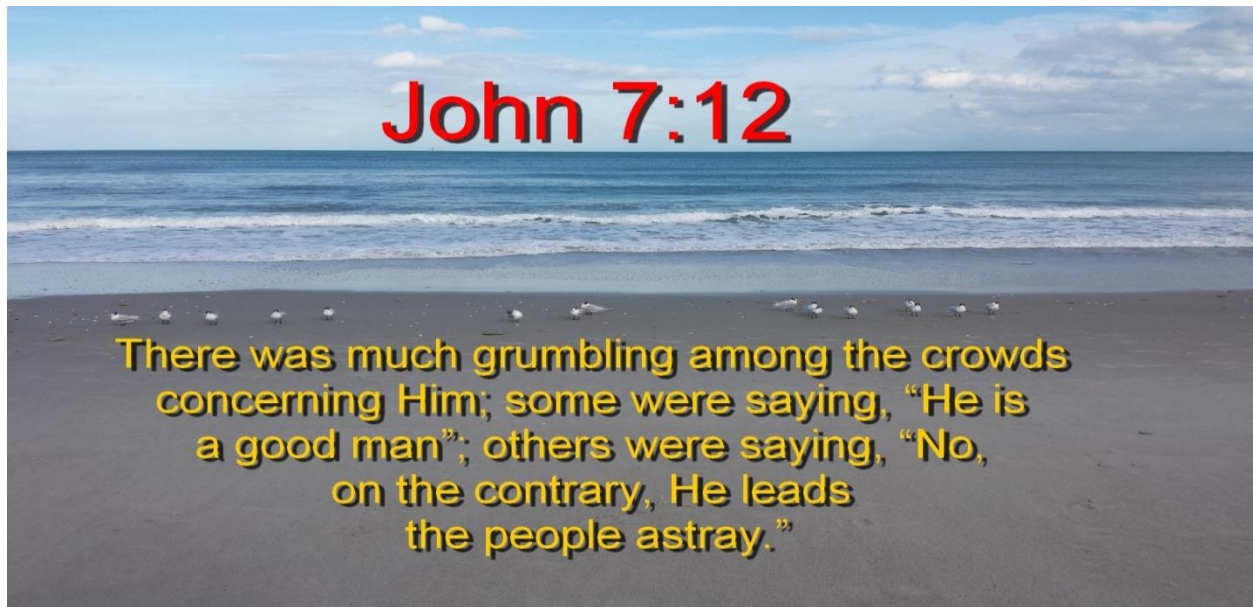
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by following Jesus, because greater is He Who is in us than he who is in the world. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting the infinite power of Jesus to overcome all opposition?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Ninety Five

He Is a Good Man Today



How were the crowds divided? Jesus frequently divided people into groups. One group thought Jesus was a good man and the other group thought He led people astray.

Jesus did not draw just a crowd, He drew crowds of people. The crowds were divided in their opinions about Jesus. Even today, Jesus still draws crowds and people in the crowds grumble.

Many people do not realize the opinion they have about Jesus will reflect their eternal destination. So, spiritually, people have far more than an opinion about Jesus. They are holding their eternal futures in their hearts. Jesus taught repeatedly that He alone was the way to heaven. If people reject Him, they reject God the Father who sent Jesus. What you believe about Jesus has eternal consequences.

He Leads the People Astray

1. **Crowds.** Notice the words "crowds." Plural. More than one crowd was in Jerusalem for the Feast.
2. **Grumbled.** Among the crowds people grumbled about Jesus, just like disciples grumbled over His sermon in Galilee about the Bread of Life.
3. **Good.** Some people said Jesus was a good man; you may recall Jesus saying that only God is good. Jesus is God, and always has been and always will be.
4. **Disagreed.** Other people disagreed and said that Jesus led people astray. Jesus led people to salvation by faith in Him, the Messiah.
5. **Divided.** Jesus divided groups then and also today. Some people see Jesus as Savior, the God-Man Who took flesh and dwelt among us.
6. **Expect.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect Jesus to divide the crowds. Some people trust Him and love Him, while others grumble against Him and claim He leads people astray.
7. **Guardian.** We rejoice today because Jesus the God-Man, is truly good. By faith, He leads us daily as the Shepherd and Guardian of our souls.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that crowds will grumble about Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that the words of Jesus divide people.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to stand up for Jesus and proclaim His words to ears already grumbling about Him.**

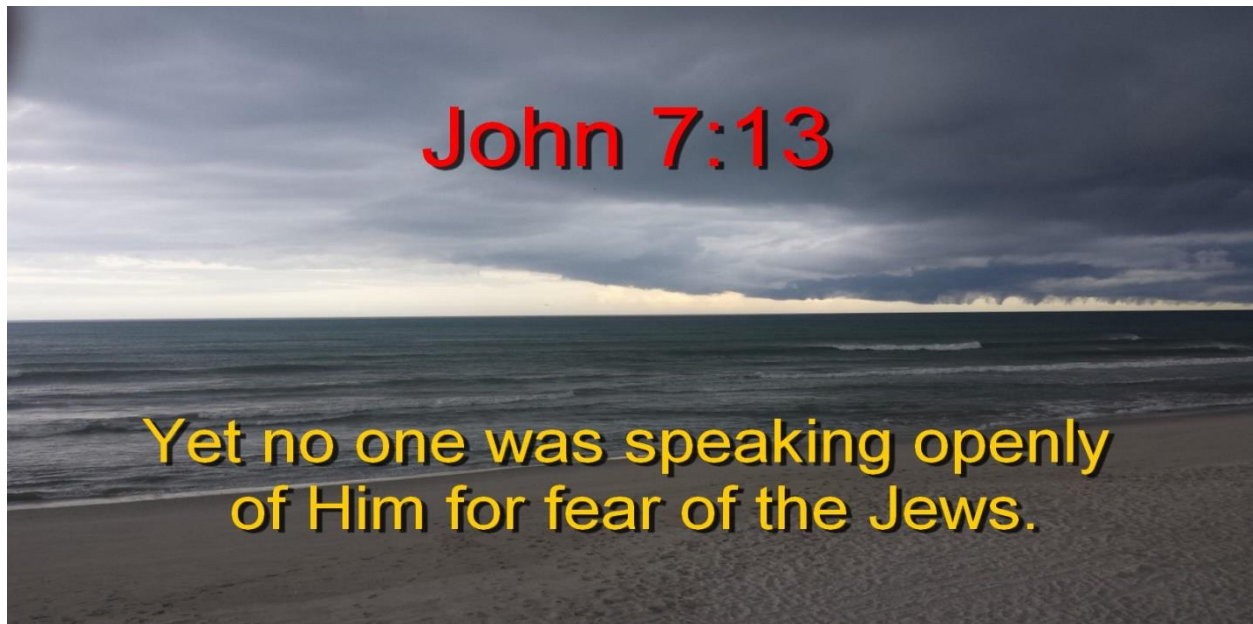
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by being prepared knowing Jesus will divide crowds today just He divided crowds previously. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by glorifying God even when others oppose Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Ninety Six

Speaking Openly Today



Were people speaking openly of Jesus? People in Jerusalem were not speaking openly for fear of the Jews.

Jesus knew when He went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast that the Jews there sought to kill Him. They were enraged with Jesus because He healed on the Sabbath and made Himself equal to God the Father by calling Himself the Son of God.

Jesus always followed His Father's plans for His life. Jesus had planned all along to go to every required Feast in Jerusalem, meaning He had to be there three times per year. The Feasts were established to commemorate the works of God and His grace, blessing and deliverance. Jesus was the author of those Feasts. Of course, Jesus wanted to be there with His people.

Speaking Openly

1. **Equal.** The Jews in Judea were seeking to kill Jesus because He healed on the Sabbath and called God His Father, making Himself equal to God.
2. **Feast.** Jesus went up to the Feast in Jerusalem as if in secret.
3. **Grumbling.** The crowds there were grumbling about Jesus, but they were not speaking openly about Jesus for fear of the Jews.
4. **Hinder.** In our lives, fear can hinder us in many ways. For the crowds, their fear of the Jews prevented them from speaking publicly about Jesus.
5. **Silencing.** Into this oppressive environment of silencing fear, Jesus came into Jerusalem, and He had no fear and no intention to remain silent and hidden.
6. **Fear.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we understand how the enemies of Jesus use fear to silence people and keep them from talking openly about Jesus.
7. **Only God.** We rejoice today because Jesus commanded us to have no fear of the ones who can kill the body, but have no further power; instead, Jesus said to fear only God, because He has the power to kill the body and then to cast into hell. Yes, fear Him. By faith, the truths Jesus preached ends our fear of hell, but deepens our reverential fear of the living God, who loves us always.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that the opposition to Jesus will always try to silence believers.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by continuing to speak about Jesus, even if people try to stop us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we overcome fear by trusting Jesus to overcome the opposition.**

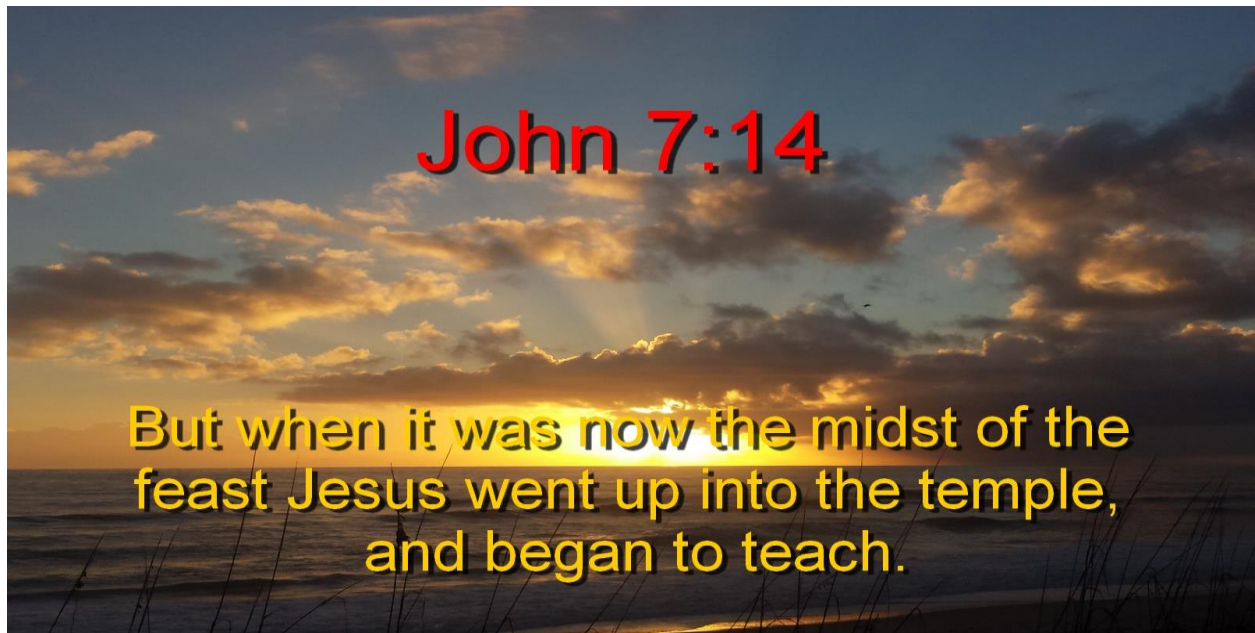
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by not allowing anyone to use fear to silence us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and speak for Jesus without fear?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Ninety Seven

Into the Temple Today



What did Jesus do during the middle of the Feast? Jesus went up into the temple to teach.

Jesus fully comprehended the dangers of going into the temple. Jesus did not come to earth to hide from opponents, but to give His soul a ransom for many. Jesus considered teaching the people to be very important.

Jesus had a practice of teaching in the temple. He loved people and loved for them to hear the word of God. Jesus spoke every word the Father gave to Him. He taught with authority and people marveled over His teaching.

Jesus taught the people about God and His great love for them. He also warned the people about the dangers of rejecting Him as Savior. When people claimed to know God, but rejected Jesus, then Jesus told them they never knew God. Jesus frequently divided people with His words and actions.

Up to the Temple

1. **Mission.** As the Jews were seeking to kill Jesus, He fearlessly went about His Father's mission for Him.

2. **Fears.** Jesus did not overcome His fears; He had no fears. He trusted in His Father and His plans.

3. **Knew.** Jesus knew that He would be betrayed, arrested, tried and convicted by evil men, but His hour had not yet come.

4. **Taught.** Jesus went up to the temple and began to teach. Even when the Jews were seeking to put Him to death, He taught the words of eternal life in the temple of God.

5. **Temple.** You may recall that Solomon constructed the first temple in Jerusalem. Solomon dedicated that temple with a keen understanding that no earthly temple could contain God; instead, the temple served as the place on earth where God put His name, to listen to the prayers which His servants prayed toward the temple.

6. **Prayers.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus stood in the place on earth where God put His name, the temple, so people had a place to direct their prayers. In the hanging silence of fear, Jesus broke that silence by teaching in the place where God put His name.

7. **Power.** We rejoice today because Jesus understands our every fear, but gives us His power to cast out fear by relying upon His love for us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by following Jesus into every place that He leads us to speak for Him.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that speaking for Jesus means we go into places where not everyone will welcome us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we encourage each other to face opposition by standing behind Jesus.**

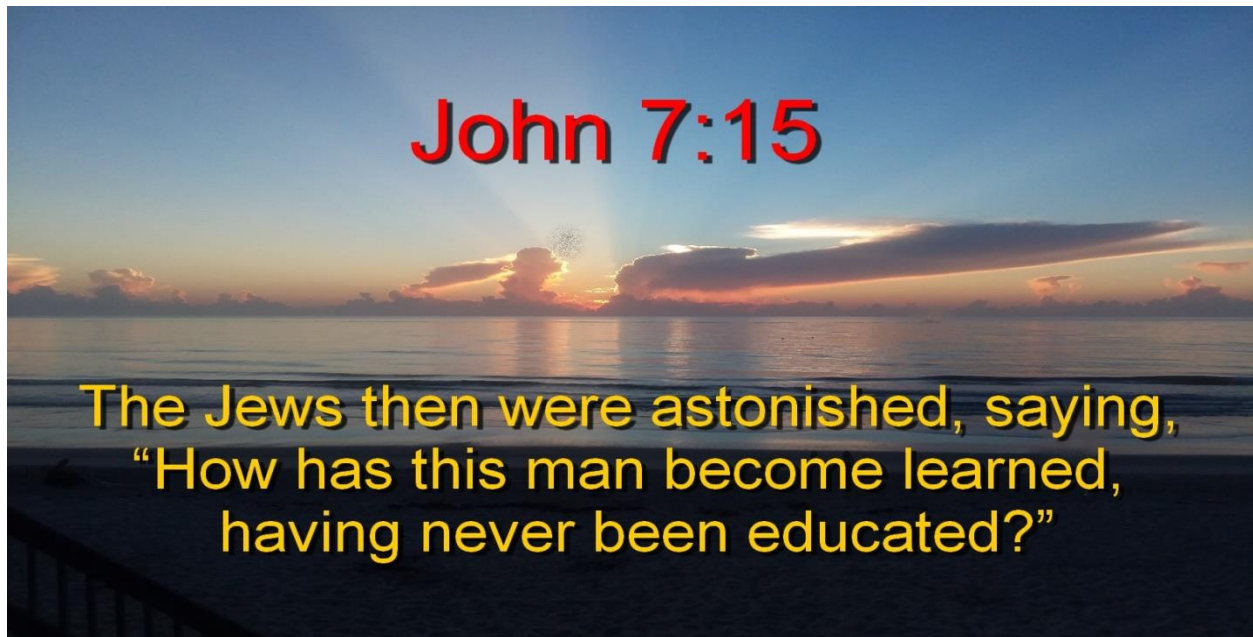
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by going everywhere Jesus takes us to speak for Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by speaking for Jesus everywhere He leads you?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Ninety Eight

Astonished Today



Why were the Jews astonished? The Jews were astonished because Jesus had become learned, but he was never educated.

Jesus wrote the Bible. He knew all things. His Father gave Him the words to speak and the works to do. Jesus was God in the flesh. At times, Jesus limited the independent exercise of His divine attributes.

Jesus taught things that no one else taught. He taught them in a way that astonished people. Jesus explained the Old Testament as the original author of the Old Testament. Jesus taught with complete authority.

Jesus taught things people needed to hear. He taught spiritual matters that concerned eternity. He was talking about matters of eternal life and eternal death. Jesus showed people that He was God in the flesh, the Savior of the world, the Messiah, and the Son of God.

Never Been Educated

1. **Openly.** Although the Jews were seeking to kill Jesus, He was openly teaching in the temple.

2. **Astonished.** Jesus astonished people with His teaching. He did not teach the traditions of men, but He preached the Scriptures in the power of the Holy Spirit. He also spoke the revelation of God for His audience in the temple and for us today.

3. **Comprehensive.** Jesus never attended Bible college or seminary. Yet, He wrote the finest and most comprehensive guide to life and Godliness ever produced: the Bible.

4. **Theology.** Jesus did not learn deep theology; He was deep theology as God in the flesh.

5. **Author.** Jesus knew all things. The Law, the prophets and the writings of the Old Testament all testified of Jesus. He spoke with the power of God and the authority of the original author of the Bible.

6. **Teacher.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we learn from Jesus, the most astonishing Teacher who ever taught.

7. **Truths.** We rejoice today because Jesus not only wrote His word in the Bible, but He also wrote His truths in our hearts.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting people to be astonished when they listen to Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we share the words of Jesus with people eager to hear them.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in listening to Jesus teach us astonishing truths as we read the Bible together.**

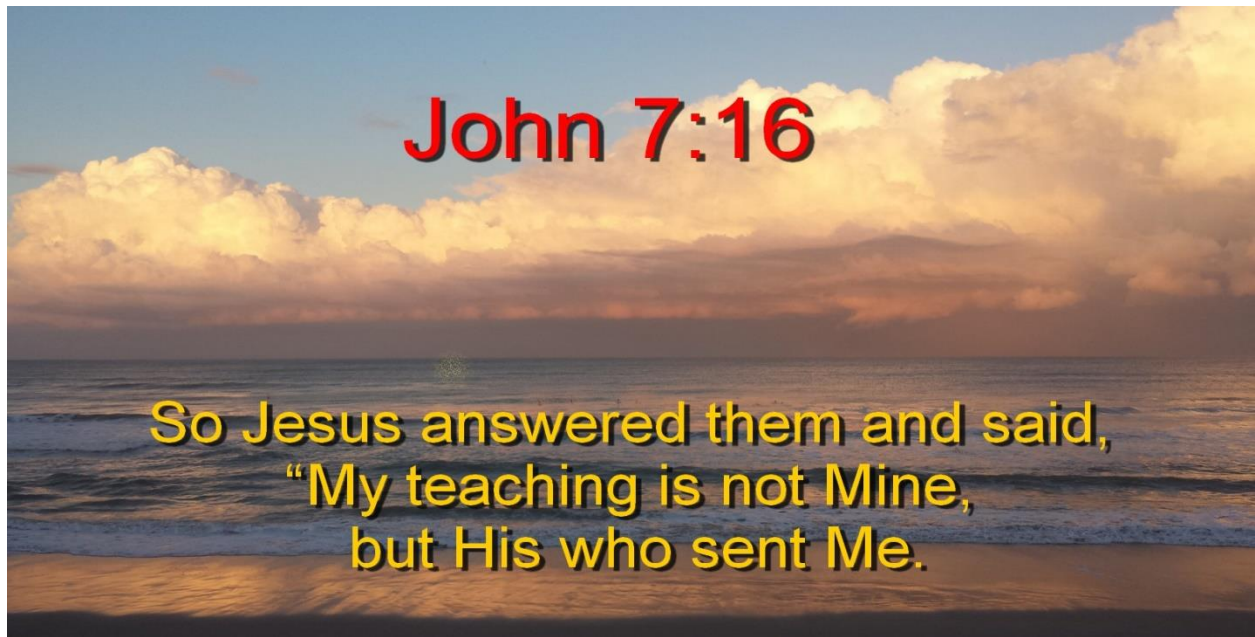
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting to learn astonishing things from Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by listening carefully to Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Two Hundred Ninety Nine

My Teaching Today



Where did Jesus get His astonishing teaching? Jesus said that His teaching was not His own, but His Who sent Him.

Jesus consistently testified that His Father sanctified Jesus and sent Him to earth. Jesus brought the Father's love, words, and works. Jesus displayed the Father for all to see in the person and works of Jesus. Seeing Jesus was like seeing the Father.

Jesus emphasized that His teaching was not His own. People may have thought they were arguing with Jesus, but they were actually arguing with Jesus and God the Father. When Jesus taught, He taught the things given to Him by the Father. Jesus perfectly communicated the words of God the Father to the people.

Not Mine

1. **Flesh.** Jesus disclosed that His astonishing teaching was not His own. His teaching came from His Father, who sent Jesus to take flesh on earth.

2. **Revelation.** Jesus revealed many aspects of His relationship with the Father. Here Jesus continued the revelation concerning His works.

3. **Father.** Jesus did the things His Father does. Jesus said things His Father said.

4. **Sent.** Jesus did not take flesh on His own initiative; His Father sent Him.

5. **They Denied.** The Jews denied that God the Father sent God the Son into the world. They never knew God the Father and so denied Jesus, God the Son.

6. **We Believed.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we have believed the teaching of God the Father, who sent Jesus, His divine Son, to preach in the temple and to lay down His life and take it up again.

7. **Justification.** We rejoice today because Jesus came from heaven to take flesh, deliver astonishing teaching, heal many sick, cast out demons, make disciples, give His life a ransom for many, and to be raised for our justification.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that the teachings of Jesus were actually the teachings of His Father.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we proclaim that Jesus taught the astonishing words of God the Father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping God the Father for giving God the Son the very words of eternal life that saved us.**

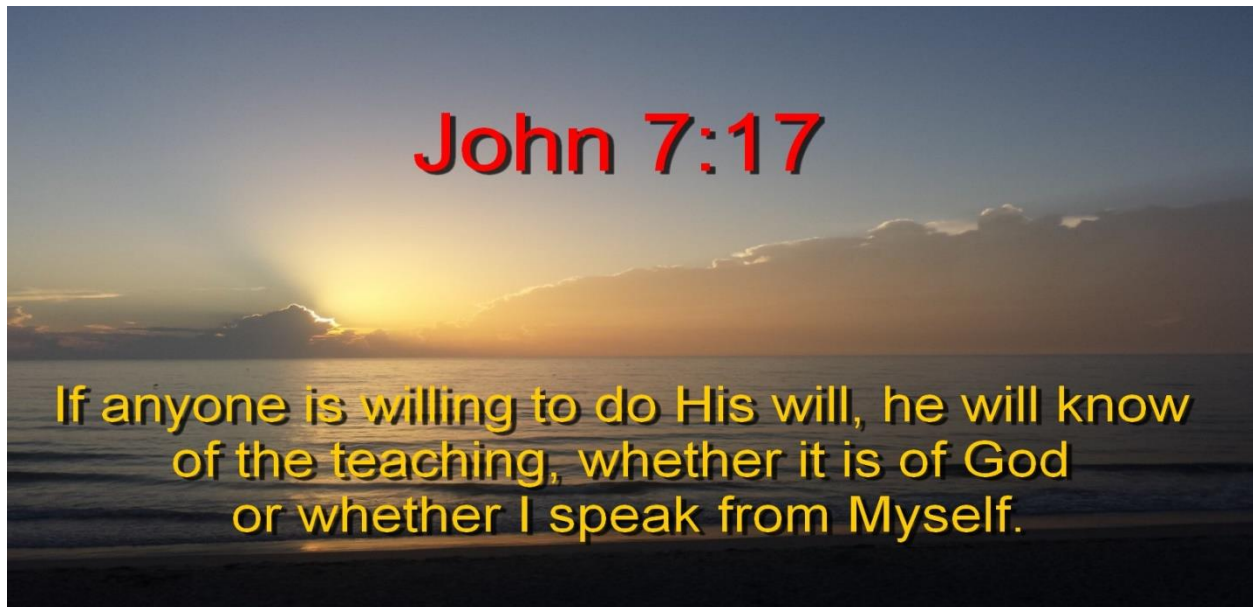
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by loving Jesus for teaching us the astonishing truths He received from His Father. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by living in the teachings of God the Father communicated through Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred

Do His Will Today



How can people know if the teaching of Jesus was from God or from Himself? Jesus said people would know if the teaching was from God if they are willing to do the will of God.

Jesus revealed that your willingness to the will of God affects your ability to know if the teaching of Jesus was from God. Jesus conveyed the same thoughts by saying that people who knew God the Father would know Jesus. Likewise, people who loved God the Father would also love Jesus His Son.

Jesus taught astonishing spiritual truths that only people born of the Spirit could understand. Without the Spirit, spiritual truth remains beyond the grasp of unbelievers. Jesus pointed out that only the people who are willing to do the will of God can understand that God gave Jesus the teaching.

He Will Know

1. **Rejected.** Jesus astonished the crowds with His teaching. Many of them rejected Jesus.

2. **Teaching.** Jesus revealed that if anyone was willing to do the will of God, then they would know if the teaching was truly from God.

3. **Willing.** Please notice the "will" here. In order to know the teaching, you must be willing to do God's will.

4. **Unwilling.** If you are unwilling in your heart to do what God wants you to do, then you will never know if Jesus spoke the words of God.

5. **Never Know.** Some people harden their hearts against God and refuse to do His will. When they hear the teachings of Jesus, they may be astonished, but unless they turn to God and become willing to do God's will, they will never know that Jesus was speaking salvation to them.

6. **We Know.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we are willing to do the will of God each day. Therefore, we know Jesus spoke the words of God. At times, His teaching astonished everyone.

7. **Received.** We rejoice today because we have received the free gift of salvation. By faith, we know Jesus taught the words of eternal life, given to Him by His Father.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by being willing to do the will of God.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by doing the will of God and knowing the teaching of Jesus was from God the Father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by joining together to do the will of God and so learn together the teaching of the Father delivered by Jesus.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by doing the will of God. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by doing the will of God and knowing that the teaching of Jesus was from God the Father?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred One

His Own Glory



John 7:18

He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who is seeking the glory of the One who sent Him, He is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

Who is true? Jesus said that He who seeks the glory of the One Who sent Him is true and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

Jesus explained that people who were willing to do the will of God would know that Jesus was telling the truth. Jesus further explained that He is true, because He did not seek His own glory.

People who speak from themselves seek their own glory. Today we hear many people build ministries that exalt themselves more than they exalt God. The preach messages built upon their own ideas, often distorting the truths taught by Jesus.

He Is True

1. **Glory.** Are you seeking glory today? Jesus instructed everyone about seeking glory.
2. **Themselves.** Some people seek their own glory. You can identify them by what they talk about. They talk from themselves.
3. **God.** Other people seek the glory of God. Jesus did not speak from Himself; He spoke the words of God the Father Who sent Him.
4. **Sent.** We should be more like Jesus each day. We should speak less from ourselves, and more of the words of God, who sent us into the world, just like God the Father sent Jesus.
5. **True.** Jesus is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him. He lives as the perfect Savior, always being true in all He says and does.
6. **Listened.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we listened to Jesus when He spoke the truth from God to us. We heard the truth and believed the truth.
7. **Righteousness.** We rejoice today because Jesus lives eternally in righteousness. In Him, by faith alone, we have become the righteousness of God in Christ.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by listening to Jesus, because He is true.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we understand that some people speak from themselves, while claiming they are speaking from God.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we focus upon Jesus and His words, because He did not speak from Himself and He did not seek His own glory.**

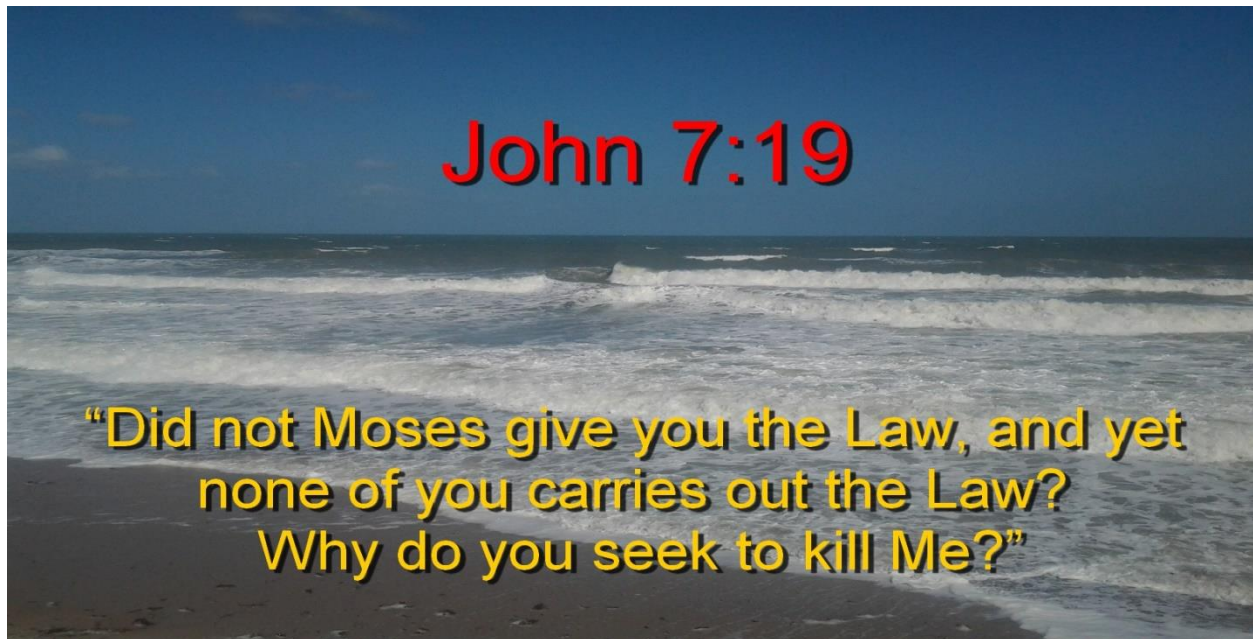
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by seeking the glory of God, not our own glory. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by speaking the things of God to other people?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Two

The Law



Did the Jews seeking to kill Jesus keep the Law of Moses? None of the people seeking to kill Jesus carried out the Law.

Jesus asked the most piercing questions. Jesus drove straight to the heart by exposing the hypocrisy of His accusers. They did not keep the Law, but claimed to be judges of the Law.

If they were as guilty of breaking the Law of Moses as they claimed Jesus was guilty, then why did they pass judgment upon Jesus and not themselves? Of course, Jesus was not guilty of breaking the Law, because Jesus gave the Law to Moses. Jesus fulfilled the Law Himself and fulfilled the requirements of the Law for us. Moses received the Law by direct revelation from God. Then Moses presented that Law to the people of Israel.

Kill Me

1. **Confronted.** Jesus had no fear of His enemies. He confronted them face to face and questioned their motives.

2. **Law.** Jesus turned His enemies' attention to Moses. They sought to establish their own righteousness by keeping the Law given by Moses.

3. **Kept.** Jesus exposed the lies of the people seeking to kill Him. They did not keep the Law, but Jesus kept the Law and fulfilled the requirements of the Law for us.

4. **Broke.** Jesus also confronted His enemies' desire to kill Him. If they claimed He broke the Law and so deserved death, they were guilty, because they broke the Law.

5. **Faith.** Jesus presented salvation by showing people how sinful they were. He preached faith in Him, not works by them.

6. **Love.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we love Jesus and praise Him for His fearless love. He preached salvation to His enemies seeking to kill Him.

7. **Triumphed.** We rejoice today because Jesus not only confronted His enemies in fearless love, He triumphed over them. Some of His enemies, like us, heard His Gospel and believed, becoming friends of Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus always probes the motives of His opponents.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God when we do not sit in judgment on God's word, but let the Word of God sit in judgment upon us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by knowing that we have passed out of judgment into eternal life.**

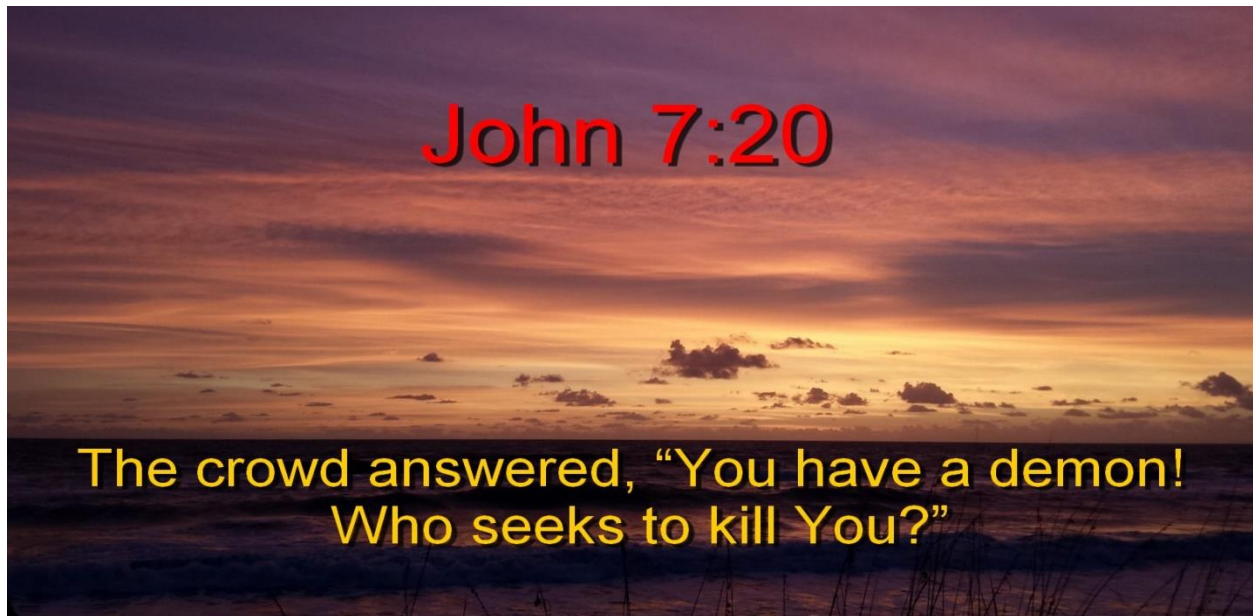
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that unbelievers will always sit in judgment upon God and His children. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by living without fear of condemnation by unbelievers?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Three

Kill You Today



Who seeks to kill You? The crowd demanded to know why Jesus thought they were out to kill Him.

The crowd first asked why Jesus thought anyone was seeking to kill Him. They even claimed that He had a demon. Anytime people ascribe demonic activity to Jesus, we know that those people never knew God.

Jesus never serves demons. He casts out demons and destroys the work of the devil. When the crowd answered that with a question about who sought to kill Jesus, the crowd overlooked (perhaps intentionally) their previous determination to kill Jesus because He healed Pallet Man on the Sabbath and also made Himself equal to God.

Not only did the Jews seek to kill Jesus, they also lied about their motives and actions when it suited them. The devil is the father of lies and the truth is not in him. Likewise, the truth is not in his followers, which include everyone opposed to Jesus.

You Have a Demon

1. **Crowd.** Jesus confronted the crowd, saying: (a) they did not keep the Law of Moses; and (2) they sought to kill Jesus.

2. **Challenged.** One person in the crowd challenged Jesus in two ways. He said to Jesus: (a) you have a demon; and (b) who seeks to kill you?

3. **Impudence.** Challenging Jesus or anything He said means you are challenging God. Human impudence knows no bounds.

4. **Blasphemy.** Attributing the work of Jesus to the devil and his demons amounts to blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. Telling Jesus He has a demon amounts to blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.

5. **Lies.** The man also implied that Jesus was lying about these people wanting to kill Him. The man lied, not Jesus. The Jews were seeking to kill Jesus. The devil is the father of lies and liars.

6. **Accused.** Living Godly in the family of God means that people falsely accused Jesus of many evil things and lied to His face. If they did those things to Jesus the Master and Lord, what will they say to us, His slaves?

7. **Reproaches.** We rejoice today because the reproaches that fell upon Christ fell upon us too, as we live in Him. We rejoice because our reward in heaven is great.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus suffered many reproaches from many people.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God when we expect people not to treat us better than they treated Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus because He went to Jerusalem at just the right time to teach openly in the temple and talk with this crowd.**

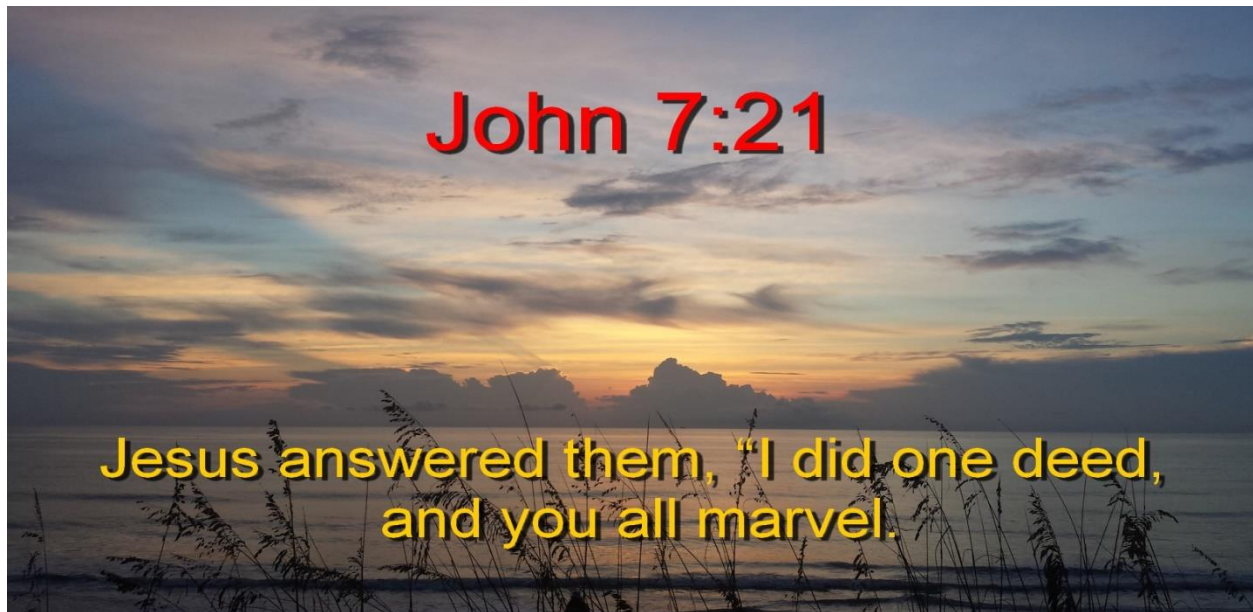
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we expect that crowds will accuse us of all kinds of things as we speak up for Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by expecting that your opponents will rise up against you when you speak up for Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Four

You All Marvel Today



Why did the crowd marvel? The crowd marveled because Jesus did one deed.

Jesus healed Pallet Man on the Sabbath and told him to pick up his pallet and walk. Jesus also fed the five thousand men in Galilee. This crowd remembered Jesus for telling Pallet Man to pick up his pallet on the Sabbath. Jesus also claimed to be the Son of God. The Jews in the crowd hated Jesus and sought to kill Him because they thought He broke the Sabbath and made Himself equal to God by calling Himself the Son of God.

The crowd marveled over the deed He did, but they did not believe in Him for salvation. Jesus did not come to earth just to work signs, but to offer Himself as the perfect sacrifice for sin. Jesus brought the words and works of His Father to earth, demonstrating the great love of God for the world which rejected Him.

One Deed

1. **Leaders.** Earlier, Jesus had healed a lame man and commanded him to pick up his pallet and walk. The Jewish leaders claimed Jesus broke the Law of the Sabbath by ordering the man to carry his pallet. Jesus told them that God was His Father and they called Jesus a blasphemer for making Himself equal with God. Therefore, those Jewish leaders were seeking to kill Jesus the Jew.

2. **Demon.** The Jews had just said that Jesus had a demon because He said they were seeking to kill Him.

3. **Deed.** Jesus stated that He had done one deed. That deed was likely healing Pallet Man. He could have been referring too to His astonishing teaching that He was the Son of God, living in human flesh, sent by God His Father.

4. **Supernatural.** Jesus frequently interacted with all kinds of people. Many people mocked Him and others rejected everything about Him. Yet, Jesus kept preaching, teaching, and doing many supernatural things.

5. **Attention.** Jesus noted that the people all marveled over His one deed. Jesus not only captured their attention, but He also caused them to marvel. Instead of bowing and believing, these Jews said Jesus had a demon.

6. **Marvel.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we have seen things that cause us to marvel at His deeds.

7. **Called.** We rejoice today because Jesus loves us and called us into His marvelous light, to proclaim the excellencies of His name.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting people to marvel over the works of Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we learn more about the many works of Jesus recorded in the Bible.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we expect Jesus to work His good pleasure in our lives every day.**

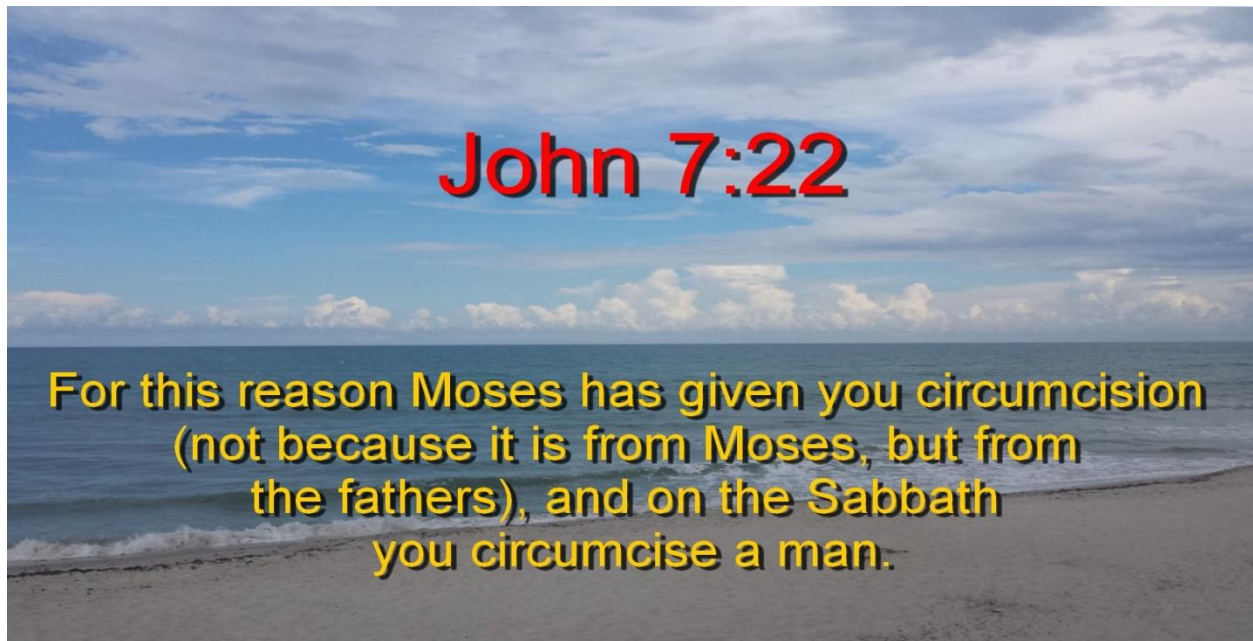
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we look forward to Jesus working among us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by watching Jesus demonstrate the love of God in our lives?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Five

Circumcise Today



When did the Jews circumcise a man? According to the Law of Moses, they circumcised men on the eighth day, even if it was a Sabbath.

Moses wrote in the Book of Leviticus that every male child must be circumcised on the eighth day. So, Jesus was showing that the Law of Moses compelled Jews to circumcise on the eighth day, even if it was a Sabbath.

Jesus also reminded them that Moses did not give them circumcision, but the fathers gave them circumcision. Abraham was first circumcised, after he had believed God for righteousness. The circumcision was an outward sign of the covenant from God, but that covenant included faith in God as Savior. Abraham looked forward to the day of Jesus the Messiah, and Abraham saw it and was glad.

Circumcision

1. **Thought.** You may recall Jesus healed a man on the Sabbath and the Jews were seeking to kill Him because they thought He was breaking the Sabbath.
2. **Sabbath.** Jesus draws their attention to circumcision. They cut and removed flesh on the Sabbath.
3. **Circumcision.** Long before Moses taught circumcision, Abraham was circumcised. His son and grandson were also circumcised, as a sign of the covenant with God.
4. **Faith Alone.** Circumcision never saved anyone. Abraham was saved by faith alone.
5. **Proved.** Jesus frequently proved that the Scriptures supported His actions and He never broke the Law.
6. **Fulfilled.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus fulfilled the requirements of the Law for us and it passed away.
7. **Blameless.** We rejoice today because in Jesus we became the righteousness of God: holy and blameless before God.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by looking back at the faith of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by recognizing that Jesus required circumcision on the eighth day, even if it was the Sabbath.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by rejoicing in Jesus who gave the Jews a sign of the covenant, but by faith in Jesus we share in the promises given to Abraham.**

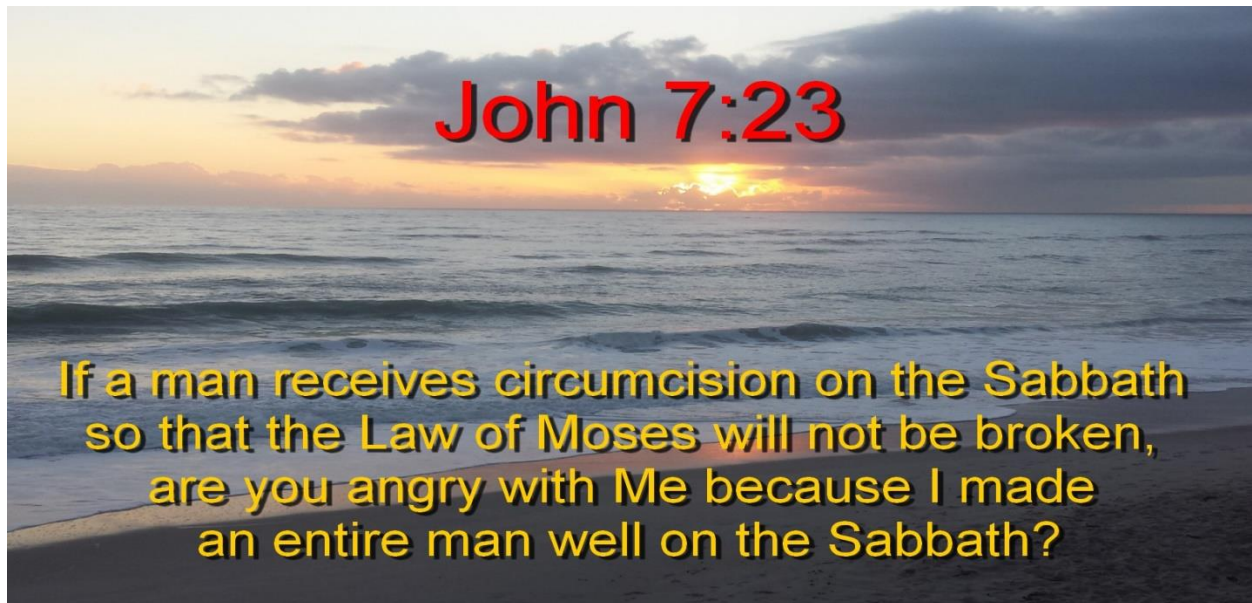
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus worked on the Sabbath, just like His Father. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by doing the will of God each day of the week?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Six

Circumcision Today



Why were the Jews angry with Jesus? The Jews were angry with Jesus because they claim that Jesus broke the Sabbath.

Jesus used questions to stop arguments. Jesus cited the Law of Moses to show that males were circumcised on the Sabbath. Jesus then proved that people should not be angry with Him for making an entire man well on the Sabbath.

People were not rational about their anger. They were angry (or bitter) with Jesus without a cause. In this case people were circumcised on the Sabbath. So, if Jesus made an entire man well on the Sabbath, how could they be bitter towards Jesus?

Put another way, Jesus showed people that they circumcised young males on the Sabbath to keep from breaking the Law of Moses. The Law of Circumcision required the child to be circumcised on the eighth day, even if was a Sabbath. Therefore, Jesus proved that cutting skin on the Sabbath

was completely acceptable, so it should be completely acceptable to make an entire man well on the Sabbath.

Entire Man

1. **People.** Jesus made people angry at times and did not apologize for doing so.

2. **Sabbath.** This group of Jews became angry because Jesus healed Pallet Man on the Sabbath.

3. **Violated.** These Jews mistakenly believed He had violated the Sabbath.

4. **Analogy.** Jesus used perfect analogies to prove His points of truth. He always spoke the truth. Jesus likened circumcision on the Sabbath to healing Pallet Man on the Sabbath. Neither broke the Law.

5. **Blinds.** Jesus paid close attention to the emotions and reasonings of His opponents. The anger (or bitterness) here in the Jews did nothing to improve their grasp of the Law or their perception of Jesus. Anger often blinds the unrighteous.

6. **Love.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we must never get angry with God, because He always does the best thing for us in perfect love.

7. **Faithful.** We rejoice today because Jesus understands our emotions and never does anything wrong, even when we get angry with God for no good reason. He remains faithful in His love always.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that people will be very bitter about the things Jesus does to help people.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we take time to explain why Jesus never broke the Law of Moses.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together to learn from Jesus how to handle attacks from the crowd.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by taking time with people to explain that Jesus healed entire people. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by explaining to people why Jesus fulfilled the Law of Moses for us?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Seven

Appearance Today



How should people judge what others say? People should judge with righteous judgment.

Jesus explained that people should never judge by appearance. In this case, the Jews judged Him for healing an entire man on the Sabbath. They were judging by appearance because it was the Sabbath when Jesus healed the man. As part of that healing, Jesus told Pallet Man to pick up his pallet and go home.

Jesus taught that people should judge the actions of others according to righteous judgment. Jesus did not come to judge people for salvation, but He understood that people render all kinds of judgment each day. Jesus set righteousness as the standard for judgment. Only God is righteous in Himself, so God alone sets the standard for all judgments. We should avoid using our own standards or judging by appearance. What God has not condemned in the Bible we should not condemn. What God has judged in the Bible as sin, we should accept that judgment as righteous.

Judge

1. **People.** How many times have you heard people say: Do not judge? They think they are following the teachings of Jesus.

2. **Judge.** In our verse today, Jesus commanded people to judge.

3. **Faulty.** Jesus told them not judge by appearance. Here, some people said He broke the Sabbath by healing Pallet Man. Jesus said they judged by appearance. They leaped to a faulty conclusion.

4. **Righteous.** Jesus commanded people to judge with righteous judgment. We follow God's judgments, not our own sense of right and wrong.

5. **God's Judgements.** Righteous judgment means you study the Bible to learn God's judgments. Jesus used circumcision to prove He was right.

6. **Rely.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we avoid making judgments by appearance, but instead we rely upon the Bible to make righteous judgments.

7. **Commanded.** We rejoice today because Jesus has already rendered His judgment concerning many things. He commanded us to judge with His judgment, always righteous.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by not judging by appearance.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by judging with righteous judgment.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we do not pass judgment upon one another's opinions, but we do test the spirits and examine everything carefully.**

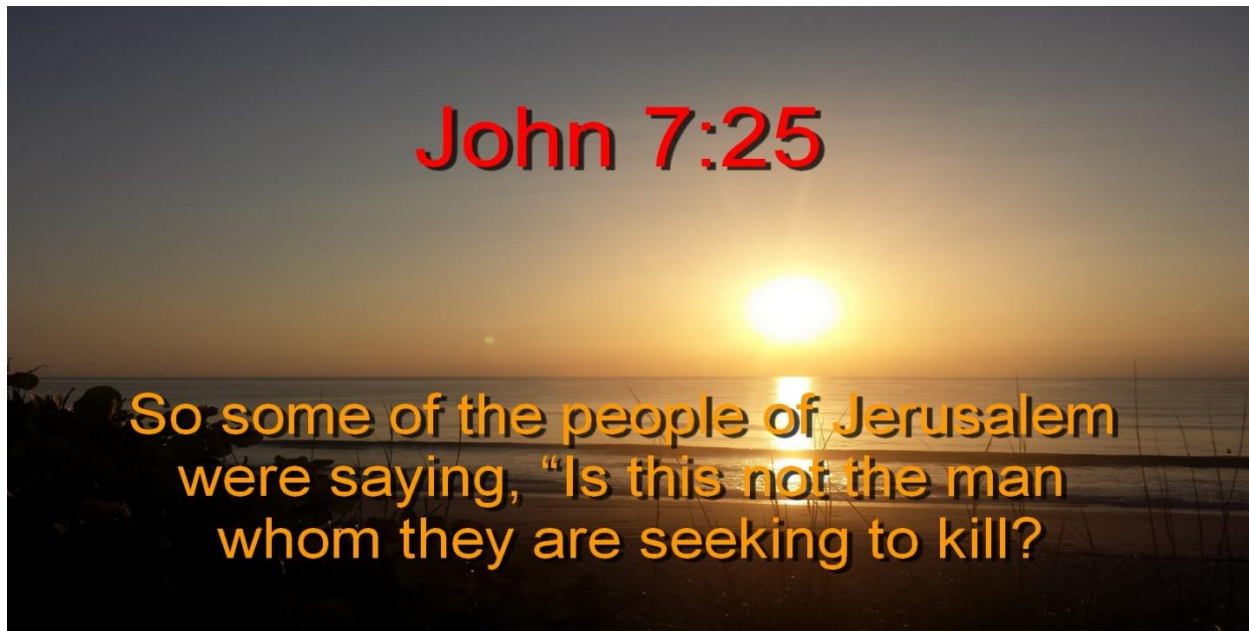
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by applying the righteous judgment of God to things around us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and avoid judging by appearance?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eight

The Man Today



Why were some people asking if Jesus was the man they were seeking to kill? Jesus had given them a great answer about why He healed an entire man on the Sabbath and told him to pick up his pallet.

Some people in the crowd understand that other people can be very deceptive and two-faced. At first some people were denying that anyone was trying to kill Jesus and accused Him of having a demon for saying such a thing.

Having denied that anyone was trying to Jesus, they soon heard from Jesus a teaching about circumcision on the Sabbath as a perfect example of the need to take action on the eighth day after birth, even if that day fell on a Sabbath. Jesus proved that people were trying to kill Him without cause. Some people in the crowd understood that Jesus had given a great explanation of why He healed on the Sabbath.

Seeking To Kill

1. **Questioned.** The crowd opposing Jesus just questioned whether anyone was seeking to kill Jesus.

2. **Different.** Now some people asked a different question: "Is not this the man whom they were seeking to kill?" This question expects a "Yes" answer. Jesus is that man.

3. **Boldly.** Jesus boldly approached each moment in life without fear. He taught in the temple publicly and openly.

4. **Liars.** Liars lie about many things. Consider the opponent's claim that no one was seeking to kill Jesus. They lied and knew they were not asking a truthful question.

5. **Opponents.** Something else was at work here. Apparently, His opponents did not want to admit the truth publicly or do anything to agree with Jesus.

6. **Ways.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we love Jesus and the ways He put Himself out there for sinners like us.

7. **Humble.** We rejoice today because Jesus gave His life for ours on the cross. Indeed, each day of His life in the flesh He humbled Himself and did His Father's will because God loved us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that some people will lie about their motives for hating Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect that evil people will tell lies about their lies.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we join together in telling the truth about Jesus.**

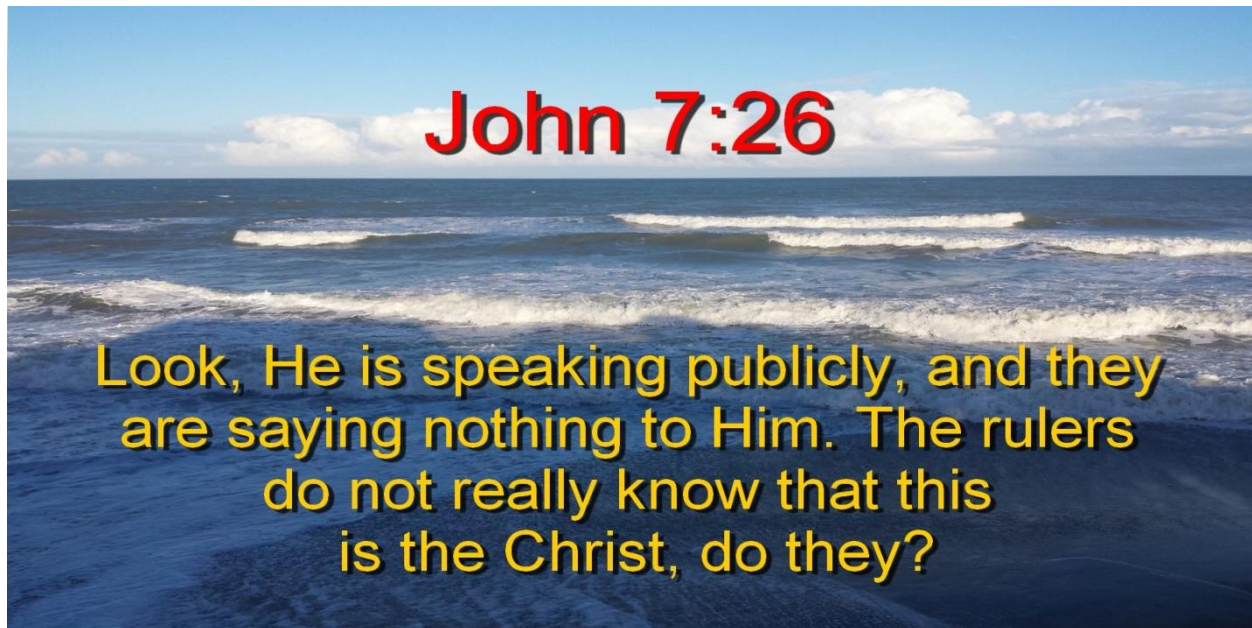
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by telling the truth about Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today and tell the truth about Jesus when other people are lying about Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Nine

Publicly Today



Why were people looking at Jesus? They were looking at Jesus because He was speaking in public.

Some people were amazed that the rulers were saying nothing to Jesus. He was speaking in the temple where everyone could hear Him and see Him. Some people already knew that the Jews were seeking to kill Jesus because they claimed He broke the Sabbath and also made Himself equal to God.

Even so, Jesus was back in the temple teaching the crowds listening to Him. He astonished people with His teaching and also performed miracles where everyone could see them. Pallet Man was living proof of the power of Jesus to heal people.

Rulers

1. **Publicly**. Jesus spoke publicly while teaching in the temple.
2. **Kill**. Jesus knew before He came to Jerusalem for the feast that the Jews there were seeking to kill Him.
3. **Nothing**. Even as Jesus was teaching openly in the temple, the rulers were saying nothing to Jesus.
4. **Rulers**. Rulers rule at the discretion of the people, to some degree. If they are not military rulers, then they have to be careful not to offend large crowds.
5. **Know**. Some people questioned if the rulers really knew that Jesus is the Christ.
6. **Christ**. Living Godly in the family of God means that some people will wonder why the religious leaders do not know that Jesus is the Christ.
7. **Doubts**. We rejoice today because Jesus has helped us overcome our doubts with faith in Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that some people look at Jesus, but do not see God in the flesh.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect that Jesus always spoke what the Father gave to Him in the place where the Father sent Him to speak.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we speak with one voice that Jesus really is the Christ, the Savior of the world.**

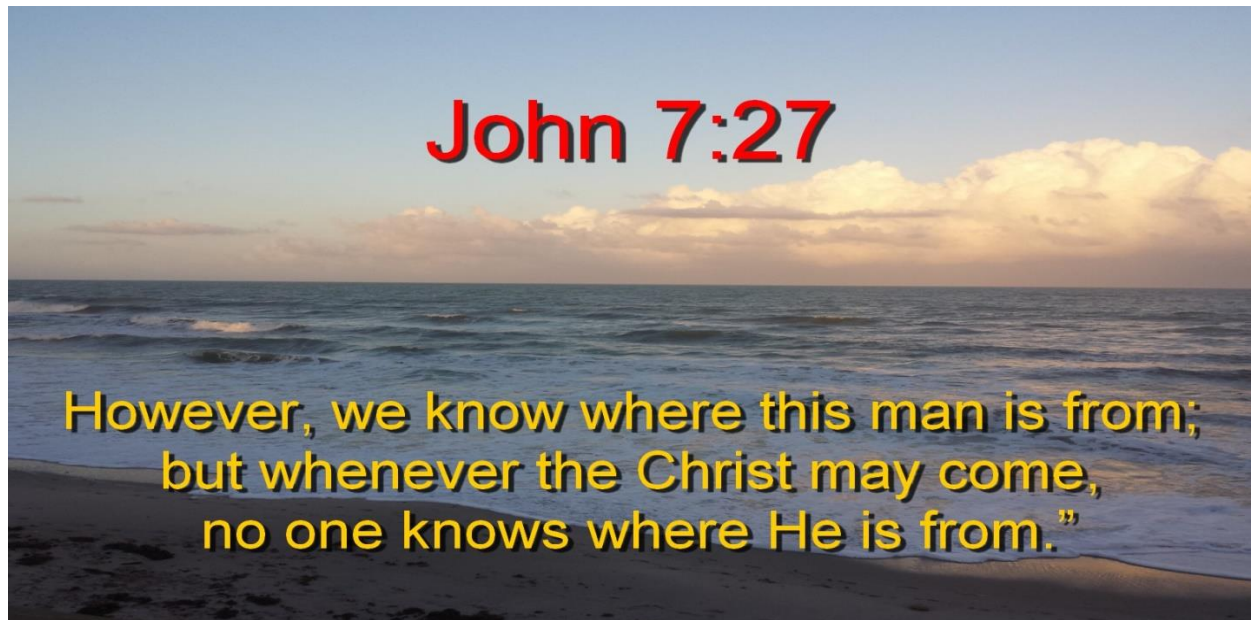
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by going where God sends us to speak His words. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by expecting that people will be surprised by the things Jesus actually said and did?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Ten

We Know Today



Some people think they know something about Jesus, but what they “know” is not true.

The Jews knew that when the Messiah comes, no one would know where He came from. The Jews thought they knew that Jesus was from Nazareth, but He actually was born in Bethlehem, after being sent to earth from God the Father.

Because some people knew that Jesus was from Nazareth, they thought He could not be the Messiah. They actually fulfilled the prophecy that people would not know where Messiah was from. They did not believe Jesus when He told them that He came down from heaven. They also did not believe the Scriptures which testified that Messiah would come to earth and die for the sins of the world. Some people think they know the truth, but they are unwilling to the will of God, and so do not know the truth when Jesus tells them the truth.

No One Knows

1. **However**. Some people know stuff that others do not know.
2. **Know**. Some people claim to know stuff, but what they “know” is not true.
3. **From**. Some people thought they knew where Jesus was from.
4. **Nazareth**. Some people thought that Jesus was from Nazareth.
5. **Messiah**. Some people thought that when Messiah came, no one would know where He was from.
6. **Heaven**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that most people denied that Jesus came down from heaven to live among men.
7. **Proof**. We rejoice today because God the Father opened our hearts to believe that Jesus was from heaven.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that some very religious people think they know something about Jesus, but they actually do not know Jesus at all.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we accept what God said in the Bible about Jesus, because the word of God sanctifies us in the truth.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by standing together in the truth that Jesus came from heaven, even if many people think He came from Nazareth.**

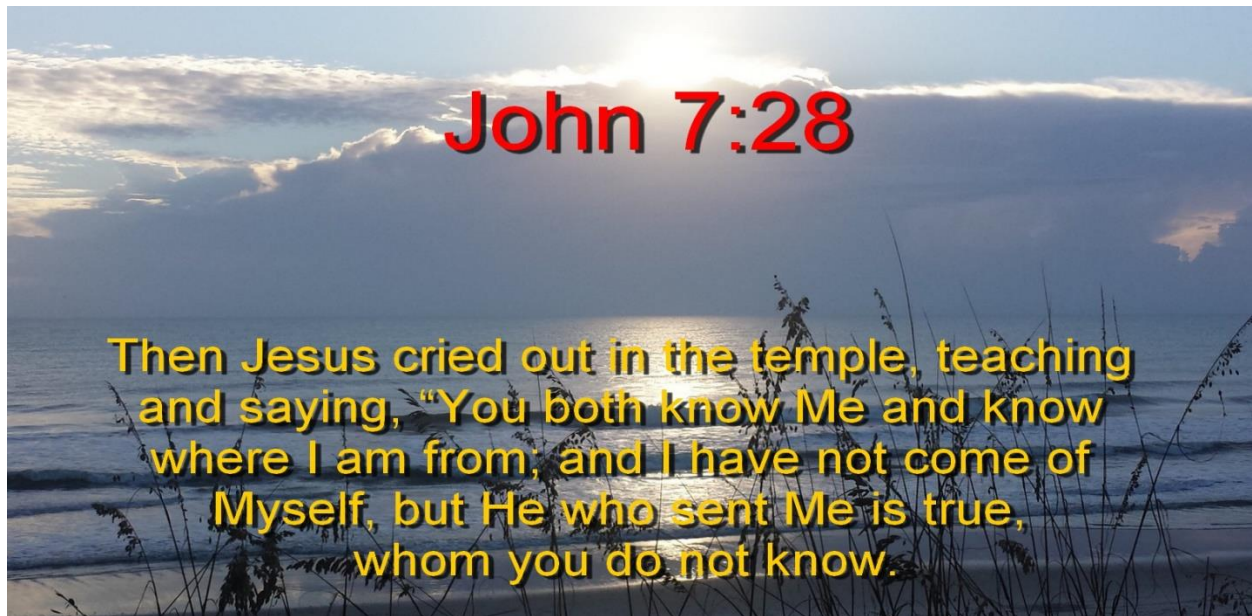
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by believing the Bible, even when many religious people doubt that Jesus was really from heaven. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by seeing Jesus as a great gift come down from heaven to save us from our sins?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eleven

Cried Out Today



What did Jesus cry out today? Jesus cried out in the temple, teaching and saying, “You know me and where I am from.”

Jesus was crying out and teaching that the crowd both knew Him and knew where He was from. Jesus emphasized that they knew where He was from. He meant that He told them He was from heaven. The crowd thought He was from Nazareth.

The Jews knew the prophesy that when Messiah came, no one would know where He was from. Jesus came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

Jesus sought to clear up the matter by reminding them that He was sent by God the Father from heaven. He was the Bread of Life that came down out of heaven. Jesus consistently taught that He was from heaven. Unless they believed that Jesus was the Savior, they would perish in their

sins. The Jews did not know God the Father and so they did not recognize God the Son.

You Know Me

1. **Appearance.** Jesus commanded the crowd not to judge by appearance, but with righteous judgment.

2. **Judged.** As Jesus stood in the temple, the crowd listened and watched Jesus closely. The crowd then judged that Jesus was not the Messiah because they knew where Jesus was from. They thought that when Messiah came, no one would know where He was from. Therefore, in their minds, Jesus was not Messiah.

3. **Incorrectly.** Jesus affirms that they know Him and know where He is from (the crowd was incorrectly judging by appearance only).

4. **Sent.** Jesus then explained that actually He did not come of Himself. Jesus then declared that He Who sent Jesus is true.

5. **True.** Leaving no doubt, Jesus then declared the crowd did not know the true One Who sent Jesus. In essence, Jesus told them that not only did they not know Him, but they did not know the true God, Who sent Jesus to them. They judged by appearance, not with righteous judgment.

6. **Redeem.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know the True God Who sent Jesus from heaven to redeem us to Himself, displaying His grace before heaven and earth.

7. **Affirm.** We rejoice today because we judge in righteous judgment, affirming the judgments of God, and not relying upon how things appear to us. We know both the Father and the Son, by faith alone.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that many people still do not know where Jesus came from.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by remembering that Jesus did not come of Himself.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by loving God the Father for always being true.**

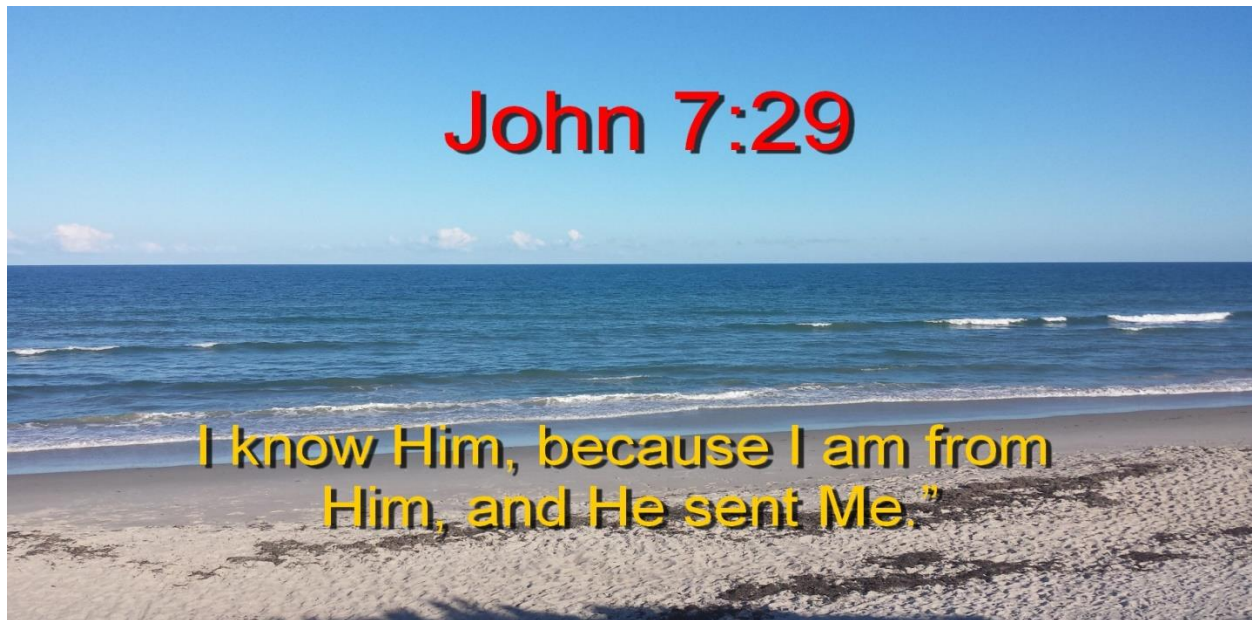
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by remembering that God the Father is always true. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by loving Jesus because He did not come of Himself?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Twelve

I Know Him Today



Why did Jesus declare that He knew God the Father? Jesus declared He knew God the Father because He emphasized that the crowd did not know God the Father.

Jesus also made very important self-disclosures. He said that He knew God the Father. As God, Jesus had always been with God the Father. As man, Jesus continued to know God the Father and did the will of God the Father.

Jesus also explained that God the Father sent Jesus into the world. Jesus came to do the will of the Father, and to perform the works of His Father. Jesus did not come to do His own will, but the will of God the Father.

Jesus wanted everyone to know that God the Father sent Jesus. People misunderstood where Jesus was from. They thought He came from

Nazareth, but they never understood that He came from heaven, because God the Father sent Jesus into the world.

I Am from Him

1. **I.** Jesus had complete self-awareness. He knew Who He was, Is, and Will Be. He never changes.

2. **Know**. Jesus not only knows Himself, but He also knows God the Father.

3. **Crowd**. The crowd thought they knew Jesus and where He was from, but they were wrong.

4. **Father**. The crowd thought they knew God the Father, but they were wrong.

5. **From**. God the Father sent Jesus to earth. He knew the Father, because He was the Son of God.

6. **Sent**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that Jesus knew the Father, because the Father sent Jesus from heaven to earth.

7. **Me**. We rejoice today because God the Father sent Jesus to us. We were dead in our trespasses and sins, but God poured out His great mercy upon us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus because He was with God the Father before Jesus came to earth.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to lead us in the paths He walks each day.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by recognizing that Jesus and the Father have a perfect harmony of wills, and they lead us through life each day.**

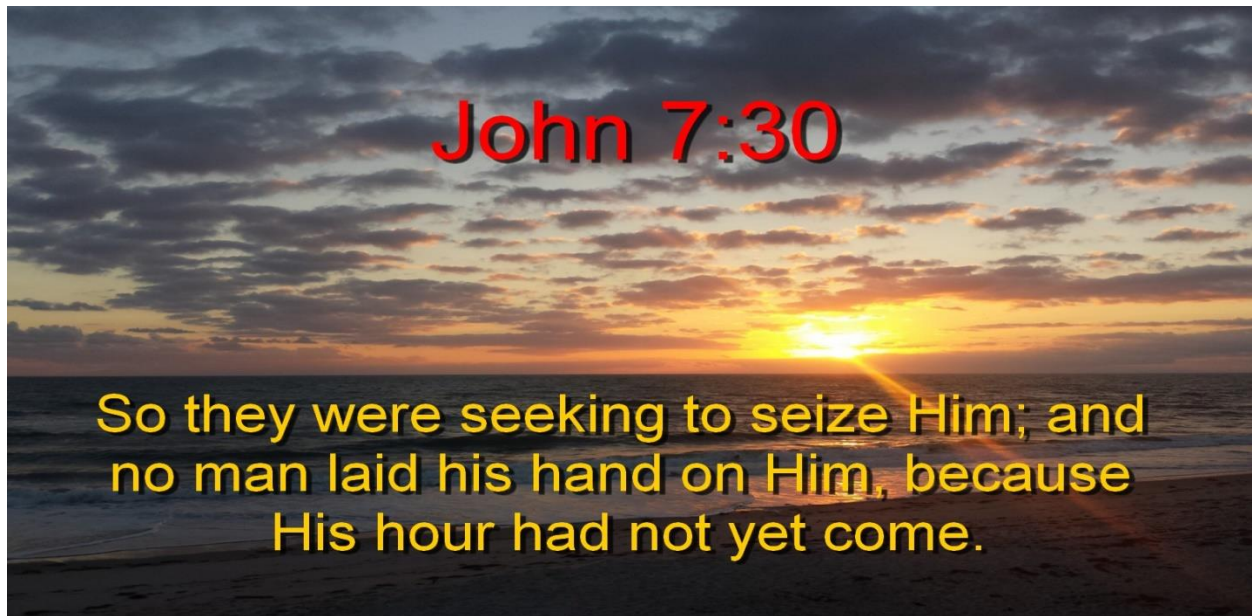
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by following the path of Jesus, Who always did the will of His Father. Will you live Godly in the family of God today following Jesus as He leads us in the ways of His Father?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Thirteen

Seize Him Today



Why did the people try to seize Jesus? The people were trying to seize Jesus because Jesus told them they did not know God.

No man laid his hand on Jesus. The people heard Jesus say that He was the Son of God. He repeatedly stated that He was from God the Father and He knew the Father. At the same time, Jesus told the people that they did not know God the Father.

The religious people thought they knew God. They also thought they were doing the will of God by opposing Jesus. They thought He broke the Law of Moses and blasphemed by making Himself equal with God.

Jesus disturbed them greatly by working signs and demonstrating that God sent Him. The more He proved He was truly from God, the more He proved that they did not know God. They wanted to seize Jesus and silence Jesus.

His Hour

1. **Change**. The crowd changed its mind in an instant.
2. **Words**. The words of Jesus completely changed the mind of the crowd. He told them that they did not know God the Father.
3. **Truth**. Jesus pierced the heart of the crowd by showing them that they did not know God the Father.
4. **Seize**. The crowd was seeking to seize Him. This same crowd marveled that the rulers were not seeking to seize Jesus.
5. **Hand**. No man laid his hand on Jesus. Although they wanted to kill Jesus, God the Father still protected Jesus.
6. **Time**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus lived on the timeline set by His Father. That timeline included the exact date and hour that Jesus would die on the cross for sinners.
7. **Hour**. We rejoice today because God the Father has set a timeline for the life of Jesus and a timeline for the life of each of His children. God directs our lives along His paths, according to His timing.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that no one could seize Jesus before His time.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we realize that no one could seize Jesus until the time set by the God the Father.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus, who always lived according the plan and timing of God.**

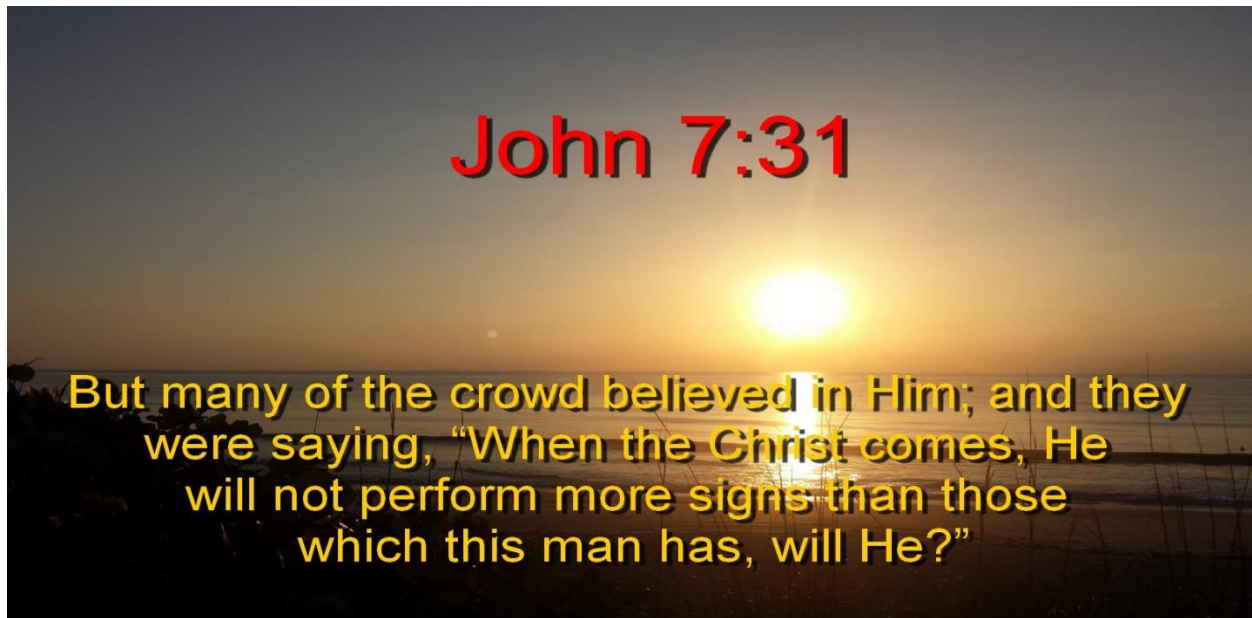
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we count upon God to fulfill His plans for our lives at just the right time. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by trusting God the Father to do all things at just the right time for His plans?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Fourteen

Believed in Him Today



Did some of the people in the crowd believe in Jesus? Some of the people in the crowd believed in Jesus.

The people in the crowd who believed in Jesus also spoke up for Jesus. They focused upon the signs which Jesus performed. They asked if the Christ would perform more signs than Jesus performed. They implied that Jesus was the Christ because of the signs which He was performing.

People express faith in Christ for a variety of reasons. In this case, some people saw the number of signs Jesus performed and concluded He was the Christ. When people sought to seize Jesus, they spoke up for Jesus and pointed to the many signs He performed. We should always keep in mind that in the Gospel of John, not everyone who believed had saving faith.

More Signs

1. **Many**. Many people in the crowd believed in Jesus.
2. **When**. The believers focused upon when Christ comes.
3. **Signs**. The signs performed by Jesus affected some people in the crowd. They noticed the number of signs which Jesus performed.
4. **More**. The number of signs Jesus performed affected the believers in the crowd.
5. **Man**. The believers recognized that Jesus was truly a man. Although He was a man, He also performed signs which supported His declaration that He was sent from God the Father and left heaven to become a man on earth.
6. **Seeing**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we remember that many believed in Jesus while they were watching the signs, but Jesus was not entrusting Himself to them, because Jesus knew what was in man.
7. **Speaking**. We rejoice today because some people spoke up for Jesus. They focused attention upon His signs and urged people to consider Jesus as the Messiah.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by speaking up for Jesus when other people seek to oppose Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we trust God to be a faithful witness for Jesus at all times.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus for giving us tongues and words to employ for Him.**

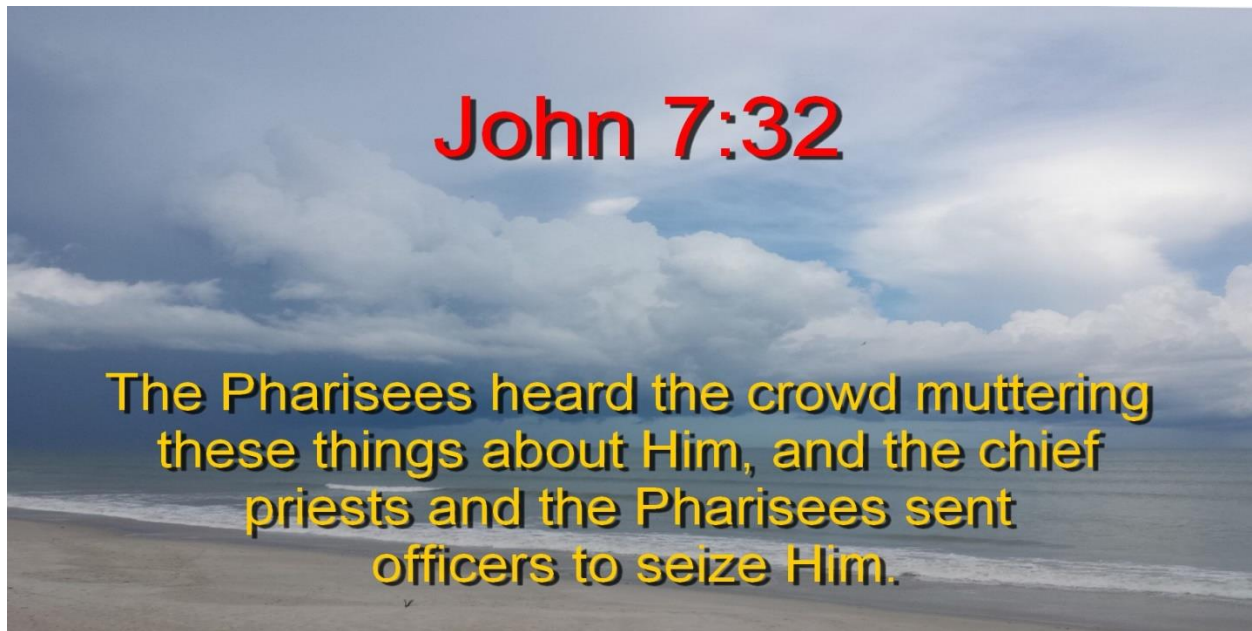
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by standing with Jesus as people seek to oppose Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by speaking for Jesus in the midst of people seeking to silence Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Fifteen

Muttering Today



Why did the chief priests and Pharisees send officers to seize Jesus? The chief priests and Pharisees sent officers to seize Jesus because the crowd was muttering about Jesus.

The religious rulers were concerned about seizing Jesus because crowds came to hear Jesus and see His signs. When the religious leaders heard that the crowd was muttering, they saw an opportunity to seize Jesus even with the crowd present.

The religious leaders had their own officers who served them. They would arrest people and bring them to the religious courts. The Jews could not execute a person, because they were still subject to Roman authority. The Romans had conquered Israel decades before and installed a Roman governor of the province. The Roman army supported the Roman governor.

Seize Him

1. **Religious.** Please take notice that the enemies of Jesus were very religious people.

2. **Priests.** The Pharisees believed in the resurrection, angels, and spirits, but the Sadducees did not believe in any of them. The chief priests were often Sadducees.

3. **Pharisees.** The Pharisees heard about the crowd listening to Jesus teaching in the temple. Until this point, no one tried to arrest Jesus.

4. **Power.** The religious leaders had some power to arrest and try Jews in their religious courts, but they could not impose the death penalty. Only the Roman government had the power of life or death.

5. **Intended.** The Pharisees and chief priests intended to condemn Jesus because He healed Pallet Man on the Sabbath and proclaimed He was the Son of God.

6. **Traditions.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that religious leaders frequently oppose Jesus because He does not follow their traditions and orders.

7. **Exposing.** We rejoice today because Jesus never follows sinful traditions, but does the will of God His Father, exposing the evil of religious leaders and protecting us from their evil lies.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by recognizing that religious authorities often oppose Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by expecting that some religious authorities work with some governments to oppose Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we trust in Jesus as some religious groups seek to arrest and execute believers.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting God to protect believers from religious opposition. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by speaking up for Jesus, while others mutter about the words of Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Sixteen

A Little While Today



Why did Jesus say a little while longer? Jesus said that for a little while longer He would with them, but then He would go to Him Who sent Jesus.

Jesus described His impending death, resurrection and ascension. Until His death, He would remain with the people on earth. After He died, He would no longer be with them.

Jesus had a very clear understanding of His future, including the near future including His death. He prophesied here that these people should discern the times and how little time was left with Jesus.

Jesus spoke in human terms. He used phrases like a little while. In this case, Jesus will be crucified soon. They will no longer see Him because He will be buried in a tomb. From there He will be resurrected, but He never promised that everyone will see Him during His post-resurrection ministry on earth. He was going back to His Father in heaven.

No Longer

1. **Deliver.** Jesus understood the religious leaders were eventually going to arrest Him, deliver Him to the Romans, and then He would die.

2. **Arrest.** Because Jesus knew the officers had been sent to arrest Him, and how His life in the flesh would end, He told the people what was going to happen.

3. **Continue.** Jesus said He would be with them a little longer. He meant He would continue to live and talk with the people for a short time. He knew His arrest was not yet at hand, even though the officers had been sent to seize Him.

4. **Short Time.** Jesus also knew His Father's timeline of events. He still had a short time to be with the people.

5. **Death.** Jesus described His future death as going to the One Who sent Him. Death for Jesus meant He was going home to God His Father.

6. **Plan.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Jesus viewed death as leaving earth to return to His Father--mission on earth completed, according to the Father's plan Who sent Him.

7. **Arrival.** We rejoice today because one day God the Father will call each born again believer home to Himself. Physical death on earth brings immediate arrival in heaven to live there with God.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by warning people that people need to accept the free gift of salvation because once they die, it will be too late and they will not be with Jesus then.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we love the prophecies of Jesus concerning His future. Mourning has turned into joy.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by praising Jesus for His promise to us that we will see Him face to face in the future.**

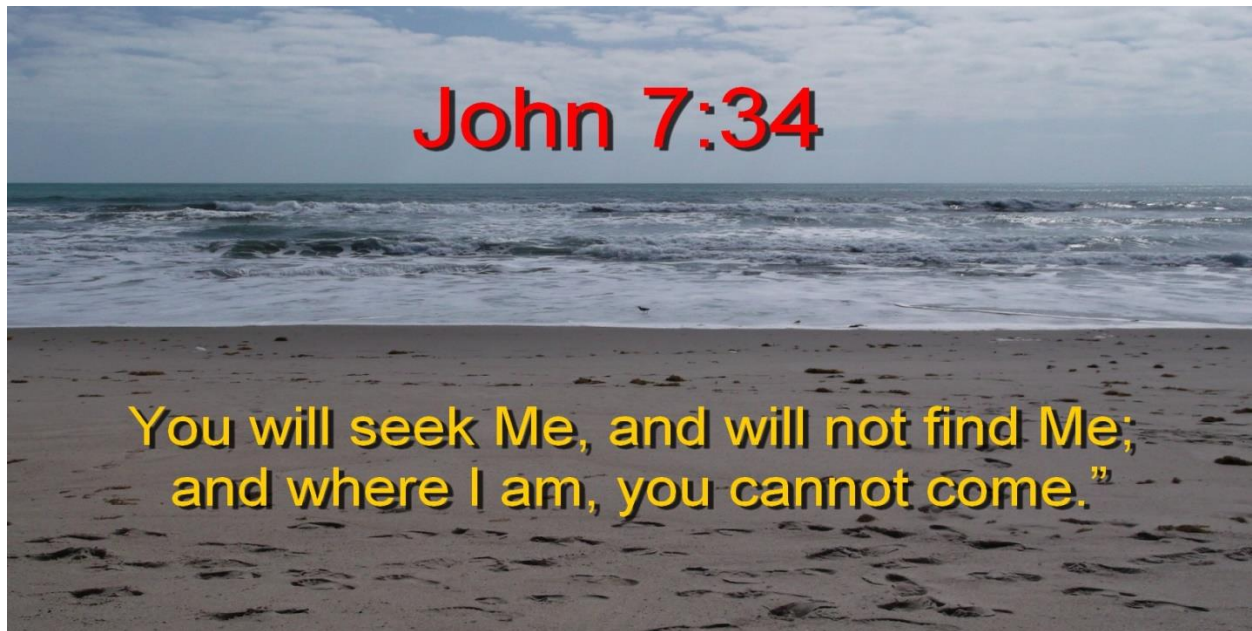
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by looking forward to seeing Jesus in the future. Will you live Godly in the family of God by taking action for Jesus today while people can still receive the free gift of salvation?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Seventeen

Seek Me Today



Why did Jesus tell people that they would seek Him? Jesus prophesied that people would seek Him because He was going to Paradise shortly and they were not going to be with Him there. Jesus was leaving earth soon and returning to be with God the Father.

Jesus sought to evangelize the crowd. He was warning them of the dire consequences of rejecting Him as the Son of God. He was the Messiah, the Holy One of God. By rejecting Jesus they were also rejecting His Father.

Jesus prophesied that they would be seeking Jesus later. But then it would be too late for them. Today is the day of salvation, but tomorrow the Day of Judgment would be coming soon.

Jesus explained that decisions today have eternal consequences. If they do not receive Jesus today, they will seek Him tomorrow, and not find Him. He will have returned to God the Father, and they cannot find Him there.

You Cannot Come

1. **Taught.** Although the religious leaders had sent officers to seize Jesus, Jesus still openly taught in the temple.

2. **Explained.** He explained He would be with them for a little while longer. He meant He was not going to die just yet.

3. **Revealed.** He also revealed that He was going to His Father after a little while.

4. **Seek.** Jesus told the crowd that they would seek Him, but would not find Him. He was leaving earth, and they would die in their sins, unless they received Him as Savior.

5. **After.** Jesus also declared that after He left and went to heaven, they could not come there.

6. **Heaven.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know where Jesus went--to heaven. We sought Him and found Him, and we will be with Him forever.

7. **Promised.** We rejoice today because Jesus promised us eternal life with Him by faith alone. We will always be with Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that we are going to be with Jesus forever.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God knowing that some people will seek Jesus, but they will not find Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by remembering that where Jesus is, not many people will go.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by inviting people to seek Jesus today and they can find Him. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by helping people seek Jesus while they can still find Him?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Eighteen

We Cannot Find Him Today



John 7:35

The Jews then said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find Him? He is not intending to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks, is He?"

Why did the Jews think Jesus may be going to the Greeks? The Jews asked if Jesus was going to the Dispersion among the Greeks because He said He was going where they could not come.

Jesus was not going to the Dispersion among the Greeks. Jesus was going to return to His Father in heaven. They would not find Jesus in heaven because they were not going to heaven. They rejected Jesus, the only way to the Father.

People hear the words of Jesus, but have no idea what He actually said to them. Jesus not only prophesied about the future, but actually gave a specific warning to people listening to Him about their future. They would be seeking Jesus later, but then it would be too late for them. Once Jesus returned to heaven, they could not follow Him there because of their unbelief.

Greeks

1. **Message.** The crowd listening to Jesus did not grasp the message of Jesus. They did not understand that He came from heaven because His Father sent Him to earth.

2. **Time.** The crowd also did not know Jesus was returning to heaven in just a little while. Jesus knew He would die on the cross, but His time had not yet come.

3. **Going.** The Jews understood that Jesus was going somewhere they could not come

4. **Speculated.** The Jews speculated that Jesus was going to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks. Some Jews had been scattered throughout the Gentile world, as the Old Testament prophets had predicted--hence the Diaspora. They thought Jesus may go and teach the Greeks.

5. **Israel.** Jesus preached in Israel, the land God gave by covenant to Abraham, the Father of the Jews. He preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ to His own and offered them the kingdom of God.

6. **Gentiles.** Living Godly in the family of God means that Gentiles, like me, were included in the salvation plan of God, but Jesus presented the Gospel first to the Jews and then to the Gentiles.

7. **Jewish.** We rejoice today because Jesus was Jewish and loved both Jews and Gentiles.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting people to misunderstand what Jesus said.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect Jesus to talk with us in spiritual terms.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus for sending the Gospel of Jesus Christ to both Jews and Greeks.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus will cause people to ask questions about His prophecies. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by learning from Jesus about His plans for the future?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Nineteen

What Today



John 7:36

What is this statement that He said, 'You will seek Me, and will not find Me; and where I am, you cannot come'?"

Why did the Jews question the statement of Jesus? The Jews were questioning the statement of Jesus because they had no idea what Jesus was talking about.

The Jews thought Jesus may be going to the Greeks, but they were still uncertain. They did not understand the prophecy from Jesus that they would seek Him, and not find Him.

The Jews also did not comprehend what Jesus meant that where He was going, they could not come.

Jesus spoke about the future of the unbelieving Jews with divine certainty. Jesus knew the future and warned the Jews of their future. They did not understand spiritual matters, but Jesus spoke in clear terms that they would not be with Him in the future, even though they would seek Him.

Cannot Come

1. **Statement**. Jesus made statements the confounded people. The Jews did not understand that Jesus was speaking of His death and resurrection.

2. **Seek**. The Jews were especially questioning what Jesus meant by the Jews seeking Him. Some of the Jews were already seeking to kill Him. Others had seen His signs and believed in Him.

3. **Find**. Jesus also said that they would not find Him. Jesus meant that they would not find Him after death, speaking of His death.

4. **Certainty**. Jesus spoke the words of divine certainty. Jesus prophesied the words of His Father, and every prophecy from God comes truth.

5. **Where**. Jesus said that they could not come to where He was going. Jesus was referring to Paradise, and they were not going to be there with Him.

6. **Cannot**. Living Godly in the family of God means the crowd could not come to where Jesus would be. Notice the “cannot” come. Jesus was actually warning them that if they died in their sins, they would not be with Jesus after they died.

7. **Come**. We rejoice today because Jesus invited everyone to come to Him and receive the free gift of salvation by faith. Some people will accept that free gift and enjoy eternity with Jesus. Others will reject Jesus and suffer judgment commensurate with their deeds.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by realizing that religious people will seek Jesus, but not find Him.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God because we have found Jesus, and He found us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by longing for the day when we will be with Jesus in heaven.**

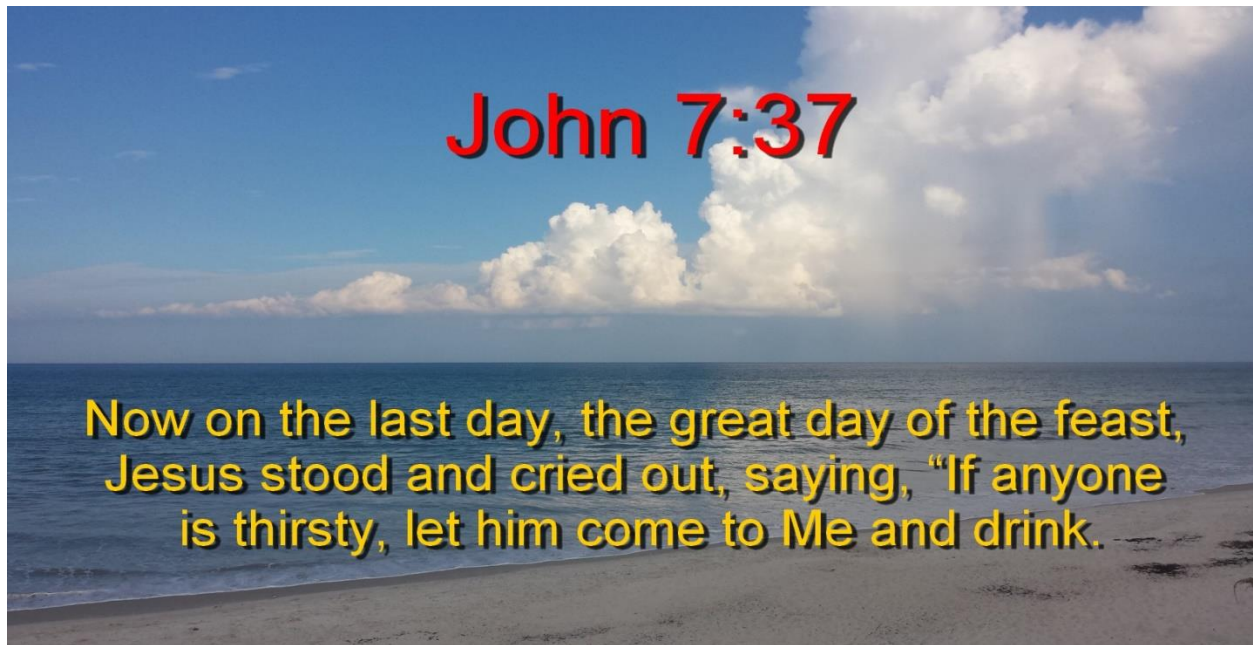
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by listening to the prophecies that Jesus has already provided to us about the future of the Jews. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by thanking Jesus because He made it possible for us to be with Him forever?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Twenty

The Great Day Today



What did Jesus offer the people on the great day of the feast? Jesus offered everyone to come to Him and drink.

Jesus often used the surroundings to teach spiritual truth and make spiritual invitations. As the feast came to a close, Jesus stood up and cried out, offering every thirsty person to come to Him and drink.

Jesus used symbols to communicate deep spiritual truths. Yet, they were spiritual truths that even children could understand. Jesus just offered every person with spiritual thirst to come to Him and drink.

Jesus meant that if they would believe in Him, then they would never thirst again. Jesus would completely satisfy their thirst. He would provide drink like no one else could provide. The people had been feasting all week, but now on the last day of the Feast, Jesus provided a spiritual drink to every person who would come to Him.

Come To Me and Drink

1. **Greatest.** Jesus was the greatest teacher and preacher Who ever lived. Even so, people did not always grasp the meaning of His messages.

2. **Debate.** Jesus left crowds with questions and stirred debate.

3. **Willing.** Jesus taught that only people willing to do the will of God can understand what He says.

4. **Speculations.** The Jews speculated about what Jesus meant, but their speculations were foolish.

5. **No Idea.** They recalled verbatim the words of Jesus, but had no idea what He meant.

6. **Insight.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus and He teaches us what He meant. As we read the Bible, we gain insight into Him and His loving plans for our lives.

7. **Ascended.** We rejoice today because Jesus promised that we will be with Him in heaven at the moment we die. We know where He went when He ascended from earth. He has prepared a place there for each believer.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by looking back on the day we came to Jesus and drank from Him.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we enjoy the water of life Jesus gave to us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by seeing people in the family of God who thirst no more.**

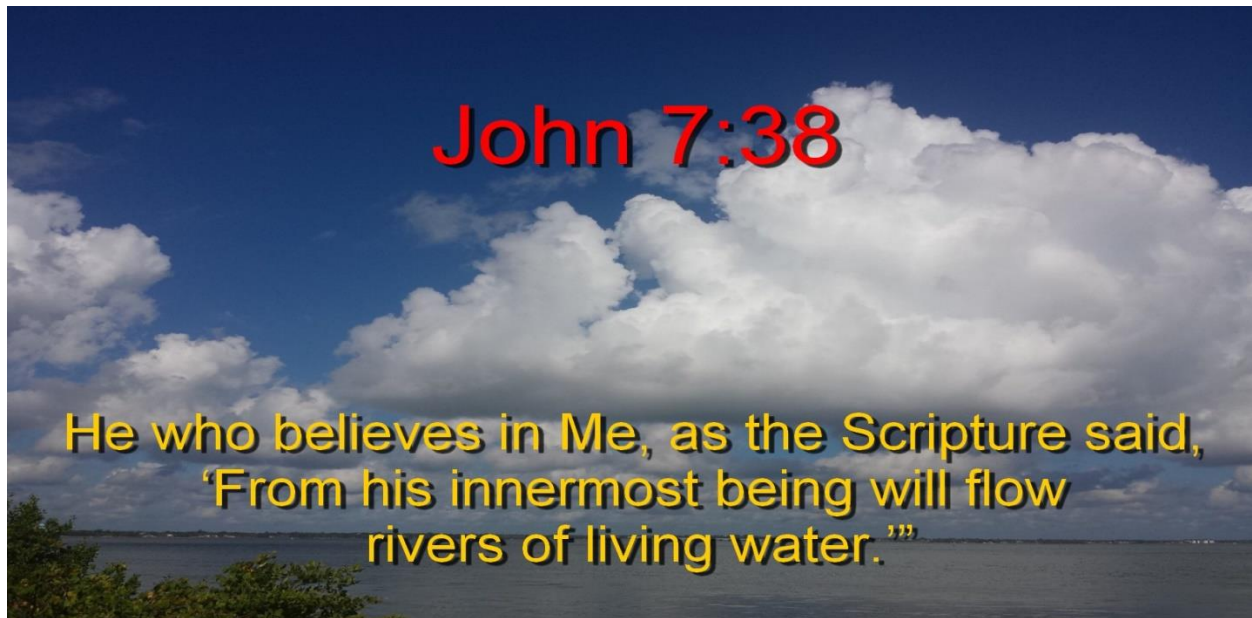
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by giving thanks to Jesus for giving us that water of eternal life. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by worshiping Jesus for calling us to Himself and then offering us a drink that cured our thirst forever?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Twenty One

Believes in Me Today



What happens when you believe in Jesus for salvation? The Scripture said that from your abdomen being will flow rivers of living water.

Jesus promised that people who believe in Him will have rivers of living water flowing from their abdomens. Jesus made spiritual promises to people who believed in Him.

As the feast concluded, Jesus invited everyone to come to Him and drink. He would provide the water described by Scripture. Jesus often quoted Scripture and referred to Scripture. Here Jesus tied the prophecy of Scripture concerning the river of living water to Himself. Faith in Jesus would provide a river of living water, just as the Scriptures promised.

Rivers of Living Water

1. **Scripture.** Jesus made great promises. He based some of those promises upon the Scriptures.

2. **Based.** Today our verse provides a promise based upon the Scripture (the Old Testament).

3. **Rivers.** Jesus promised that every person who has saving faith in Him will have living water. He said from his abdomen will flow rivers of living water. Jesus described the area of the lower torso including the uterus and stomach. He did not use the word for heart.

4. **Confirmed.** Jesus confirmed the Old Testament promise of living water.

5. **Faith.** No faith in Jesus, no living water.

6. **Promises.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we count upon Jesus to keep His promises.

7. **Innermost.** We rejoice today because we truly have rivers of living water flowing from our abdomens.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by believing the promises of Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by enjoying the river of living water every day.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by sharing the river of living water with other believers.**

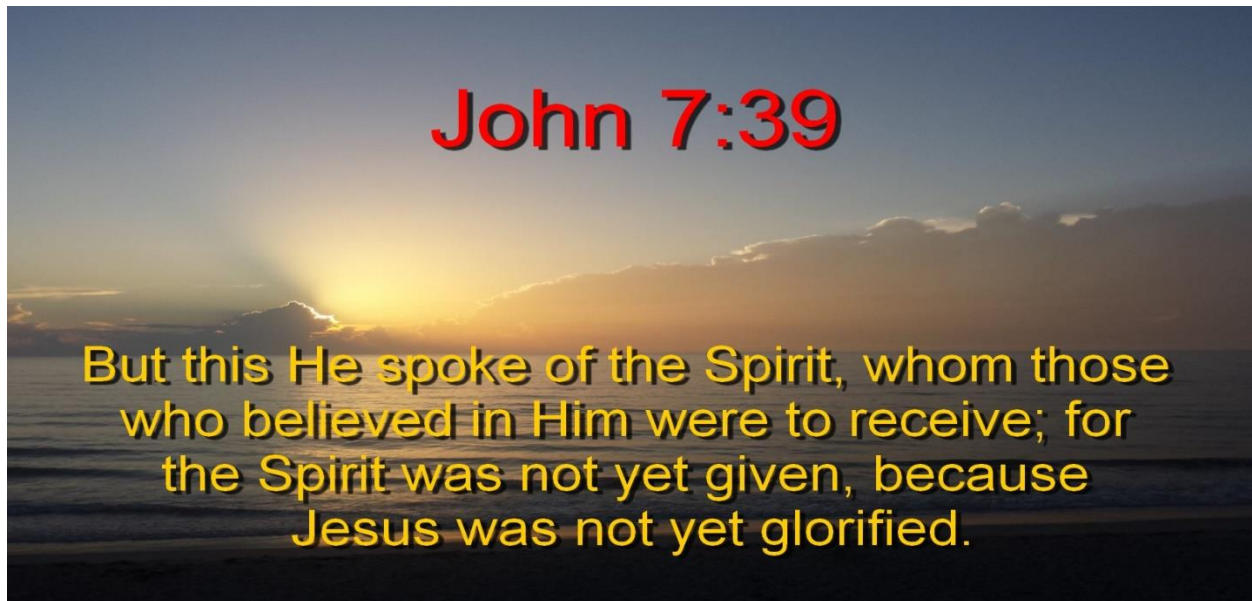
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by enjoying the river of living water today. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by thanking Jesus for giving you the river of living water flowing from your abdomens?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Twenty Two

The Spirit Today



When did believers first receive the Holy Spirit? The believers first received the Holy Spirit only after Jesus was glorified.

Jesus spoke of the river of living water flowing from the abdomen. Jesus did not use the word for heart. He meant it flows from inside of our spiritual beings.

Jesus promised here that the Holy Spirit would take up residence in the lives of all believers. In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit abode with people of faith, but He did not permanently indwell them. At times, the Holy Spirit came upon people for a particular task or purpose.

Jesus promised the river of living water would flow from inside a person. The Holy Spirit would only be given after Jesus was glorified. Jesus had to die, be resurrected, and then ascend into glory. The disciples were baptized in the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, after Jesus ascended.

Not Yet Given

1. **Holy Spirit.** Jesus spoke about rivers of living water that will flow from the abdomen of believers. Now we see that Jesus spoke of the Holy Spirit indwelling believers.

2. **Given.** Notice the timing here. The Holy Spirit would be given only after Jesus was glorified. Jesus was glorified after He died and ascended to heaven.

3. **Indwelling.** When Jesus spoke these words about the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was with the disciples, but not yet permanently indwelling them.

4. **Testifies.** Jesus will give to believers the Holy Spirit Who proceeds from the Father. The Holy Spirit testifies about Jesus.

5. **Receive.** Only born again believers can receive the Holy Spirit. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit after He ascended back to heaven. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit filled the apostles as they waited for Him in Jerusalem.

6. **Glorified.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we have received the Holy Spirit because Jesus has been glorified. The Holy Spirit indwells us.

7. **Power.** We rejoice today because rivers of living water flow from our innermost beings because the Holy Spirit ministers daily in our lives with the power of God within us.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing that the Holy Spirit was given to believers at Pentecost.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we bless God for giving us the rivers of living water.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship God for His great gift of the Holy Spirit indwelling us.**

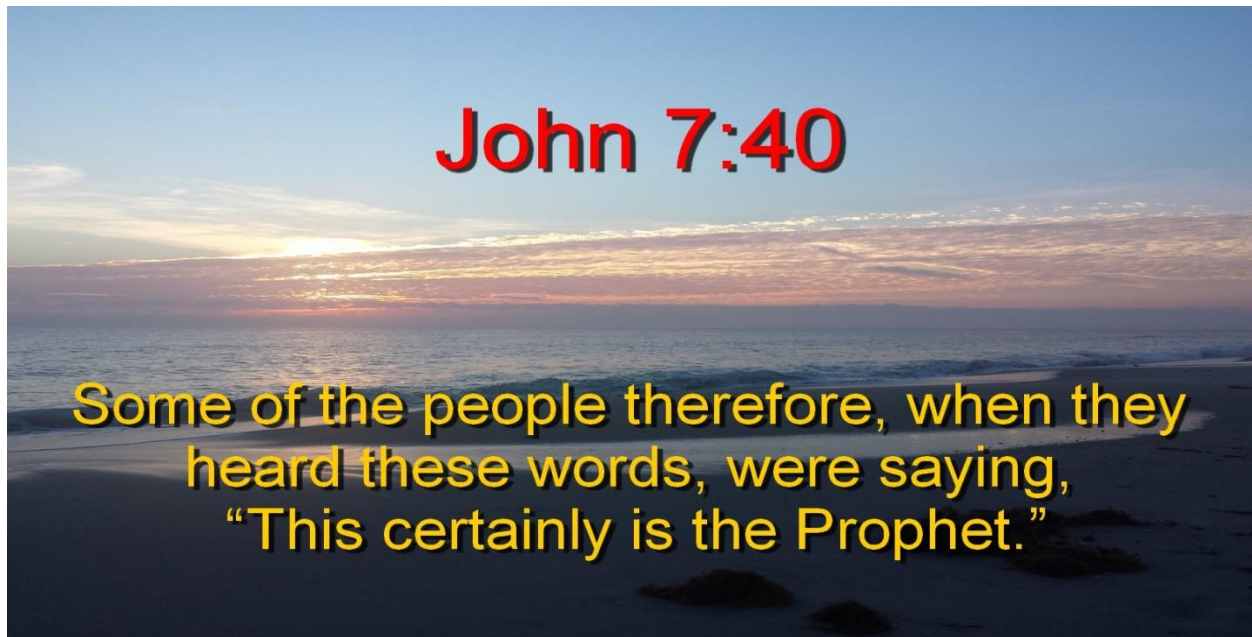
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by living in the power of the Holy Spirit. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by living in the power of the Holy Spirit and enjoying the rivers of living water?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Twenty Three

The People Today



Why were some of the people saying, “This certainly is the Prophet”? The people were saying that Jesus is the Prophet because they heard His words.

Jesus proclaimed that if anyone was thirsty, they should come to Him and drink. He also said that everyone who believes in Him, as the Scripture said, from his abdomen shall flow rivers of living water.

When the people heard this great proclamation and invitations from Jesus on the last day of the Feast, some of the people were already believing in Him. Some now identified Jesus as the Prophet.

As a group, the Jews did not comprehend that Jesus must come and suffer and die for the sins of the world. Later He will return to earth to rule all the nations and vanquish His enemies.

The Prophet

1. **Varied.** The crowd had varying reactions to the message of Jesus.
2. **Suggested.** Some in the crowd suggested Jesus was the Prophet. You may recall that Moses prophesied about a future prophet.
3. **Prophecy.** Moses had prophesied that "Yahweh your God" would raise up a prophet like Moses from among the people of Israel.
4. **Prophet.** Some people also recognized Jesus as the prophet from Nazareth. You may also recall that the woman at the well first thought Jesus was a prophet.
5. **Offices.** Jesus held three offices: prophet, priest and king. He held each office as God.
6. **Fulfilled.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus was a prophet and fulfilled many prophecies. Jesus also spoke frequently about the future. His prophetic words will never fail.
7. **Salvation.** We rejoice today because Jesus was the Prophet from heaven Who spoke the loving words of salvation to us and secured that salvation through His death, burial and resurrection.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by recognizing Jesus as God in the flesh, and also a prophet.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we study the prophecies of Jesus to learn more about Him and the future.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we worship Jesus for all the prophecies He provided to encourage us and sustain our faith in Him.**

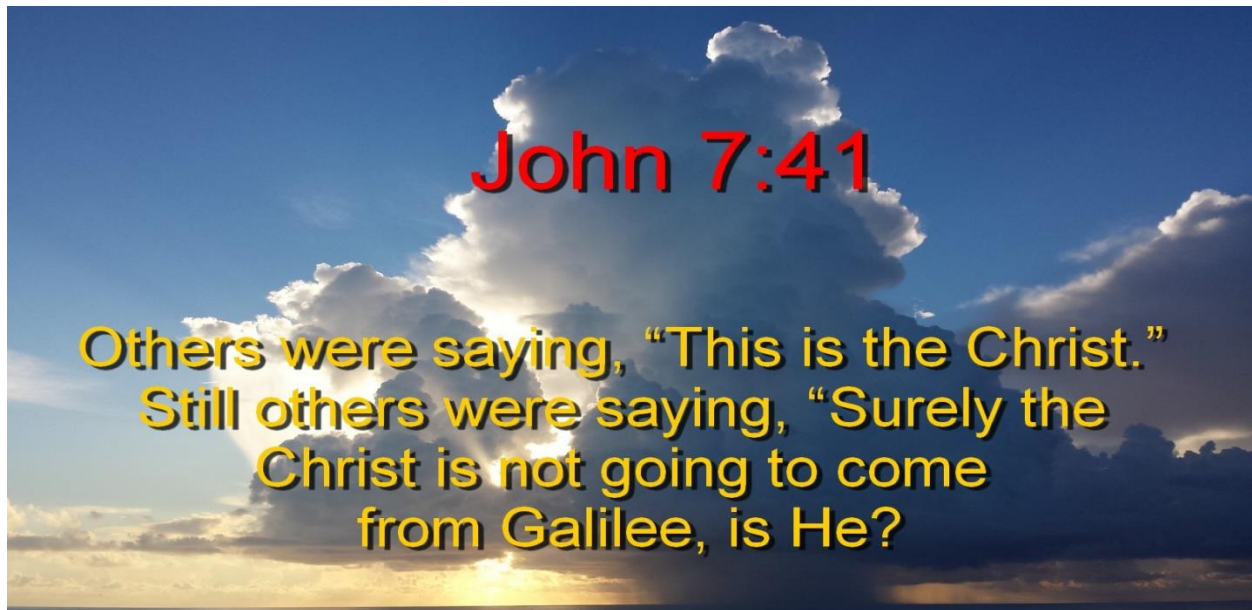
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we listen to Jesus the Prophet tell us about the future. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by listening to Jesus and His many prophecies?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Twenty Four

This Is the Christ Today



Why were some people saying that Jesus was not the Christ? Some people did not think that Jesus was the Christ because they thought Jesus came from Galilee.

The Jews fulfilled the prophecy that when Messiah comes, no one would know where He was from. This crowd thought Jesus was from Nazareth of Galilee. They were mistaken. He was born in Bethlehem, but He came from heaven. God the Father sent Jesus to earth to do the will of God the Father and to accomplish the work God the Father gave to Jesus.

Jesus faithfully accomplished all the work His Father gave Him to do. Jesus spent time in teaching the people that they could come to Him and He would give them living water flowing out of them. Jesus spoke about the Holy Spirit indwelling the believers.

Others Were Saying

1. **Invited.** Jesus had invited every thirsty person to come to Him. He promised that every one who believes in Him would have rivers of living water flowing from their innermost beings.

2. **Identified.** Some people heard Jesus and identified Jesus as the Christ. Did they believe in Him?

3. **Doubts.** Others raised doubts about Jesus being the Christ. They focused upon poor information.

4. **Galilee.** The doubters observed that Jesus was from Galilee (Nazareth--hometown). The Messiah was not from Galilee. Therefore, Jesus was not the Christ.

5. **Bethlehem.** The doubters never investigated the birthplace of Jesus. They leaped to a false conclusion about Jesus. We know Jesus was born in Bethlehem, as prophesied about Messiah.

6. **Conclusions.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we avoid leaping to conclusions before we make up our minds. One Messianic prophecy points out that the people of Galilee will see a great light.

7. **Nazarene.** We rejoice today because Jesus really is the Christ, who was called a Nazarene, but born in Bethlehem, as prophesied.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus will divide people according to their faith in Him or not.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we know that Jesus actually was born of a virgin, but He came from heaven.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by worshiping Jesus for giving us the Holy Spirit.**

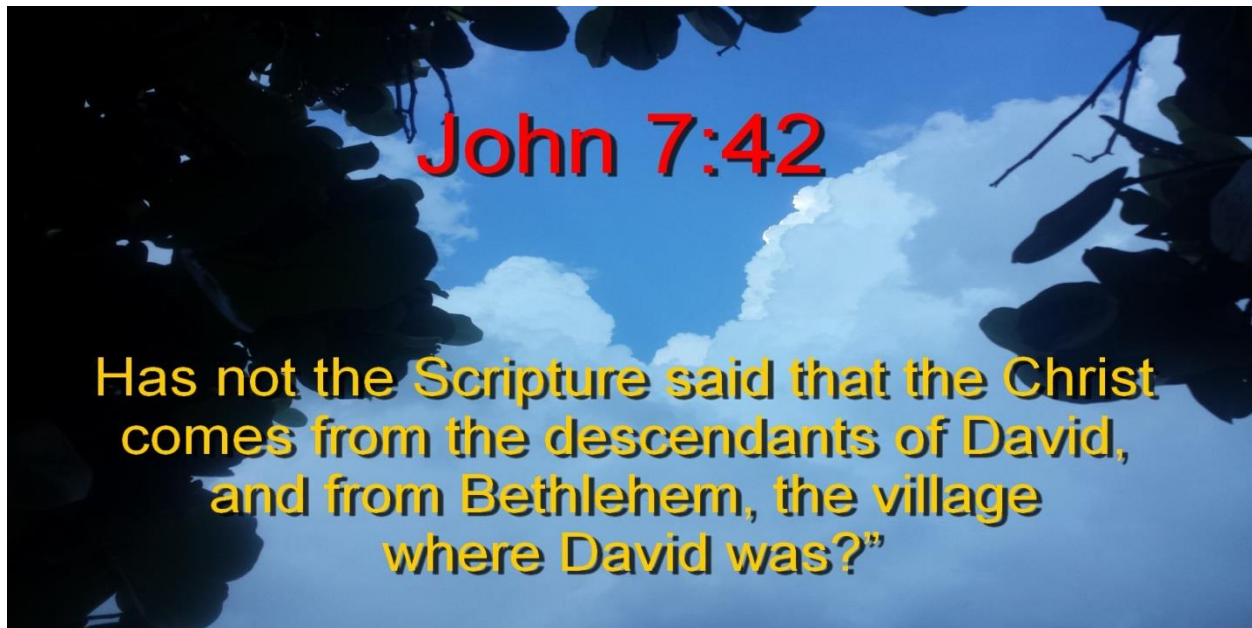
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus will divide the believers from the unbelievers. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by standing with believers when others oppose Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Twenty Five

David Today



Why did some people say that the Christ must be born of the descendants of David and born in Bethlehem? Some people claimed that Christ would be born in Bethlehem of the line of David because they had read the Scriptures about Messiah and His birthplace.

Even though some people understood the physical birthplace of Jesus, they did not understand that He came down from heaven. They also did not know that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, fulfilling the very prophecies they were quoting to exclude Jesus as Messiah.

While the people had read the Bible, they did not consider whether Jesus, standing right before them, had fulfilled those criteria for Messiah. People who knew God the Father would have known that Jesus was the Messiah.

The Scripture Said

1. **Leaping.** Knowing the Scriptures does not always stop you from leaping to the wrong conclusions.
2. **Scriptures.** In this case, the people knew from the Scriptures that Messiah must come from the line of David and be born in Bethlehem, where David was born.
3. **Birthplace.** Apparently, no one asked Jesus about His birthplace or otherwise did any investigation of the matter.
4. **Consequences.** The consequences of rejecting Jesus as Messiah condemn sinners to eternity in the lake of fire.
5. **Assume.** Tragedy strikes when people read the Scriptures, but assume that Jesus the Nazarene was born in Nazareth.
6. **Examine.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we must know the Scriptures, and then examine the facts to know how the Scripture applies.
7. **Author.** We rejoice today because Jesus authored the Scriptures and they testify of Him, God in the Flesh, our Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by not leaping to wrong conclusions about Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we appreciate the prophecies that Jesus fulfilled regarding the Messiah.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we understand that Jesus fulfilled the prophecies about Messiah, but He also provided new prophecies about Messiah.**

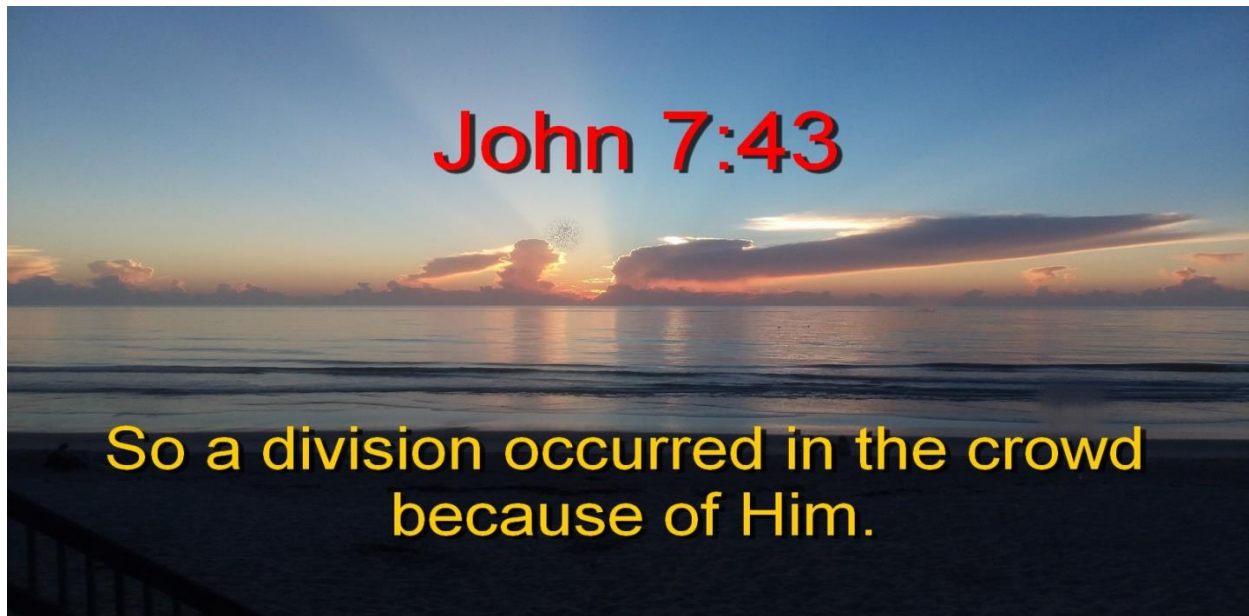
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by rejoicing in the prophecies of Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by expecting that Jesus in the future will fulfill all the prophecies about Messiah?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Twenty Six

Division Today



Why was the crowd divided? The crowd was divided because of Jesus.

Jesus said things that would always divide crowds. He invited everyone to come and drink from Him. They would have rivers of living water within them, because of the Holy Spirit living within them.

Jesus understood that crowds would always be divided between believers in Him and unbelievers. Those two groups were separated by faith in Jesus. What people think about Jesus and what they believe about Jesus will matter for all eternity, starting right here on earth.

When people reject Jesus as Savior, then they have rejected Him for all eternity if they die on earth without receiving Jesus by faith as Savior. What people believe today makes all the difference for eternity.

Because of Him

1. **Divided.** Jesus divided people. Some people believed in Jesus and were born again. Others rejected Jesus.

2. **Leaders.** Jesus taught, preached, and did many works of powers. Many religious leaders and rulers were seeking to kill Him.

3. **Arrest.** Jesus declared Himself to be God in the flesh, but people wanted to arrest Him.

4. **Exposed.** Jesus exposed many lies told by many people, but people rejected Him and called Him a liar.

5. **Rejected.** Jesus loved His enemies, but they rejected Him and ultimately crucified Him.

6. **Unified.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know Jesus divides people, but He unified all of His children into one family of God.

7. **Eternity.** We rejoice today because nothing can ever divide us from Jesus. We have come to Him and He will never cast us out. His love binds us to Him for all eternity.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that Jesus will cause divisions with His words.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God understanding that Jesus overcomes spiritual forces at work in people.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by thanking Jesus that He has only one body, composed only of saved people.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by seeking to avoid divisions in the body of Christ. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by recognizing that Jesus divides believers from unbelievers?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Twenty Seven

Laid Hands on Him Today



Why did some people in the crowd want to seize Jesus? They wanted to seize Jesus because they thought He broke the Law of Moses and made Himself equal with God. He also referred to God the Father as His Father, making Him the Son of God and equal to God.

The Jews did not understand that God had become flesh and was a man. He was still fully God, but He was also fully man. The Jews hated Jesus without cause. They were divided among themselves in many ways.

Some of the crowd wanted to seize Jesus. Other people had also wanted to seize Jesus. In this case, they wanted to seize Jesus and put Him to death. The Jews had their own courts of limited jurisdiction, but they were not allowed to impose the death penalty without Rome's approval.

Wanted

1. **Divides**. Jesus divided the crowds before Him, just like He divides people today.

2. **Rejected**. Some people wanted to seize Jesus. They rejected His message of eternal life and forgiveness.

3. **Religious**. No one laid hands upon Jesus. You may recall that the religious leaders had sent officers to arrest Jesus.

4. **Open**. Jesus openly taught in the temple. He did not soften His message.

5. **Timetable**. God has a timetable for all events. Jesus understood that He would be crucified according to God's timetable.

6. **Expect**. Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect the message of Jesus to divide people.

7. **Reveals**. We rejoice today because Jesus offers salvation to whoever will believe. The Father reveals Jesus to people, because God loves the world.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by understanding that people wanted to seize Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect that people may want to seize believers today.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we trust in Jesus to keep us safe in Him, even as we speak up for Jesus.**

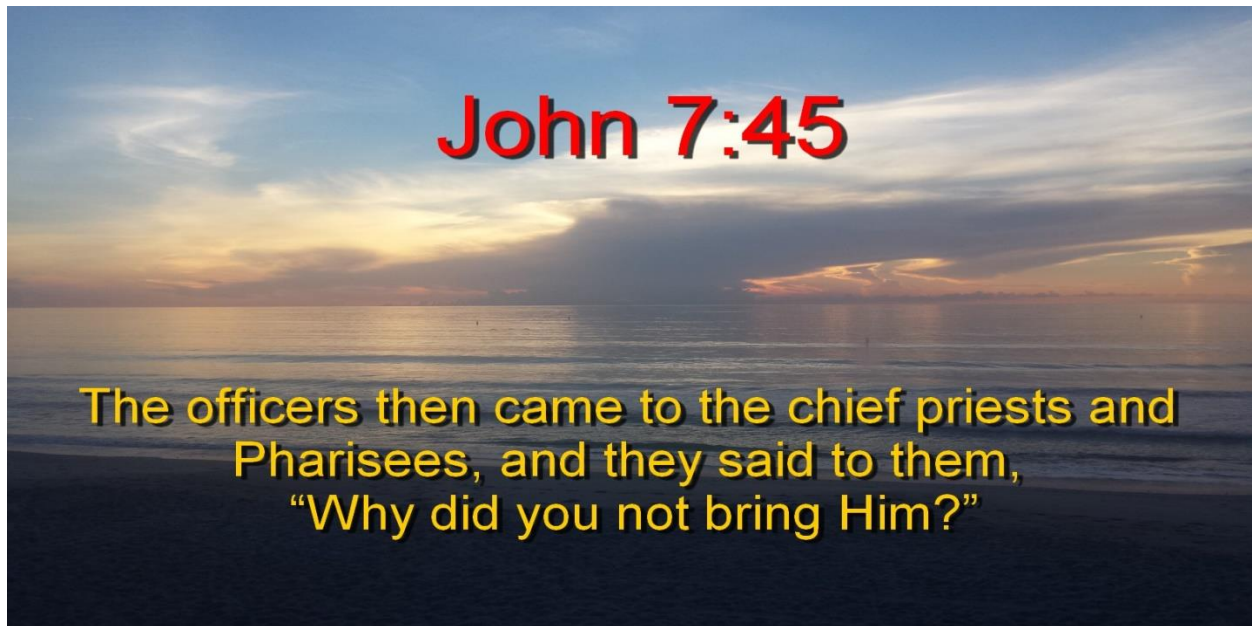
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we understand that people wanted to seize Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by expecting that some people may want to seize believers because of their faith in Christ?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Twenty Eight

The Officers Today



Why did the officers fail to bring Jesus to the chief priests and Pharisees? The officers failed to bring Jesus with them because of the words they heard from Jesus.

Jesus astonished people with His teaching. People marveled over the works that He did. He performed many signs that caused some people to believe.

In this case, the officers from the religious court came back empty-handed. They went for a specific mission to seize Jesus and bring Him to them for trial and execution later. The officers knew their mission, but they came back empty-handed. Jesus did not resist them. Instead they were deeply affected by the words and works of Jesus.

Bring Him?

1. **Determined.** Before Jesus came to the Feast in Jerusalem, the Jewish leaders had determined to seize Jesus.

2. **Seize.** When the religious leaders heard that Jesus was teaching in the temple during the Feast, they sent officers to seize Him.

3. **Officers.** The officers went to the temple to seize Jesus, just as the religious leaders had ordered.

4. **Witnessed.** The officers and crowds of people witnessed Jesus teaching in the temple. The officers did not seize Jesus and returned to the religious leaders empty-handed.

5. **Authority.** Jesus did not teach like the religious leaders. Jesus taught with Godly wisdom and the utterance of God. He spoke with absolute authority. He proclaimed salvation and eternal life in Him.

6. **Plans.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know people devise plans against Jesus. Yet, no plans and no counsel can ever thwart the plans of Jesus.

7. **Triumphs.** We rejoice today because Jesus always triumphs in the end. He intended to lay down His life, and no one took it from Him. At just the right time, according to God's plan, He would be seized, arrested, tried, convicted of nothing, crucified, resurrected, and finally He ascended, all to the glory of God. Just as He promised, Jesus saved us from our sins.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting that officers may try to arrest believers, just like they tried to arrest Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that people will often organize and arm themselves to oppose the words and works of Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by expecting that religious leaders will often oppose Jesus, even by trying to have Him or His followers arrested.**

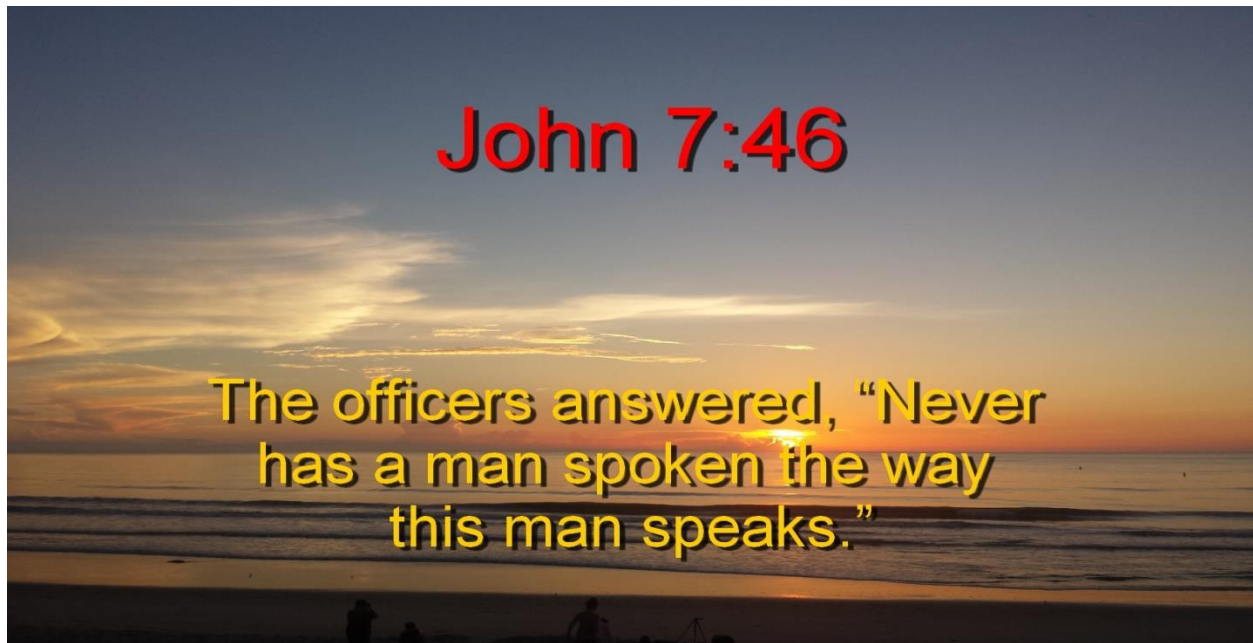
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by understanding that religious people may seriously oppose Jesus and His followers. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by standing with Jesus, even when people oppose Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Twenty Nine

Officers Answered Today



Why did the officers return empty-handed? They returned empty-handed because they heard Jesus speak.

Jesus said things that were never spoken by man before. When Jesus spoke, people listened. He said things that were hard to understand, but what they understood made a very large impression upon them.

Jesus also divided groups. Some people were moved by the words of Jesus to believe in Him. He said frequently that He only spoke the words given to Him by God the Father. Jesus spoke like His Father spoke. Jesus spoke about life and death. He especially emphasized that today was the day of salvation for all the thirsty people who came to Him for salvation.

Never

1. **Returned.** The officers sent by the religious leaders returned empty-handed.

2. **Answer.** When the religious leaders queried the officers about why they did not seize Jesus and bring Him to them, they gave a remarkable answer.

3. **Heard.** "Never has a man spoken the way this man speaks." The officers returned empty-handed because they heard Jesus speaking in the temple.

4. **Disobeyed.** Jesus amazed people with His teaching and the way He spoke. In this case, the officers were so moved by the words and way of Jesus that they disobeyed direct orders to seize Him.

5. **Compelling.** At times we read stories in the Bible about Jesus. We know Jesus as Savior and enjoy His words. We tend to overlook the power of His message and the way He spoke; even the officers found His words and ways unique and compelling.

6. **Powerful.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we bow before Jesus and His powerful ways and words of life.

7. **Agree.** We rejoice today because we agree that never has a man spoken like Jesus.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by expecting the words of Jesus to change some of the hearts who hear Him.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by understanding that Jesus loves His enemies and speaks to them of eternal life in Him.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by speaking of Jesus with people who want to seize Jesus and His followers.**

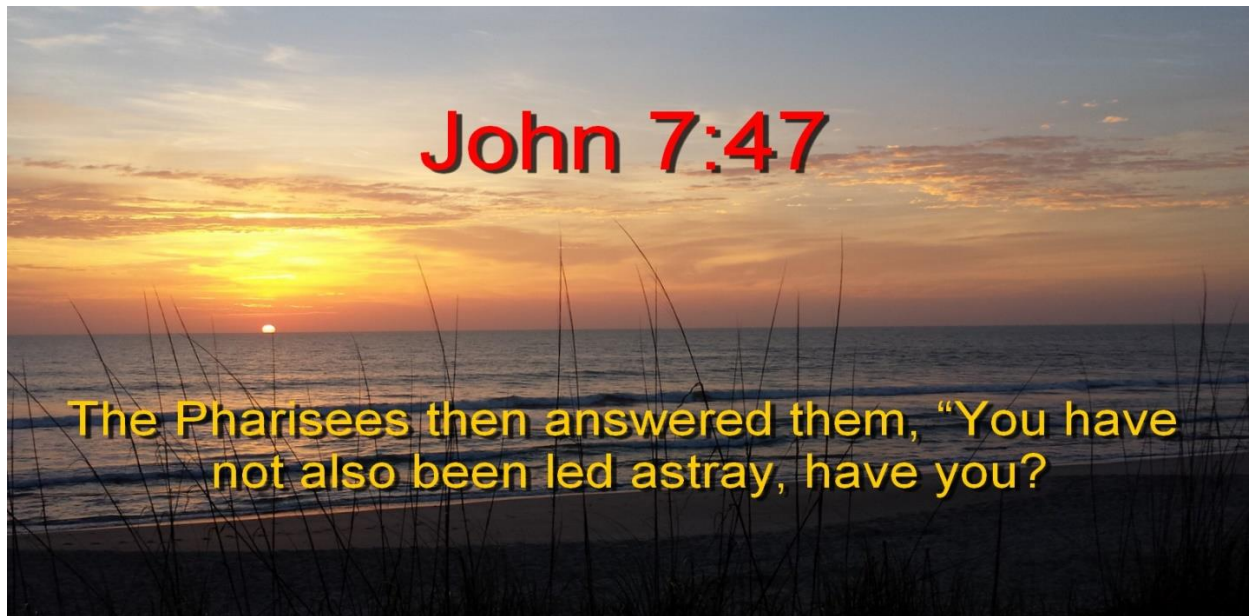
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by loving our enemies and sharing the words of Jesus to people opposed to Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by sharing the words of Jesus with the enemies of Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Thirty

Led Astray Today



What did the Pharisees ask the officers when they returned? They asked the officers if they had been led astray.

The Pharisees had heard Jesus speaking. They investigated Jesus and Jesus spent time talking with them. Jesus criticized the Pharisees for keeping their traditions at the expense of the commandments of God. Jesus even ate with Pharisees.

The Pharisees thought that their officers had been taken captive by Jesus and His words. We may forget how powerful the words of Jesus were. Some of His words stopped His enemies from seizing Him. He did not use clubs or swords to stop His enemies. He used the words of hope and power to change the hearts and minds of His enemies. In the end Jesus would lay down His life for the elect, but He did so voluntarily.

Led Astray

1. **Leaders.** The religious leaders sent officers to arrest Jesus. They returned empty-handed. When questioned, they said they never heard a man speak in the way Jesus spoke.
2. **Interrogate.** The religious leaders then began to interrogate the officers.
3. **Hinder.** The religious leaders opposed Jesus and sought to seize and kill Jesus. They rejected eternal life found only in Jesus, and sought to hinder other people from coming to Jesus.
4. **Opponents.** Notice that some of the fiercest opponents of Jesus accused Jesus of leading people astray.
5. **Accuse.** Of course, Jesus never led people astray. Today, if you are leading people to Jesus, then expect that many religious leaders will accuse you of leading people astray.
6. **Follow.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect people to oppose us as we follow Jesus. They will claim we are leading people astray.
7. **Righteousness.** We rejoice today because we follow Jesus, Who leads us in paths of righteousness. Religious leaders may claim we are leading people astray, but they said the same thing about Jesus, our glorious Savior.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by watching Jesus change the hearts and minds of people.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we expect our enemies to say that Jesus misleads people.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by extolling God for never misleading us, because God always tells the truth and cannot lie.**

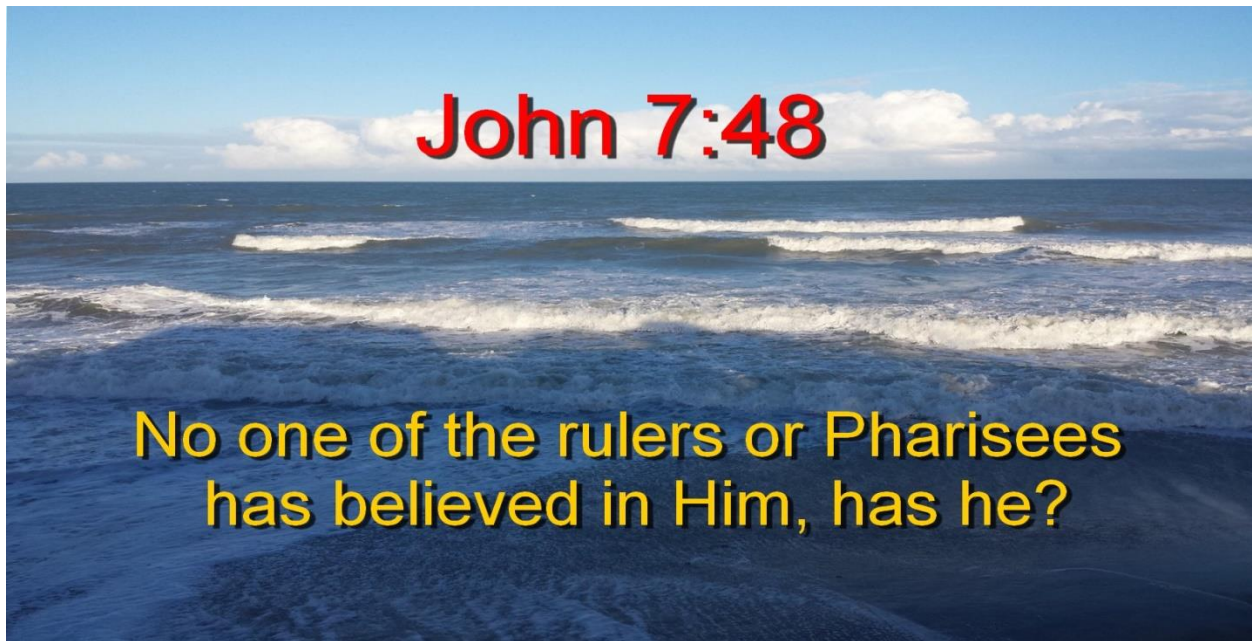
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus never to mislead us. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following Jesus, even as He leads you through opposition from religious leaders?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Thirty One

No One Today



Had even one of the rulers or Pharisees believed in Jesus? The expected answer was no.

The speaker was making a point about Jesus. No Pharisee nor ruler had believed in Jesus, or so he thought. But we know that Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews, had come to Jesus by night and talked with Him. Nicodemus heard all about eternal life from Jesus. Although we do not know for sure if Nicodemus believed in Jesus for salvation that night, we do know that Nicodemus helped entomb Jesus later.

When people try to justify unbelief by citing the number of unbelievers, or claim that some unbelievers count more than other unbelievers, they still remain unbelievers. Jesus said that only people willing to do the will of God will know if Jesus was telling the truth. Likewise, Jesus said that only the people whom the Father draws to Jesus will come to Jesus.

Rulers or Pharisees

1. **Empty-Handed.** As the religious leaders continued their interrogation of the empty-handed officers, they now turned to the question of belief.
2. **Any?** The religious leaders asked if any religious ruler or Pharisee had believed in Jesus. Their question expected a negative answer.
3. **Astray.** Notice that the religious leaders equated belief in Jesus with being led astray.
4. **Argue.** As religious leaders try to prove that Jesus does not tell the truth, please take notice that they argue from their own experience.
5. **Seen.** The religious leaders do not dispute the power of Jesus and His miracles; the crowds have seen them.
6. **Oppose.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect religious leaders to oppose Jesus. They will argue against belief in Jesus.
7. **Persecuted.** We rejoice today because we expect opposition to our faith in Jesus. Jesus said we should rejoice when we are persecuted for our faith, because our reward in heaven is great.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by remembering that many religious leaders rejected Jesus as Savior.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by never being misled by religious leaders who rejected Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to lead us while we ignore religious leaders seeking to lead us astray.**

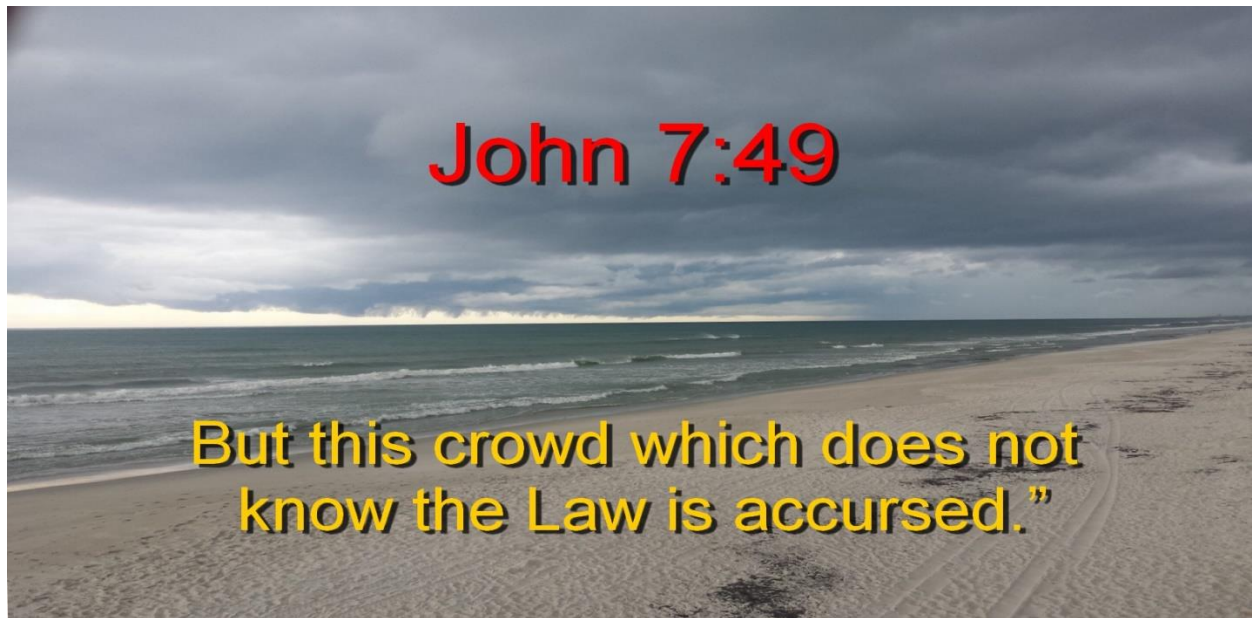
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by trusting Jesus to lead us as religious leaders lead many people astray. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by focusing your attention upon Jesus and His teachings in the Bible?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Thirty Two

Does Not Know Today



Why did the Pharisees and religious leaders consider the crowd accursed? They considered the crowd accursed because they did not know the Law.

When the religious leaders passed judgment upon the crowd, they also passed the same judgment upon themselves. They too did not know the Law, for if they did, then they would have known God the Father. If they knew God the Father, then they would have known God the Son when He appeared before them.

The very judgment they rendered about the crowd also applied to themselves. They were accursed for blaspheming Jesus and trying to seize Him and kill Him. People should always be very careful about not passing judgment upon themselves when they condemn others.

Accursed

1. **Interrogation.** The religious leaders continue their interrogation of the empty-handed officers.

2. **Law.** They next brought up the Old Testament Law. They meant the Law of Moses in particular.

3. **Accursed.** The religious leaders called the crowd accursed, because the religious leaders thought the crowd did not know the Law.

4. **Leaders.** In fact, the religious leaders did not know the Law and broke the Law themselves.

5. **Sabbath.** The religious leaders thought Jesus broke the Law by healing on the Sabbath, but the priests worked on the Sabbath and everyone watered their animals on the Sabbath. Jesus healed on the Sabbath, as Lord of the Sabbath; Jesus never broke the Law, but fulfilled the Law.

6. **Scripture.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we expect religious leaders to tell us we do not agree with their understandings of Scripture.

7. **Curse.** We rejoice today because Jesus was hung on a cross for us, and suffered that curse for us. He became sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by knowing that Jesus because a curse for us so that He could free us from the curse of sin.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God as we rejoice in Jesus who fulfilled every part of the Law for us.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we praise Jesus for His great patience with people who claim He broke the Law.**

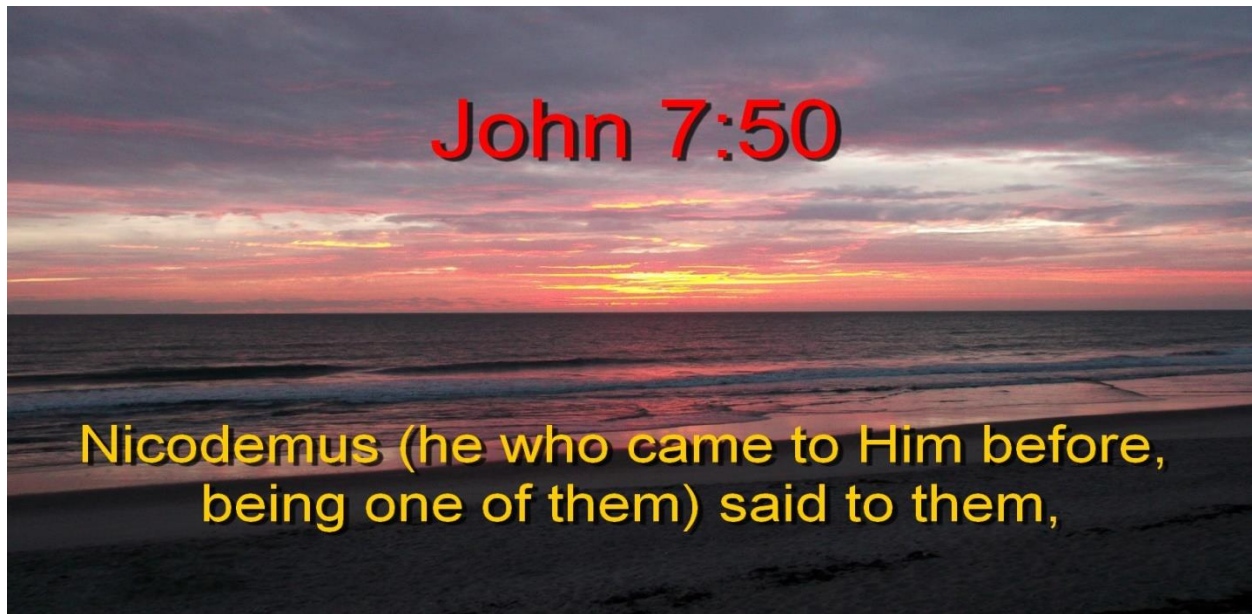
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by rejecting the claims of religious leaders who say that Jesus broke the Law of Moses and encouraged others to do likewise. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by rejoicing that people believed in Jesus, even though the religious authorities opposed Jesus and His followers?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Thirty Three

Nicodemus Today



Did Nicodemus stand up for Jesus? Nicodemus stood up for Jesus, even when the religious leaders sought to seize Jesus and kill Him.

Nicodemus came to Jesus by night. He was a religious ruler of Israel and said many nice things about Jesus. Even so, Jesus explained to him that he must be born again to see the kingdom of God. Without being born again, the wrath of God abode upon him.

Jesus was not partial to anyone. He proclaimed the same Gospel of Jesus Christ to the rich and poor, the leaders and the oppressed, the free and the slaves. Jesus loved everyone, and even His enemies recognized that He was not partial to any. He talked freely with males and females, and He gave His life for our sins. Jesus came down from heaven to give His soul a ransom for many.

Nicodemus

1. **Finished.** After the religious leaders finished their interrogation of the empty-handed officers, Nicodemus spoke.

2. **Nicodemus.** Earlier, Nicodemus had come to Jesus by night. He said nice things about Jesus, but Jesus told Nicodemus that he must be born again to see the kingdom of God.

3. **Doctrine.** Jesus also asked Nicodemus why he did not understand the doctrine of spiritual rebirth in Jesus.

4. **Born Again.** The religious leaders had just proclaimed that no ruler of the Jews had believed in Jesus. Yet, Nicodemus had met Jesus and heard about being born again.

5. **Not Told.** Nicodemus obviously had not told the other religious leaders about his meeting at night with Jesus.

6. **Not Openly.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we know that not everyone openly proclaims their faith in Jesus.

7. **Some.** We rejoice today because God called Nicodemus and us to eternal life; God does not call many noble, but some.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by speaking up for Jesus.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God by not remaining in the shadows when people oppose Jesus.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we stand together to follow Jesus wherever He leads us.**

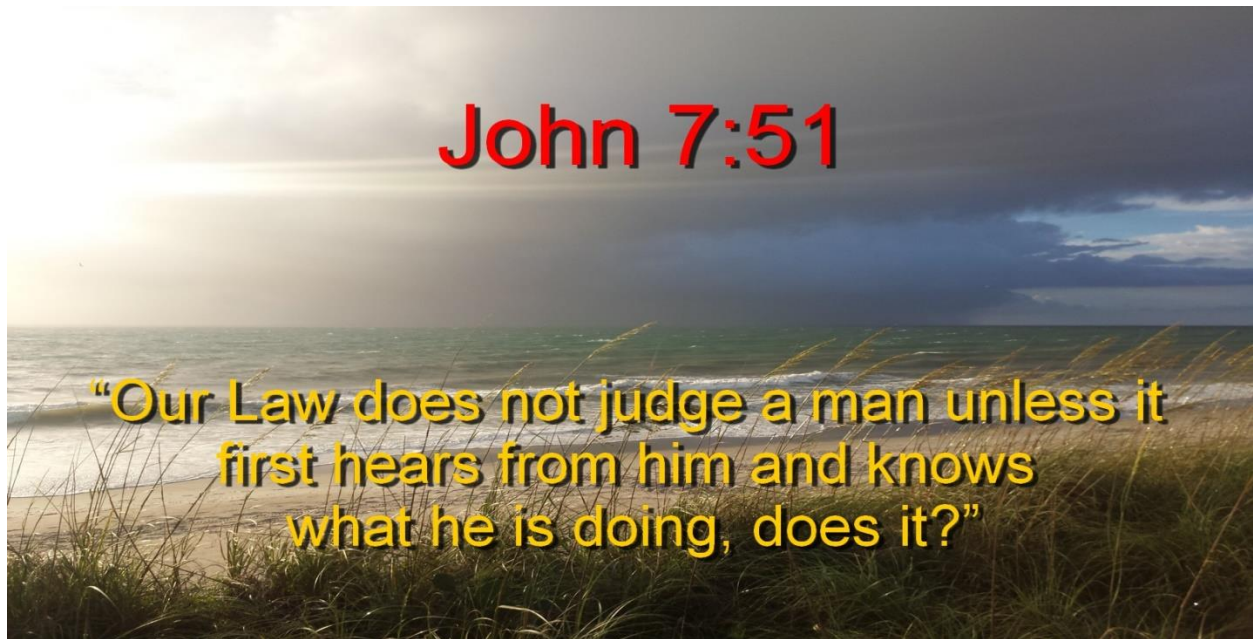
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by speaking up when others voice their opposition to Jesus. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by living in courage from Jesus?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Thirty Four

Judge a Man Today



What did Nicodemus tell the religious leaders? Nicodemus told them that their Law does not judge a man unless it first hears from him and knows what he is doing wrong.

Nicodemus stood up for Jesus by citing legal procedure to the religious leaders. They claimed to be following the Law, but they were not giving Jesus a chance to answer any charges brought against Him. The religious leaders were all ready to convict Jesus without giving Him His day in court.

Jesus had already stood in the temple and in Jerusalem. He did not let their plans to seize Him stop Him from speaking publicly. He knew that His hour had not yet come. He was keenly aware of how and when He would be arrested and then sentenced to death.

Hears from Him

1. **Reminded.** Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews who came to Jesus by night, reminded the religious leaders of their Law.

2. **Rights.** Nicodemus pointed out two rights of the accused under the Law before judgment may be rendered: (a) the accused has the right to be heard; and (b) the accused has the right to tell what he was doing.

3. **Reality.** In other words, the religious leaders claimed to be following the Law, but in reality they did not follow the Law. They wanted to convict Jesus without first hearing from Him.

4. **Power.** The religious leaders knew the power of Jesus speaking in ways no other man had spoken.

5. **Divided.** Jesus had divided the crowd, and also stopped the officers from arresting Him--all because of His way with words.

6. **Learn.** Living Godly in the family of God means that we always look forward to hearing from Jesus and learn about the things He is doing.

7. **Truth.** We rejoice today because Jesus loves us and never stopped proclaiming the truth for all to hear.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by reminding people that everyone deserves to be heard before sentence is passed upon them.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God when we speak up for Jesus and point out to his opponents that they are not being fair under their own Law.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we remember people who stood up for Jesus even when it was not popular for them to do so.**

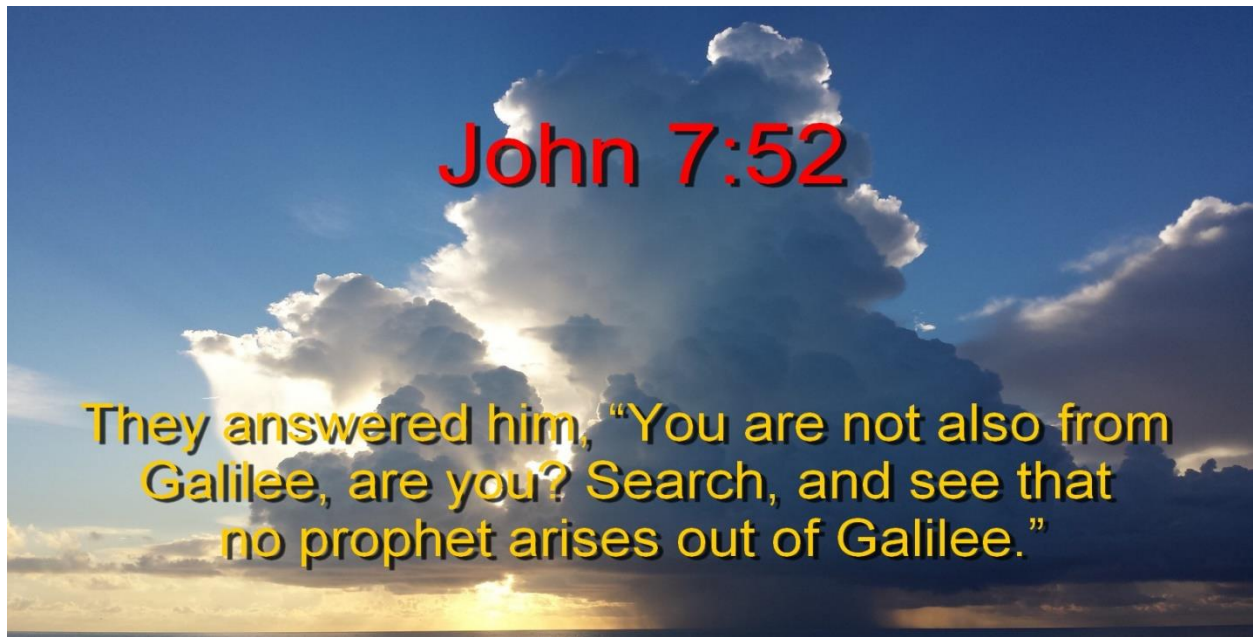
Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God as we do not judge people without hearing from them first. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by withholding judgment until you have heard from both sides?

HALLELUJAH !

Day Three Hundred Thirty Four

From Galilee Today



Why did the religious leaders ask Nicodemus if he also was from Galilee? The religious leaders had already made up their minds that Jesus should be killed.

The religious leaders again claimed that no prophet arises out of Galilee. They overlooked the Old Testament passage about the people of Galilee seeing a great light.

When people make up their mind before they have all the facts and they hear from the accused, it becomes clear they never intended to follow the Law anyway. They had their own ideas about killing Jesus and they intended to carry them out.

The officers they sent to arrest Jesus came away empty-handed because they heard Jesus say things no one ever said. Jesus astonished people with His teaching. He even affected the officers from the religious leaders they sent to arrest Him.

Search and See

1. **Answered**. Some people answered Jesus judging from appearance only. They did not understand that Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

2. **You**. People addressed Jesus as they would any other man. They had real questions for Jesus. He was totally approachable.

3. **From**. Jesus had already told them He was from heaven. They completely dismissed that revelation. Instead, they were focused upon where Jesus was from on earth.

4. **Galilee**. People thought Jesus was from Galilee. They did not understand that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, fled to Egypt, and then went grow up in Galilee, away from Herod.

5. **Search**. People told Jesus to search. They had no idea that Jesus wrote the entire Bible, and knew everything in the Bible as God.

6. **No Prophet**. Living Godly in the family of God means that people told Jesus that no prophet arises out of Galilee. They overlooked Scripture passages that said the people in Galilee were sitting in darkness and a great light shined upon those people sitting in the shadow of death.

7. **Heaven**. We rejoice today because Jesus declared He was from heaven. He only lived in Galilee for a time on earth. People, not Jesus, should search the Scripture to see if they are misinterpreting the Scriptures.

Summary for Today

- **We live Godly in the family of God by searching and seeing what the Scriptures have to say.**
- **We live more Godly in the family of God when we remind people to follow the Bible, and not their own prejudices.**
- **We live mutually Godly in the family of God as we remember Nicodemus who stood up for Jesus and encouraged the religious leaders to follow the Law before they convicted Jesus of anything.**

Application for Today

Today, we may live Godly in the family of God by leaving our prejudices behind and search the Scriptures for the proper way to do all things. Will you live Godly in the family of God today by following the Scriptures before you make any judgment?

HALLELUJAH !

Conclusion

Jesus loved people one at a time. Each person received individual attention. Jesus met the woman at the well and she received the water that became in her a well of water springing up to eternal life.

Jesus healed the broken heart of Pallet Man. He had been trying to get into the water for thirty-eight years. Jesus healed him and bound up his broken heart. As Pallet Man walked away in the presence of the multitude, he testified to the power of God. The Jews saw the healing on the Sabbath and Jesus explained His Father worked on the Sabbath and so did He. The Jews then sought to kill Him because He worked on the Sabbath and made Himself equal with God, by claiming to be the Son of God.

Jesus taught that everyone would be resurrected. Those who did evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment and those who did good deeds to a resurrection of life. Jesus promised that everyone who believes in Him will never come into judgment, because they have passed out of death into life.

Jesus also fed five thousand men, plus women and children with five loaves and two fish. The crowd then followed Jesus. He told them that they sought Him because of the food they received. Jesus proclaimed that He is the Bread of Life which came down out of heaven. Everyone who ate of that Bread of Life would live forever. Jesus also walked on water.

Jesus spent time teaching at the Feast in Jerusalem. He explained that His Father sent Him and He only taught the things His Father showed Him. The Jews divided over His words. Jesus again spoke of everyone who believes in Him as having a flow of rivers of living water from his innermost being, speaking of the Holy Spirit.

HALLELUJAH !