



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel  
John 7:14-24  
From Sermon 11.26.23

Read *John 7:14-24*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: In His own sovereign timing, Jesus does go to the city for the feast and holiday. As He teaches, the leaders and crowd reveal more evidence of their spiritual darkness. The words of Jesus, however, are bold, uncensored proclamation of His identity. They have a preconceived idea of what Messiah should be. Jesus establishes who He is—and His serving mission at His first coming. The leaders despise Him because He doesn't not play their game and He calls out their hypocrisy.

1. How do you explain that, while Jesus was 100% man and 100% God simultaneously, in His earthly ministry, He repeatedly claims "His words are not His own?" 1) Some things were veiled, by design, until His resurrection & glorification. 2) The term also means "not His alone" but that He and the Father and the Spirit are in complete unity and agreement.

See also *Matthew 24:36, John 5:19, & 12:49-50*

2. Discuss: Jesus never tried to please the crowd, draw a crowd, or keep a crowd. (very opposite today's church). The very fact of their rejection is evidence of His truth and divinity. See *2 Corinthians 4:3-4*

3. The Jews accuse Jesus of breaking the Sabbath. But what are some things (works) they will do on the Sabbath and other laws they will break? Various answers. The clergy always works on the Sabbath. They must conduct the service and perform all the rituals. Likewise, from our key text, they would perform circumcision on the Sabbath. They will break numerous laws in order to arrest, accuse, and condemn Jesus.

See also *Luke 14:5*

4. Discuss: What the world sees and hears about Jesus vs. What the elect see and hear about Him. Evangelism, preaching, and worship results are not on you. We don't have to persuade anyone. We just preach, sing, & teach biblical truth. The Holy Spirit is the One who convicts and convinces, not us.

See *Matthew 10:20*

5. What is the doctrine of stricter judgment? Those who have heard the words of Jesus (preaching of the Gospel) and those who witnessed His miraculous works—and still rejected Him—will receive a stricter judgment than those who never saw or heard.

6. Having studied John's Gospel now for almost a year, what is your hope this Christmas? How will deep knowledge of this Gospel effect your 2024? Various personal answers.

\*We're issuing a challenge to review and remember John for January\*