

Jesus—Stumbling Block or Cornerstone?

**John 7 With Chaplain
Candidate Argle Smith**

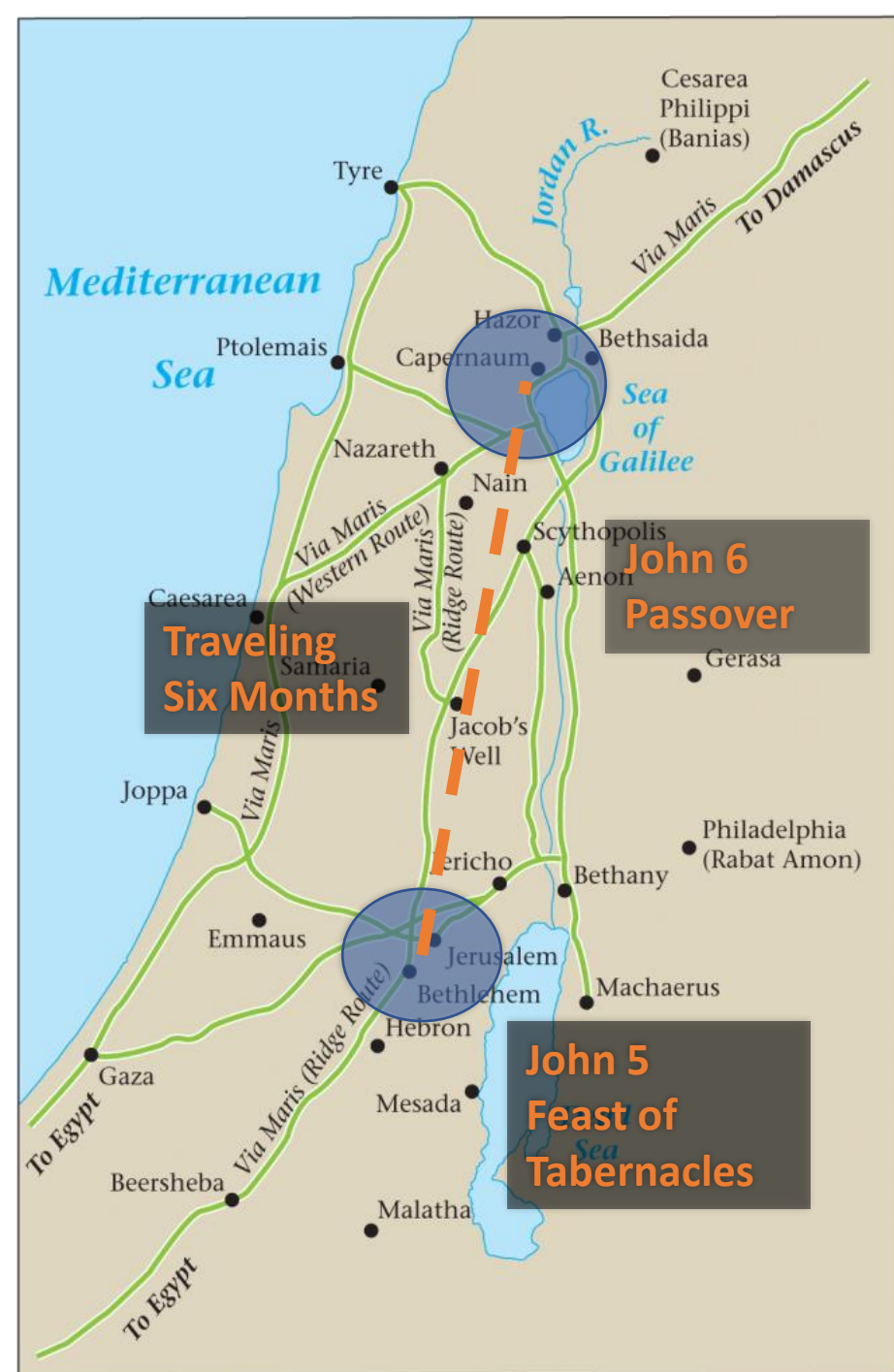


Jesus—Stumbling Block or Cornerstone?

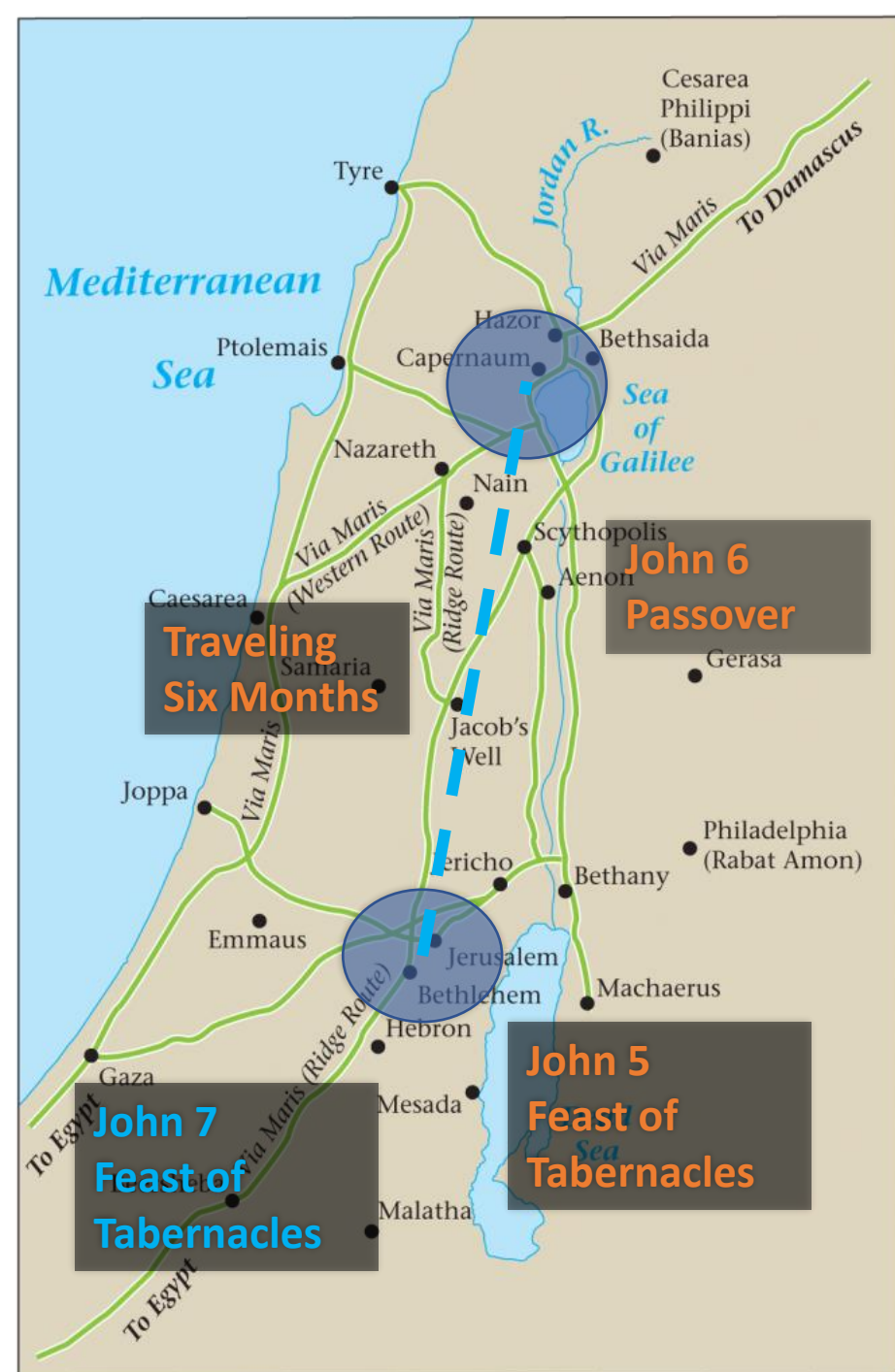
**Psalm 118:22 “The Stone that
the Builders rejected has
become the cornerstone.”**



After this, Jesus traveled around Galilee. He wanted to stay out of Judea, where the Jewish leaders were plotting his death. But soon it was time for the Jewish Festival of Shelters, (John 7:1-2)



After this, Jesus traveled around Galilee. He wanted to stay out of Judea, where the Jewish leaders were plotting his death. But soon it was time for the Jewish Festival of Shelters, (John 7:1-2)



Jesus Mocked by His Own Family

And Jesus' **brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, where your followers can see your miracles! You can't become famous if you hide like this! If you can do such wonderful things, show yourself to the world!" For even his brothers didn't believe in him. (John 7:3-5)**

Jesus' Earthly Family

- **Dad & Mom: Joseph & Mary**
- **Brothers: James, Joseph, Simon, Judas (Jude)**
- **Sisters: Plural (see Matt 14:58)**

Liar, Lunatic, or Lord

And Jesus' **brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, where your followers can see your miracles! You can't become famous if you hide like this! If you can do such wonderful things, show yourself to the world!" For even his brothers didn't believe in him. (John 7:3-5)**

Trilemma

- **John Duncan (1796-1870)**
- **Watchmen Nee (1936)**
- **C.S. Lewis (1942)**
 - **Hatred, Terror, Adoration**

Liar, Lunatic, or Lord

When his family heard what was happening, they tried to take him away. “He’s out of his mind,” they said (Mark 3:21)

Trilemma

- **John Duncan (1796-1870)**
- **Watchmen Nee (1936)**
- **C.S. Lewis (1942)**
 - **Hatred, Terror, Adoration**

Liar, Lunatic, or Lord

Therefore, Jesus said to them, “My time has not yet come, but your time is at hand. The world is not able to hate you, but it hates me because I testify concerning its evil works. You go up to the festival. **I am not going up to this festival **[yet]** because my time has not been fulfilled.” After he said this, he remained in Galilee. Yet, as his brothers went up to the festival, **he also secretly went** keeping a low profile. (John 7:6-10, my translation)**

Did Jesus Lie?

- 1. He lied.**
- 2. Yet is the original**
- 3. He changed his mind**

Liar, Lunatic, or Lord

The Jewish leaders tried to find him at the festival and kept asking if anyone had seen him. There was a lot of **grumbling about him among the **crowds**. Some argued, “He’s a good man,” but others said, “He’s nothing but a **fraud who deceives** the people.” But no one had the courage to speak favorably about him **in public**, for they were **afraid** of getting in trouble with the Jewish leaders. (John 7:11-13)**

Hatred, Terror, Adoration

Liar, Lunatic, or Lord

Then midway through the festival, Jesus went up to the Temple and began to teach. The [Jews] there were surprised when they heard him. “How does he know so much when he hasn’t been trained?” they asked. (John 7:14-15)

Liar, Lunatic, or Lord

So Jesus told them, “My message is not my own; it comes from God who sent me. Anyone who wants to do the will of God will know whether my teaching is from God or is merely my own. Those who speak for themselves want glory only for themselves, but a person who seeks to honor the one who sent him speaks truth, not lies. Moses gave you the law, but none of you obeys it! In fact, you are trying to kill me.”(John 7:16-19)

Liar, Lunatic, or Lord

The crowd replied, “You’re demon possessed! Who’s trying to kill you?” Jesus replied, “I did one miracle on the Sabbath, and you were amazed. But you work on the Sabbath, too, when you obey Moses’ law of circumcision. (Actually, this tradition of circumcision began with the patriarchs, long before the law of Moses.) For if the correct time for circumcising your son falls on the Sabbath, you go ahead and do it so as not to break the law of Moses. So why should you be angry with me for healing a man on the Sabbath? Look beneath the surface so you can judge correctly.” (John 7:20-24)

Liar, Lunatic, or Lord

John 7:25-36

- **Messiah**
- **Sent from the Father**
- **My hour has not yet come. [The Passion]**
- **The Crowd**
- **Believing in Jesus [From head to heart.]**
- **Signs pointing to the Messiah.**
- **The Cross/Resurrection/Ascension [His Glory]**

Jesus Offers Living Water

On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, “Anyone who is thirsty may come to me! 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)

Jesus—Stumbling Block or Cornerstone?

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)



Jesus—Stumbling Block or Cornerstone?

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**. “Is there a single one of us rulers or Pharisees who believes in him? This **foolish crowd** follows him, but they are ignorant of the law. **God’s curse is on them!**” 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 40-52)



Jesus—Stumbling Block or Cornerstone?

**Psalm 118:22 “The Stone that the
Builders rejected has become the
cornerstone.”**

**Liar, Lunatic, or Lord
Hatred, Terror, Adoration**

**Together, we are [God’s] house, built on the
foundation of the apostles and the prophets.
And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. We
are carefully joined together in him, becoming a
holy temple for the Lord. Through him, you
Gentiles are also being made part of this
dwelling where God lives by his Spirit.
(Ephesians 2:19-22)**

