

DISCERN RIGHT
JOHN 7.1-24

Chapters 7&8

- Jesus conflict with the Jewish authorities in Judea
- Who is Jesus?

*v24 Stop judging by mere appearances,
but instead judge correctly.'*

This is about discernment.

Discernment: *Recognise what God is doing - look carefully & wisely and ask for God's help, to see what is really going on & then join in with it.*

The only way to truly discern Jesus, is by knowing him.

Groups of characters:

- His **brothers** - make assumptions about him and judge by appearance not discernment.
- The **Jewish authorities** - who want to kill him.
- The **crowds** - who see Jesus from afar.

Jesus' brothers. - make assumptions

Make the most of this PR opportunity.

Big difference between Wow-ing the crowds and changing hearts.

They don't discern the timing.

The Jewish authorities. - want to kill Jesus.

What is their irrational motive? - what is really going on?

'The world hates me, because I testify about it, that its works are evil'.

the crowds

v12 -Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, 'He is a good man.'

Others replied, 'No, he deceives the people.'

v20 'You are demon-possessed,' the crowd answered. 'Who is trying to kill you?'

They just don't know who Jesus is.

true discernment.

- Patient integrity, not pragmatic immediacy
- freedom not legalism
- Costly not comfy