

## Lesson 19: Teaching on Himself

Objective: To know that Jesus claimed Himself to be God and we must *choose either* to accept His claims fully *or* to reject Him as a "liar."

Background: This was probably Jesus' last trip from Galilee to Jerusalem, where He dies six months later. The Feast of Tabernacles found in the month of October was the Jewish "Thanksgiving", which commemorated the wilderness experience of the Israelites after their deliverance from slavery in Egypt. It also celebrates the end of harvest. (Leviticus 23:23-44; Deuteronomy 16: 16,17)

Instruction: Prayerfully read over John chapters 7 & 8, and pay attention to the recurring thoughts.

Let's Think: Read carefully the verses given before answering the questions.

1. a. What claim did Jesus make about His teaching when His critics questioned His competence and qualification to teach? (Jn7:14-16; also Jn8:26,28, 40).  
b. In what way can a man verify Jesus' claim? (Jn 7:17) What is *unique* about the method/approach? Explain. Are you willing to follow it?
2. a. What claim did Jesus make repeatedly when the people claimed to know His origin? (Jn 7:25-29; Jn7:16, 33f.; Jn8:14, 16, 18, 26).  
b. How is He *the model* missionary (sent one)? (Jn 8:29; Jn6:38; Jn 4:34; Jn 20:21 ).
3. a. At the climax of the feast, what invitation did Jesus extend to the people? To whom was it given, with what promise, and on what condition? (Jn 7:37-39).  
b. Has that promise been realized in your life? Is it a present reality? By the way, have the people around you heard this invitation of Jesus?
4. a. Again, what claim did Jesus make in Jn 8:12? How does a person know whether or not he is following Jesus? Are you following Him? (Read also I John 1 :5-10).  
b. What does it imply about those who refuse to follow Him? Why do people, then and now, refuse to believe in Him? List some of the reasons found in John chapters 7, 8; Jn3:19-21.
5. a. To whom did Jesus teach about discipleship? What did he teach? (Jn 8:31, 32).  
b. Can a person claim to be a believer and yet ignore His Word, the Bible? Explain (Jn8: 31, 47, 51 )
6. a. In what sense did Jesus claim himself to be a "Liberator"? (Jn8: 34-36; also Lk.4: 18).  
b. Are people generally aware or acknowledge that they are "in bondage"? Why or why not?
7. a. What did Jesus claim at the end? (Jn8: 58) And why did the Jews try to stone Him? (Ex. 3:13-14). In the face of His claim, what other *alternative* did they have besides stoning Him?  
b. Is Jesus a "moral" teacher, if He is *not*, what did he claim Himself to be? Why? Facing His claim, What *choices* do people have? What is YOUR choice?

Let's Remember: Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." (John 8:58).