

**Encountering Jesus**  
**23. Streams of living water (John 7v37-52)**

John Percival

**Introduction**

- **Four aspects** of Jesus' great offer:

**The CONTEXT – “the last and greatest day of the feast” (v37a)**

- The feast
  - Looking back (Ex. 17:6)
  - Looking forwards (Zech. 14:8-9)
- The fulfilment

**The CONDITION – “if anyone is thirsty, let him come to me” (v37b)**

- Acknowledge your thirst
- Come to Jesus

**The PROMISE – “streams of living water will flow from him” (v38-39)**

- Its content
- Its implications

**The RESPONSE – “Thus the people were divided...” (v40-52)**

- *Confusion* – the crowds
- *Hostility* – the religious leaders
- *Belief* - Nicodemus

**Conclusion**

**Other references:** Is. 58:11, John 3:3

**John 7v37-52 (NIV)**

<sup>37</sup> On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. <sup>38</sup> Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." <sup>39</sup> By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

<sup>40</sup> On hearing his words, some of the people said, "Surely this man is the Prophet."

<sup>41</sup> Others said, "He is the Christ." Still others asked, "How can the Christ come from Galilee? <sup>42</sup> Does not the Scripture say that the Christ will come from David's family and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?" <sup>43</sup> Thus the people were divided because of Jesus. <sup>44</sup> Some wanted to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him.

<sup>45</sup> Finally the temple guards went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, "Why didn't you bring him in?"

<sup>46</sup> "No-one ever spoke the way this man does," the guards declared.

<sup>47</sup> "You mean he has deceived you also?" the Pharisees retorted. <sup>48</sup> "Has any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed in him? <sup>49</sup> No! But this mob that knows nothing of the law--there is a curse on them."

<sup>50</sup> Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked, <sup>51</sup> "Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he is doing?"

<sup>52</sup> They replied, "Are you from Galilee, too? Look into it, and you will find that a prophet does not come out of Galilee."