

Title: "Never Man <sup>spoke</sup> Like This Man"

Text: John 7:40-53

John chapter 7 verse 40. The Gospel of John chapter 7 verse 40. There are notes in your bulletin, and I encourage you to follow along with me. ~~We have just~~ <sup>Last Sunday we</sup> listened to the remarkable words of Jesus in Verses ~~37-39~~ <sup>37-39</sup>. Words that were spoken on the last day of the feast of Tabernacles. And on that last day it was customary for the Priest to pour out off the golden vessels of the Temple; water. And this water was symbolic of the water that came out-off the rock in the wilderness. And at that moment Jesus cried with a loud voice and said: "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. And from his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water/..."

And this he spoke of the Holy Spirit. <sup>and we learned that</sup> ~~the~~ the rock symbolized Jesus Christ. The water that came out-off the rock symbolized the Holy Spirit. <sup>For</sup> the wonderful abundant life of the Spirit is pictured, and promised to those who would believe on <sup>Jesus Christ</sup>

Upon hearing this, we read in Vs 40 "~~Some of the multitude~~ <sup>When they heard these words, were saying, "This certainly is the prophet</sup> ~~whom~~ <sup>whom</sup> ~~they were saying, "This is the~~ <sup>Christ"</sup>

(Read Vs 40-53)

Let's Pray

(5C) In Vs 40 through Vs 44, I would like you to notice the confusion of the people, here, over the person of Christ. And I want to share with you four things about this matter of confusion that resulted from the Words that <sup>Jesus</sup> spoke on the last day of <sup>the</sup> ~~that~~ feast of Tabernacles

(1) Number one, the <sup>reason</sup> ~~occasion~~ <sup>for</sup> this confusion, WAS THE claims of J.C. and his invitation to come to him.

And I would like to <sup>remind</sup> ~~admonish~~ you that all such claims bring ~~such~~ confusion in this world today. Just as in the days of Jesus. The claims he made when he said; "If any man thirst, let him come to me and drink." And his invitation that all men come to him caused this confusion which according to Vs 43 <sup>caused</sup> ~~was~~ a division among the people.

And it will <sup>be</sup> so today. ~~that the occasion of~~ confusion and division among <sup>the</sup> people is usually centered around the claims of Jesus christ and the invitation for all people to come to him.

The Sunday that I was gone because shirley was in the hospital gave me an opportunity to <sup>hear</sup> ~~watch~~ a religious program on <sup>Radio</sup> ~~TV~~. And after much searching I finally found one worth <sup>listening to</sup> ~~watching~~. It was a debat between some christian clergy and a Jewish <sup>R</sup>abby. And as I <sup>listened</sup> ~~watch~~ it amazed me how <sup>these</sup> ~~this~~ christian ministers watered down the gospel in order to find some common ground with the Rabby. But the Rabbi knew what the <sup>christian</sup> message was <sup>all about</sup>.

You know it is funny to me how often that is true. People really do try to water down the claims of Jesus: what he said and what he taught and who He claimed to be. <sup>and they fail</sup> ~~that they~~ to water it down and make Jesus something we can handle on a human level. While the Jews in both the days of Christ and today know exactly what the Christian message is <sup>all about</sup>. And I hope you know what it is. <sup>But</sup> There is always confussion when the claims of Jesus Christ are presented. Not everyone will believe it. Many people will resent it. Especially when the invitation goes to people: COME UNTO HIM...

You see, if we understand the Bible, we must invite all to come to Jesus. We must invite all because a born again believer realizes that he has come to THE TRUTH. You have found God in human flesh. You know what He is like. You have come to believe in him. Now, the invitation must go out to everyone COME TO JESUS. If any man thirst let him come to him. <sup>So, we see the reason</sup>

<sup>For the Confusion</sup> The Jews in that day knew exactly what Jesus meant.

(20) The second thing that I want you to notice is that the opinions that are expressed about Jesus are often good but they do not guarantee a saving faith. There are a couple of good opinions, here, About Jesus Christ. Things that are well stated and are the truth. But they never guarantee saving faith.

Some people will agree that what Jesus is saying is the truth. Here are two examples of such statements.

(1E) One, in Vs 40, it says of a truth: "THIS CERTAINLY IS THE PROPHET."

And ~~the people~~ says, "THE PROPHET." The particular one. Not a prophet in general. Some religions and cults teach that Jesus was a prophet like many other men. That isn't the point here. He is THE PROPHET. The special one that is predicted or promised. You will find that <sup>prediction</sup> in Deut. chapter 18 verse 15, if you would check it later.

The Bible teaches that God would raise up a prophet. And he would speak like no other spoke. And he would have more authority than anyone else.

And so when Jesus said this, the people responded, "This certainly is the prophet. The one that was predicted in Deut 18.

So, this opinion was a good opinion. But it didn't guarantee that they were believers.

(2E) And the second opinion was likened unto it because in Vs 41 <sup>The people said</sup> ~~it~~ says: "This is the Christ." And of course that is true. Jesus was the Messiah. But it didn't guarantee saving faith. They knew the prophecy. But they couldn't accept the Messiah standing right in front of them.

I have often been amazed at how easily people say the truth about Jesus and yet they don't submit to <sup>the truth</sup> it. They know the truth. And they will say the truth. But they don't submit to Jesus.

Do you know the truth? <sup>And</sup> And yet you have never submitted to it? The Bible <sup>Teacher</sup> says that even <sup>person</sup> ~~believers~~ in relationship to the Word of God, should not only hear it, understand it, but they should do it. People can easily hear the truth, and say the truth, and say the right things at the right time, and yet, not really <sup>submit to the truth</sup> ~~submit to the truth~~

And this is like these people. The opinions they expressed were good. But it didn't guarantee saving faith. <sup>And maybe that is true of your life</sup>

(3D) The third thing that I want you to notice is that the observations that the people were making, like many today, are often hasty and lacking in carefully study.

People make a quick observation. But they are hasty in it. And they don't have all the facts. Here is an example. Vs 41....(READ Vs 41-42)

Now, the observation they were making was a correct one. But it was lacking in careful study.

Because they were ignoring or they just didn't know that Jesus was born in Bethlehem. <sup>if refers to</sup> They were instead recounting only history as ~~in~~ Nazareth. And that was in Galilee.

So, the question that they ask indicates that they observe the truth of the Messiah's origin. They knew where he was to come from in contrast <sup>out</sup> to Herod the king who didn't know at the time of the birth of Jesus. But the common people knew that truth. They said it. They observed it. But they were lacking in careful study.

You can often know that something is the truth, but maybe you lack many of the facts. And thus you don't come to the right conclusion. <sup>Now, Let me Translate For You.</sup> ~~Let me give it to you~~ literally. "Out of Galilee, the Christ is not coming, is He?....."

Now, in Greek there are two different ways to express a negative meaning NO....One, means, absolutely not. No question about it.

The other NO really opens the door for further remarks. You are really not quite sure of your NO....And that is the question here in Vs 41. They said, "Out of Galilee, the Christ is not coming, is He?....."

The question applies a NO, but there is still doubt. They are not sure. But, Vs 42 is used in the absolute sense. It reads literally: "Has not the Scripture said that from the offspring of David, and from Bethlehem of the village where David was, IS THE CHRIST COMING?"

And the answer here assumes an absolute <sup>Yes</sup> ~~"OF GALILEE"~~ <sup>you see</sup>. They knew <sup>some</sup> those facts from the Bible. He was to come from the seed of David. And he was to be born in Bethlehem. That is what they knew.

But they were not quite sure when they made the ~~same~~ statement, WILL CHRIST COME OUT OF GALILEE? He doesn't, does he? As though someone might have some more information. They were not quite sure of all the facts.

<sup>out</sup> OLK....why do I point this out to you? Because even in the Sanhedrian in Vs 52, when they said: "Search, and see that no prophet arises out of Galilee," They also were not carefully studying. Because Elijah, Amos, Jonah, and other <sup>prophet</sup> came from Galilee.

And I ~~were~~ believe, and I don't believe I am reading into the text, that the issue here deals not just with a prophet in general but with THE prophet. The ~~particular~~ <sup>a</sup> prophet that Moses predicted. It was that one. And they were scared to death that Jesus, coming out-of Galilee, might be that prophet. ~~And I really believe that.~~ <sup>guess</sup>

Notice, their first question implied doubt. They weren't really sure. But they didn't know. They had no idea.

Many prophets came out off Galitllee. That is why the statement is embarrassing. Did THE prophet come out off Galitlee. The only thing they knew was that THE prophet was to be born in Bethlehem and to come from the seed of David. That is the only thing they ~~w~~ really knew. And so they were trying to make a further point.

When the Multitude ask, "Is this the Mezziah?"....Well, the Mezziah couldn't come out-off Galilee, ah...could he?.....

That is the meaning of this verse. What if ~~some~~ one at that moment had come forth and said: "Hay, wait a minute. There is an O.T. passage that teaches that the Mezziah would come out off Galilee."

Listen, friends, there was such a passage. As a matter of fact the Bible teaches just that. The Mezziah would come out off Galilee; and the light is going to come to all the Gentles. The Bible did predict it.

~~They were~~ You see, they were ignoring it. Many, many times we will make observations that are hasty. They are good, but they are hasty. And we haven't done our home work. They were ignoring some scripture without realizing it. But their question implies the doubt. He is not coming out of Galilee, is he?.....

Yet, ther was a scripture indicating that the Mezziah would come out off Galilee. Was he to be born in Bethlehem....YES...They knew that fact... But they were not quite sure of the other <sup>facts</sup>

And a lot of people, today, are in the same condition. They will make good conclusions, but they are hasty. They are made without all the facts. Like making a decision based on one or two verses without knowing what the rest of the Bible teaches. Thus, you could make an improper one. <sup>Be Careful as that</sup>

*and* Jesus was that prophet. And the desention and division that is growing concerns that issue.

(40) The fourth thing that I want you to notice, here, in Vs 40-44, is that opposition to Christ is always *present* when his claims are presented.

There is always opposition.

Vs 43 says, "There arose a division." That is the word "schism." People were divided. A division among the people because of Jesus.

If you would like to see this in an every day application. Just walk' into a barbar shop or a food store or where a group of people are, and tell them what you really think about Jesus. You want to see a division take place? Just walk in there and tell them who Jesus really is.

*and* Now, we ought to be tackful in our approach and loving and so forth. But if you want to see a schism, then preach Christ according to what He really claimed.....That happens real fast. It doesn't take any time at all. There will always be opposition.

*But,* Do you know the thing that thrills me here? And I am not reading between the lines. Vs 44 really thrills me. Maybe you have never looked at it in this manner, but let me share it with you.

"Some of them wanted to seize Him, but no one laid hands on him." And the thing that thrills me is that no matter what the oppostion, the opposition is helpless unless God permits it to act.....Fantastic..... No one can ultimately take Christ, either. No matter how much they may desire to do so. To take him and kill him. No one could do that.

As a matter of fact, in the hour when they were ready to do it, Jeus said that no man can take my life from me. I lay it down voluntarily.

*and* When the band of soldiers came to take Jesus in the Garden, and Judas pointed out the Messiah with the kiss of betrayal, what did Jesus do?.....

He turned and looked at them....and bang....THEY ALL FELL OVER...They just fell over...

You know, I like the way some men try to explain the power of God. One commentator said that one of the Roman solkdiers ~~tripped~~ tripped....Can you believe that?.....

One Roman soldier tripped and knocked over 500 Roman soldiers....ARE YOU KUDDING?.....(ha).....Some people go to any ends to explain the Bible away.

Listen, all Jesus did was to look at them and bang...They all fell over backwards as though they were dead.....

The point of the whole thing ~~is~~ is quite simple. Jesus was just letting them know who was in charge. Then he let them take him away. He just wanted people to know that he was willing giving his life. No one ~~had~~ hands on him. <sup>ad</sup> Isn't that great to know that the same thing is promised about you and me?.....THE SAME THING.....

No matter what the opposition, no matter how strong and powerful, he is absolutely helpless unless God is permitting it to act.

And even when He allows it to come against you, <sup>There is a purpose</sup> he is building and ~~forming~~ forming, and maturing you life.

A lot of people want to get <sup>rid</sup> of Jesus. But it just can't be done. It ~~isn't possible~~.

~~And~~ God's will is an issue here in Vs 43 and 44. And this really blessed me.

(7) <sup>with</sup> Now, the ~~sixth~~ <sup>seventh</sup> major area of this discussion about the feast is in the last few verses of this chapter, Verse 45 to 53.. And I want you to notice the controversy that came up amongst the rulers.

No matter how religious you are, or no matter how much you know, when Jesus is presented a controversy comes up amongst the rulers. And I thought of that as I <sup>listen</sup> watched that debat <sup>radio</sup> on T.V. Among the rulers and religious leaders there is debat about who Jesus is. It was no different in that day then it is today. There is still controversy among ~~the~~ the people concerning the person of Jesus Christ.

And maybe you have been coming to this church for awhile. And you are still struggling with this issue. And you say, "Why do you keep hammering it home." Because I believe exactly what the Bible says in Romans 10:9. That you must confess that Jesus is Lord in order to be saved. There are a lot of false conversions around because we are not bowing the knee to Jesus for what He claims to be.

You can talk about him, act like you know Him and say the right words, but if you have never bowed the knee to His Lordship, and recognized Him for who he is, the Bible says there isn't any salvation. For Jesus is Lord. And His name is above every name. At the name of Jesus ever knee should bow and every tongue should confess that HE IS LORD.

And if you haven't done that, my friend, you are not saved... You say, "What a terrible thing to say."....Better it said now, then at the Great judgement of God.....

Every one is to confess Jesus for what he is and who he is. *And if you haven't confessed Christ as Lord, & trust you will today*  
+++++  
(COULD CLOSE HERE)

A few things about this controversy....

(10) One, the return of the officers in Vs 45-46. Remember those guys were sent by the religious leaders. Back in Vs 32, "The Pharisees heard the multitude muttering and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent officers to seize Him."

So, now the officers return to the chief Priest...(READ Vs 45-46)

The word "never" in Greek means: *There was never any man* "is not ever was ~~there any~~ man at all who is speaking like this one."

And they used the present tense meaning: continuous speech. In other words: everything that comes out of his mouth is different from any one who has ever spoke....I LIKE THAT....I REALLY DO....I think that is good...

All the time that He speaks there is no one that I have heard in my life who can speak like that.....Everytime.....That is why we couldn't bring him.....This reminds me of the Baptism of Jesus. When Christ came up out off the water, a voice from the heavens said: "This is my beloved son, hear him."

They heard him alright. And they were helpless.

(20) In Vs 47 we see the resistance of these religious leadaers.  
(Read Vs 47-48)

And this really is kind-off funny if you can capture in your mind what is being said here. Let me translate literal for you....



"Any one out-off the rulers or out-off the Pha isees did not believe in him, did they?"....."Ah, Did they?".....In other words, we have this element of doubt. They really didn't know.

Now, there isn't anyone of us that believeas in Him, is there?..... They really weren't sure. They didn't know.

But, do you know what their implication really was?....This burns me. But I see it in our world, today. Their implication was that anyone who is a religious leader, or someone with education, would never believe in Jesus. That was the implication.

And I couldn't help but think of I Cor. 1:26 where Paul wrote: "Not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise."

And the implication of these religious rulers was that an educated person certainly would not believe on Jesus. Are you led astry<sup>?</sup> they ask the officers.....

(3D) In Vs 49, the third thing that I want you to notice is the rebuke they cast upon the multitude. They were not satisfied with rebuking the officers. So, they turned to the people. They had to blame somebody, you see. So, they said, Vs 49, "This multitude which does not know the law is accursed."

Imigine that?....Religious leaders saying that the people don't know the law as we do, and therefore they are accursed.....Sad.

Now, you may ask in your mind, WHY was it that those men said that? Did they really believe that the common person was accursed?

Let me shasre with you a quote from the Rabbianical teaching of that day. This is just one example of a lot of material that is available on the subject. QUOTE..."The ignorant are in pois(meaning: no piety, no godliness). The ignorant are in pois, and only the learned shall have a part of the future resurrection."

That is one of many quotes. The religious leaders of that day really put down the common people. I think that some times we forget, in our religious freedom, how terrible was the religious hold of the leaders of the land of Palestine in the days of our Lord. How proud, how self-centered,

how vain they were. And thinking that the common people, because of ignorance, and not having learning, were accursed and would not have a part in the future resurrection. They believed that education was the means of salvation. But, you know, it sounds familiar to much university teaching today. But that is what they believed. And they kept putting people down. And yet, the Bible teaches that the common people heard Jesus gladly.... Isn't that wonderful? The common folks, oh, they didn't have much education but when Jesus spoke, they wanted to be around.

And isn't it wonderful when we read over in Acts 4 when the leaders saw Peter and John in their boldness, and they couldn't understand it. They said: "How could these unlearned and ignorant men be so bold." And they concluded one thing: THEY HAD BEEN WITH JESUS...

No, my friends, education is not always the answer. No matter where you stand, no matter what your education, no matter what your capabilities or abilities, GOD LOVES YOU....AND GOD CAN SAVE YOU....You become a new creature in Christ through faith in Jesus. You may not understand it all, you may not know it all, but you can believe in J. C. and be saved....

(4D) Fourth, in Vs 50-51, notice the responds of Nicodemus. This is precious. (READ VS 50).....I love John 7 about Nicodemus because I believe it is clear proof in the Bible that back in John 3 Nicodemus got saved. A lot of people wonder if Nicodemus ever really understood what Jesus said when we read in John 3: "except a man be born again he cannot enter the kingdom of God." Did Nicodemus really respond? It doesn't say in John 3. But it does in John 7.

The Greek text literally says: "he who came to him at first, being one of them. The "first" refers back to John 3. And the word "them" refers to "the believers."

Cont

You see, in content, the rulers are the ones who would never believe on Jesus. Yet, Nicodemus did. And he is there. And notice what he said in Vs 51: "Our law does not judge a man, unless it first hears from him and knows what he is doing, dose it?"

And then Vs 52 is a rebuke against Nicodemus. "They answered and said to him." You see, they attack Nicodemus.

And Nicodemus is saying: "Now, wait a minute fellows. Our law says (and this is recorded, by the way, in Deut. 1:17) Our law teaches that it doesn't judge any man unless it first hears from him."

And of course that is what they didn't want to do. They didn't want Jesus to have a public trail. They didn't want to listen to him. Think about it for a moment. ~~They~~ When Jesus was on trail before the Sanhedrina, was it public?....NO...It was at night when the common folks were asleep. The rulers didn't want Jesus to have a public trail. They were afraid of him. They were afraid of his authority.

*out* If you will read the Gospels carefully you will find that Jesus is always answering them with wisdom that they cannot understand.

And Nicodemus says, "Well, why don't we bring him in here and hear what he has to say." You know, let's have a little testimony meeting. After all, that is what the law says. <sup>So</sup> Why not bring him here?

(50) But they didn't want anything to do with that. So, they attack Nicodems. And ~~that~~ this is the final thing that I want you to see. In Vs 50-53 we have the reaction to Nicodemus.

They were so upset that they drew another conclusion that was incorrect. "They said to him, You are not also from Galilee, are You? Search, and see that no prophet arises out of Galilee."

~~Can any good thing come out-off Nazareth? Nazareth was in Galilee.~~  
Can the Messiah come out-off Galilee? No prophet can come out off Galilee. They jumped to a false conclusion because ~~as we have already said a lot of~~ <sup>The Bible Teaches that a number</sup> ~~the~~ prophets have come out-off Galilee. *Amos, ELIJAH - Jonah*

So, what happened? Vs 53 "Everyone went to his home." It is kind-off sad isn't it?.....*yet, how true is applicated to many today*

where do you stand, today

I ~~don't know~~ where you stand. Have you come to believe everything that ~~you~~ claims to be? Are you still over reacting to those around you who claim to believe in Jesus? Who love Jesus? Who honor him and worship him? ARE YOU STILL REACTING TO THAT?....

*and maybe* ~~Have~~ <sup>howed</sup> you failed, yet, to bend the knee of commitment to him? To recognize him as your Lord and master and your saviour?

He loves you ~~know~~ <sup>No</sup> matter what you may think about him. Which is a wonderful thing. He loves you when you don't care anything about him. And he wants you to be saved..... *and wonder will you also leave this service and go to your home without Christ?*

Let us pray