

March 19

*Jesus Offers Spirit-Water, Pharisees Hoard Human-Power*

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In the former time, he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali; but in the latter time he has made it glorious, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations – Isaiah 9:1

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[John 7:37-52, Jerusalem] Now on the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink! He who believes in me, as the Scripture has said, from within him will flow rivers of living water.” But he said this about the Spirit, which those believing in him were to receive. For the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus wasn’t yet glorified.

Many of the multitude therefore, when they heard these words, said, “This is truly the prophet.” Others said, “This is the Christ.” But some said, “What, does the Christ come out of Galilee? Hasn’t the Scripture said that the Christ comes of the seed of David, [2 Samuel 7:12] and from Bethlehem, [Micah 5:2] the village where David was?” So there arose a division in the multitude because of him. Some of

them would have arrested him, but no one laid hands on him. The officers therefore came to the chief priests and Pharisees, and they said to them, “Why didn’t you bring him?”

The officers answered, “No man ever spoke like this man!”

The Pharisees therefore answered them, “You aren’t also led astray, are you? Have any of the rulers believed in him, or of the Pharisees? But this multitude that doesn’t know the law is accursed.”

Nicodemus (he who came to him by night, being one of them) said to them, “Does our law judge a man, unless it first hears from him personally and knows what he does?”

They answered him, “Are you also from Galilee? Search and see that no prophet has arisen out of Galilee.”

1. What is Jesus talking about? What is the crowd worried about? Do you act like this?
2. How do the Pharisees silence opposition? Have you experienced or done this? Why?
3. Holy Spirit, I have received you because I believe in Jesus; please help water flow from...

