

“The World Hates Me”

John 7:1-13

Next week is Palm Sunday ... then Easter on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Today’s Bible passage is a great introduction to Holy Week because it sets up the crucial issue that got Jesus killed, the very same issue that persists to this day and continues to create controversy.

What issue is that? Human pride. Nobody likes to be told “no, that’s wrong, you can’t do that.”

**A. Pride leads to removing irritants.**

John 7:1, After this, Jesus went around in Galilee, purposely staying away from Judea because the Jews there were waiting to take his life.

**B. Pride leads to bad advice.**

John 7:2-5, But when the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles was near,  
<sup>3</sup>Jesus' brothers said to him, “You ought to leave here and go to Judea, so that your disciples may see the miracles you do. <sup>4</sup>No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world.” <sup>5</sup>For even his own brothers did not believe in him.

**C. Pride leads to poor timing.**

John 7:6,8-10, Therefore Jesus told them, “The right time for me has not yet come; for you any time is right ... <sup>8</sup>You go to the Feast. I am not yet going up to this Feast, because for me the right time has not yet come.” <sup>9</sup>Having said this, he stayed in Galilee. <sup>10</sup>However, after his brothers had left for the Feast, he went also, not publicly, but in secret.

**D. Pride leads to misplaced hate.**

John 7:7, The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that what it does is evil.

## **E. Pride leads to wrong decisions.**

John 7:11-13, Now at the Feast the Jews were watching for him and asking, "Where is that man?" <sup>12</sup> Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, "He is a good man." Others replied, "No, he deceives the people." <sup>13</sup> But no one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the Jews.

A closing prayer ... "Dear God, we need Your help to become less prideful. We have a natural tendency to overestimate ourselves and underutilize You. Switch that for each of us, please. Let us utilize our dependence upon You more and become more sober in our approach to self-guidance. In Jesus' name, amen."