

JESUS REJECTED

John 7:1-10
Yeshua §96

As we pick up Yeshua's story, it is Fall of 29AD, late August or early September. In a few weeks, devout Jews from all over Israel and the Mediterranean seaboard will gather in Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Booths, also known as the Feast of Tabernacles.

Jesus has not been to Jerusalem since the previous feasts in April. He has limited His ministry to the area around the Lake of Galilee in northern Israel.

JESUS REJECTED BY JEWISH LEADERSHIP *JOHN 7:1 (ESV)*

Since the Day of Rejection, animosity between Jesus and the Jewish leadership has intensified. It is public knowledge the Jewish leadership want Jesus dead (John 7:25-26). Jesus avoids arrest by staying in Galilee away from Judea, the headquarters of Jewish leadership. But even in Galilee, Jesus is rejected.

JESUS REJECTED BY HIS BROTHERS *JOHN 7:2-10 (ESV)*

Jesus is rejected by His own brothers. His brothers are James, Joses, Judas and Simon.¹ They have never accepted Jesus' claim to be the Messiah King. Verse five states clearly they do not believe in Jesus.

Jesus' brothers know Jesus is avoiding Judea and the Jewish leadership. They use the upcoming Feast of Booths to goad Jesus to come out of hiding and "go big" at the Feast. Their challenge came from their unbelief. It is sarcastic and disingenuous. They are goading Jesus to go in hopes something bad will happen to Him in Jerusalem. They may even be hoping He is arrested and put to death.

Jesus' response exposes their malevolence (7:6-8).

What is Jesus talking about in verse six when He says His "time has not yet come"? His time to die has not come.² Jesus understood what His brothers were after: going to Jerusalem would put Jesus at risk of being killed. But Jesus' time to die is not at the Feast of Booths, but at the Feast of Passover in April, seven months thence. His brothers could die at any time, but not Jesus. Jesus is living in accordance to God's plan.

Jesus is hated by many, many of His fellow Jews who believe He is a heretic and a blasphemer deserving death. Going to Jerusalem will put Jesus right in the middle of His enemies. This, again, is exactly what His brothers want. As Jesus points out, the brothers will be in no danger in Jerusalem because they hold the same opinion as Jesus' enemies.

This passage clearly reveals that Jesus' brothers did not believe in Him. They goaded Him to go to the Feast hoping something bad would happen to Him and end His movement. They may even have hoped He would be arrested and killed.

Why would Jesus' brothers hate Him so?

These men are the product of pharisaical Judaism. Jesus did not meet their Messianic expectations.

Part 1.	The Coming of the King
Part 2.	The Authentication of the King
Part 3.	The Controversy over the King
Part 4.	The Training of the Twelve by the King
	→ Challenge By Jesus' Brothers
Part 5.	The Opposition to the King:
Part 6.	The Preparation of the Disciples by the King
Part 7.	The Official Presentation of the King
Part 8.	The Preparation for the Death of the King
Part 9.	The Trial of the King:
Part 10.	The Death of the King
Part 11.	The Resurrection and the Ascension of the King
Part 12.	The Sequels

¹ Mark 6:3

² John 7:30 makes this clear.

We must also keep in mind that first century Jewish culture is an honor/shame society. Jesus' outrageous claims shame their family. Early on in Jesus' ministry they attempted to take control of Jesus and remove Him from public view because of the shame He was bringing upon the family (Mark 3:20-21). Jesus' response further alienated His brothers (Mark 3:31-35). Jesus repudiated the most sacred relationship in first century Jewish culture: the relationship between brothers.

Though Jesus told them He was not going, He eventually did, but privately. He had to; He would not disobey the Law of Moses which required He go. But He went in His time and for His reasons; not in reaction to His brothers.

The Apostle John reflected upon Jesus' rejection in the Prologue of his gospel (John 1:9-18).

Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Jesus brought grace and truth to His brother James. 1 Corinthians tells us that after His resurrection from the dead, Jesus sought out His brother James... (1 Cor. 15:7).

Can you imagine that meeting? The terror, tears, confession, apologies, faith, relief, joy. Grace and truth came to James from his brother Jesus.

Jesus brought grace and truth to Joses, Judas and Simon. Notice who was with the apostles on the Day of Pentecost when the Church was born (Acts 1:12-14).

Grace and truth came to Joses, Judas and Simon.

Jesus' grace and truth is so thoroughly life changing that James became the leader of the Jerusalem Church and author of the New Testament book, James. Likewise, Judas' life was so transformed that the Holy Spirit inspired him to write the New Testament book, Jude.

Grace and truth is what Jesus is all about.

He stands ready and eager to bring grace and truth to you, even if you have rejected Him in the past. By His death He suffered God's punishment of your sin and by His resurrection He guarantees your life with God now and forever.

Grace and truth can be yours. Trust in Jesus today.

Coming Up:

Church Business Meeting Tonight! 6PM Sanctuary Childcare Provided

An Acapella Christmas Eve Service 3PM Back Parking Lot Whole Family