

Encountering Jesus
22. Confusion about the Christ (John 7v25-36)

John Percival

Introduction

- A big question for any believer

Where is the Christ from? (v25-29)

- Confusion (v25-27)

- Clarity (v28-29)

Responses to the Christ (v30-31)

- Two responses

- Why do some people reject?

A warning against rejecting the Christ (v32-36)

- Two warnings:
 - A warning about *timing*
 - A warning about *inability*

- A vital implication: *seek Christ while you can*

Conclusion

Other references: John 6:38, Matt. 11:27, John 20:30-31, 7:7, 14:5-6

John 7v25-36 (NIV)

²⁵ At that point some of the people of Jerusalem began to ask, "Isn't this the man they are trying to kill?" ²⁶ Here he is, speaking publicly, and they are not saying a word to him. Have the authorities really concluded that he is the Christ? ²⁷ But we know where this man is from; when the Christ comes, no-one will know where he is from."

²⁸ Then Jesus, still teaching in the temple courts, cried out, "Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from. I am not here on my own, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him, ²⁹ but I know him because I am from him and he sent me."

³⁰ At this they tried to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his time had not yet come. ³¹ Still, many in the crowd put their faith in him. They said, "When the Christ comes, will he do more miraculous signs than this man?"

³² The Pharisees heard the crowd whispering such things about him. Then the chief priests and the Pharisees sent temple guards to arrest him.

³³ Jesus said, "I am with you for only a short time, and then I go to the one who sent me. ³⁴ You will look for me, but you will not find me; and where I am, you cannot come."

³⁵ The Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we cannot find him? Will he go where our people live scattered among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks? ³⁶ What did he mean when he said, 'You will look for me, but you will not find me,' and 'where I am, you cannot come'?"