"My Time is Not Yet at Hand"

Intro: As we open to our text this morning (to the 7th chapter of John’s gospel), we come to a point of transition where ____________ Jesus, _______ Savior and ________, completes His period of ministry in Galilee and carefully enters into a final season of ministry in Judea. In our text this Lord’s Day we will read of our Lord’s interaction with His brothers, of the Jewish leader’s hatred of Him, and of the peoples thoughts regarding Him. As we read of these, let us simultaneously ____________ ourselves and ____________ and response to Jesus.

I. After the events of chapter 6, ________ continued to live and ____________ in Galilee because the Judean Jewish authorities were seeking to kill Him.

II. Since the Feast of Booths was at hand, Jesus’ ____________ encouraged Him to ____________ from Galilee to ________ into Judea. (To learn about the Feast of Booths read Ex. 23:16-17; Deut. 16:16, Lev. 23:33-34; Num. 29:12-40; 1 Kings 8:2, 11, 13, 62-66; Neh. 8:13-18)

A. With their brother ________ claiming to have God as His own Father and to be the Bread of Heaven ________, it seemed only logical that if He was who He claimed to be, He should at this time (the time of the Feast of Booths) go to the Holy City and make His ________ verifying it with signs and wonders.

1. To our Lord’s ________ it seemed absurd that the one who claimed to be the Messiah would deliberately avoid a good opportunity for publicity and to gain worshipers. They ________, thus: “Surely no one who seeks to be known publicly does anything in secret, but does what they do to be seen by men, to gain popularity.” Thus, they ____________ Jesus to go to Judea saying, in so many words, “If you are the Messiah, You should ‘show Yourself to the world.’”

B. The ________ did ________ believe in Him for their words betray their heart. As of yet, they did not ________ that their own brother ________ was the Divine Deliverer, the Messiah.

1. That His brothers would not believe was ________ in the Psalms. Ps 69:8 says, “I have become estranged from my brothers, And ________ to my mother's sons.”

C. At the ________ ________ Jesus would in fact go to Jerusalem and would enter the city as the Messiah, and in fact, it would be at a great time of celebration when men from all over the world made a pilgrimage to the Holy City, but the time for that entrance was ________ at hand.

1. The Lord makes it clear that He understands that there are those who seek to do Him harm, for the ________ Him. And, it is for this reason (that when He comes into Jerusalem as the Messiah that they will ________ Him), that His time had ________ come.
III. After His brothers had gone up to the Feast, ____________ Himself then ______ also, but not publicly as they challenged Him to, but as it were, ___ _____________.

A. Just as Jesus knew, the Jerusalem authorities were ____________ Him ___ do Him _____________.

B. While the authorities were seeking Him, the ________________ were troubled as they discussed Him, ________________ over Him.

1. Whether one thought Jesus was one who lead the multitudes astray or a good man, they were ____________ in ____________ for neither did He lead the people astray, nor was He only a good man. In truth ____________ was much more than a good man for He ___ the Christ, the Son of God, God very ________ Himself, the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world!

C. The ________________ in Jerusalem did not speak openly of Jesus for they _________ the Jewish authorities.

Closing: And beloved, in light of this text, let us ________________ your own ___________.

There were His brothers who did not believe, and tried to force the Lord to do as they desired by sinfully challenging Him. Are any of us ______ ________? . . . ____________ of your sin, and trust in the Lord with all your heart. And as you come to ________________, you are saved!

Or, are any of us like the world who _________ ________? If so, turn from your sin, for soon enough your life will be required of you and then, as the Scripture declares, you will kneel before Christ and confess Him as Lord. But, it will be too late for you to ________________, and the just judgement will be upon you! Believe while there is time.

Or, are any of us like the multitude in Jerusalem, complaining, arguing, disagreeing, believing all sorts of things about Jesus, good and bad, but not believing that He is the Christ? ________________ upon Jesus, and ___ ____________!

And then, perhaps many of us do believe, but like the multitude, we fear man. Again, Prov 29:25 says, “The fear of man brings a snare . . .” but it also goes on to say, “But he who ____________ in the ____________ will be exalted.” . . .

Rom 10:9 says, “if you _________ with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and ________________ in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall ____ ____________ .”

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