

Living Water

John 7: 37-52

The Feast of Booths was one of the seven annual feasts that God commanded the nation Israel to celebrate each year. It was a seven day feast that started with a sabbath day of rest and ended with an additional Sabbath day of rest.

The purpose of the feast was to thank God for the harvest and to stand as a reminder to God's provision. How He had carried them out of Egypt and provided for them as they lived in tents in the desert.

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
Part 5.	The Opposition to the King:
→	Living Water
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

Leviticus 23:39–43 (ESV)

³⁹ “On the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the produce of the land, you shall celebrate the feast of the Lord seven days. On the first day shall be a solemn rest, and on the eighth day shall be a solemn rest. ⁴⁰ And you shall take on the first day the fruit of splendid trees, branches of palm trees and boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God seven days. ⁴¹ You shall celebrate it as a feast to the Lord for seven days in the year. It is a statute forever throughout your generations; you shall celebrate it in the seventh month. ⁴² You shall dwell in booths for seven days. All native Israelites shall dwell in booths, ⁴³ that your generations may know that I made the people of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.”

At the time of Jesus, two ceremonies had been added to the Feast of Booths. These ceremonies were not part of the command in the Mosaic Law, but they were developed over time by the Teachers of Israel to help remember and rejoice at what God had done for them.

These two ceremonies **centered around light and water**. The ceremony of light was celebrated with huge candlesticks. It was a reminder of how God had led and guided them by a pillar of fire through the desert as they lived in tents.

The second ceremony, the Outpouring of the Water, reminded Israel how God miraculously provided life-giving water when they were dying of thirst in the desert.

Rivers of Living Water (John 7:37-39)

³⁷ On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “**If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.** ³⁸ **Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’**” ³⁹ Now this he said about the Spirit,

whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Division Among the People (John 7:40-44)

*⁴⁰ When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This really is the Prophet."
⁴¹ Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? ⁴²
Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes
from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" ⁴³ So there was a division among the
people over him. ⁴⁴ Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.*

The Officers Return (John 7:45-52)

*⁴⁵ The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why
did you not bring him?" ⁴⁶ The officers answered, "No one ever spoke like this man!" ⁴⁷
The Pharisees answered them, "Have you also been deceived? ⁴⁸ Have any of the
authorities or the Pharisees believed in him? ⁴⁹ But this crowd that does not know the law
is accursed." ⁵⁰ Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said
to them, ⁵¹ "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning
what he does?" ⁵² They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and see that no
prophet arises from Galilee."*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Voice of the Martyrs - This month's action pack items are fleece blankets and hairbrushes

Children's Ministry - Volunteers are still needed in the nursery and toddlers. Contact Billie Phipps for more information, billie@gccramona.com.

Women's Bible Study - Journey Through The Bible, led by Cathy Nelson has begun. For more information, contact Cathy Nelson cnelson906@gmail.com.

Youth Ministry - Outing to the Arroyo Tapiado Mud caves on January 25th from 8AM to 5PM. Cost is \$5 a person. Contact Matt Smith for details.

Youth Ministry - SNOW JAM! Happening March 29 - April 2nd in Brianhead Utah. See Matt Smith for details.