

# Rivers of Living Water

Behold and Become

## Train Wreck Theology

Some of the people who lived in Jerusalem started to ask each other, “Isn’t this the man they are trying to kill? But here he is, speaking in public, and they say nothing to him. Could our leaders possibly believe that he is the Messiah? But how could he be? For we know where this man comes from. When the Messiah comes, he will simply appear; no one will know where he comes from.” John 7:25-27 (NLT2)

## Worthless Worshipers

While Jesus was teaching in the Temple, he called out, “Yes, you know me, and you know where I come from. But I’m not here on my own. The one who sent me is true, and you don’t know him. But I know him because I come from him, and he sent me to you.” John 7:28-29 (NLT2)

## Spiritual Safety

Then the leaders tried to arrest him; but no one laid a hand on him, because his time had not yet come. John 7:30 (NLT2)

## Significance of Signs

Many among the crowds at the Temple believed in him. “After all,” they said, “would you expect the Messiah to do more miraculous signs than this man has done?” John 7:31 (NLT2)

## Access Denied

When the Pharisees heard that the crowds were whispering such things, they and the leading priests sent Temple guards to arrest Jesus. But Jesus told them, “I will be with you only a little longer. Then I will return to the one who sent me. You will search for me but not find me. And you cannot go where I am going.” John 7:32-34 (NLT2)

## Puzzled

The Jewish leaders were puzzled by this statement. “Where is he planning to go?” they asked. “Is he thinking of leaving the country and going to the Jews in other lands? Maybe he will even teach the Greeks! What does he mean when he says, ‘You will search for me but not find me,’ and ‘You cannot go where I am going?’” John 7:35-36 (NLT2)

## Enjoy the Flow

Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, ‘Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.’” (When he said “living water,” he was speaking of the Spirit, who would be given to everyone believing in him. But the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet entered into his glory.) John 7:37-39 (NLT2)

## For and Against

When the crowds heard him say this, some of them declared, “Surely this man is the Prophet we’ve been expecting.”

Others said, “He is the Messiah.” Still others said, “But he can’t be! Will the Messiah come from Galilee? For the Scriptures clearly state that the Messiah will be born of the royal line of David, in Bethlehem, the village where King David was born.” So the crowd was divided about him. Some even wanted him arrested, but no one laid a hand on him.  
John 7:40-44 (NLT2)

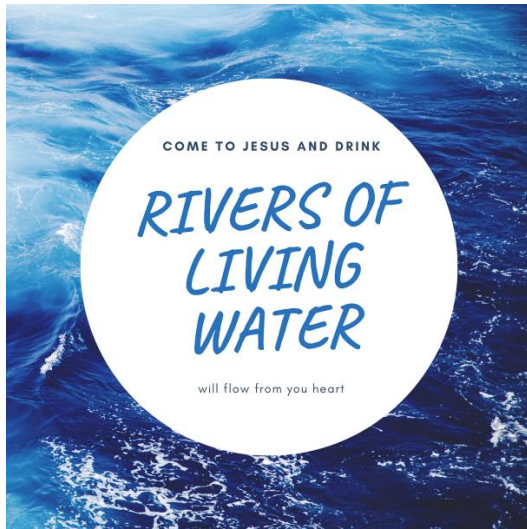
## Power Over Position

When the Temple guards returned without having arrested Jesus, the leading priests and Pharisees demanded, “Why didn’t you bring him in?” “We have never heard anyone speak like this!” the guards responded. “Have you been led astray, too?” the Pharisees mocked.  
John 7:45-47 (NLT2)

## Nicodemus Spoke Up

Then Nicodemus, the leader who had met with Jesus earlier, spoke up. “Is it legal to convict a man before he is given a hearing?” he asked. They replied, “Are you from Galilee, too? Search the Scriptures and see for yourself—no prophet ever comes from Galilee!” John 7:50-52 (NLT2)

## The Holy Spirit Makes a Difference



### Things to Consider

- Jesus is questioned by people who don't know God and practice bad theology
- Jesus' power of words and spirit overcome the position of the leaders and guards
- Jesus offers rivers of living water to satisfy the spiritually thirsty