



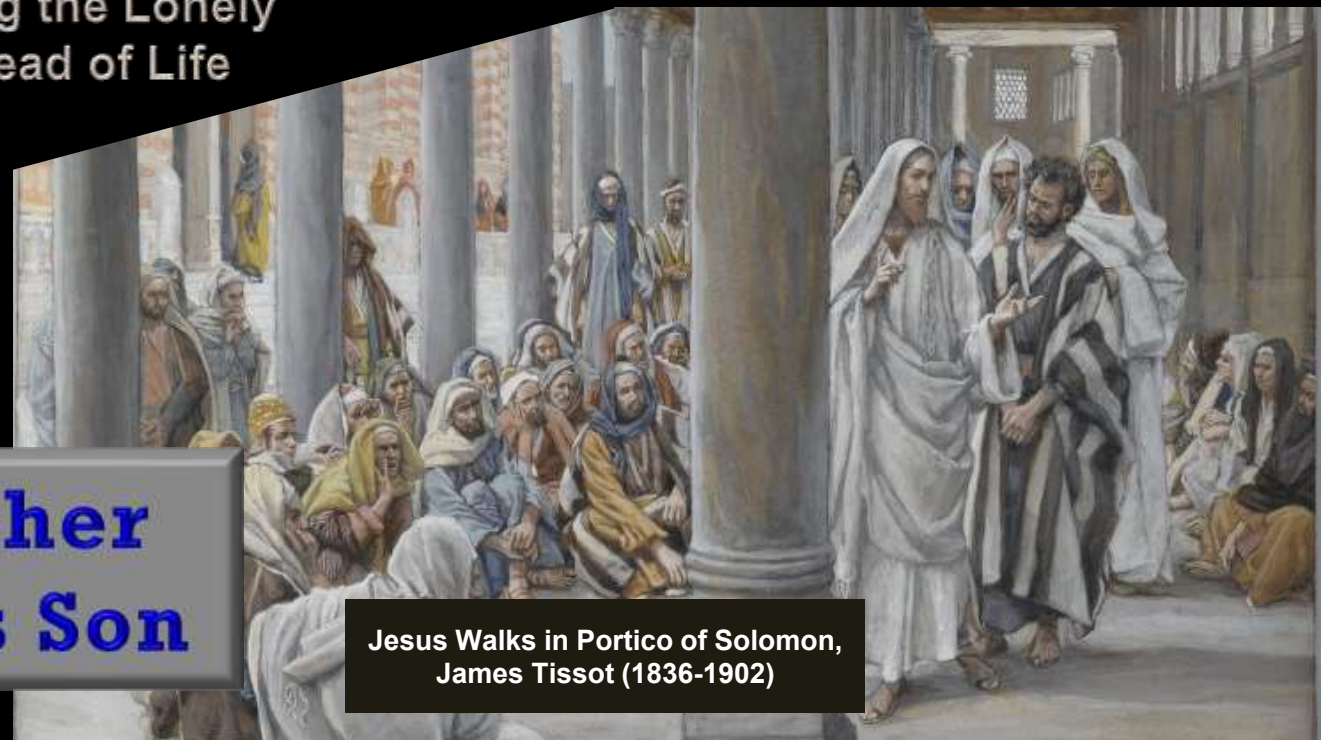
John the Evangelist & Peter
by Albrecht Dürer (1526)

Gospel of John

1-29-23

- 1a In the Beginning – Love from Eternal Past
- 1b Come & See – Love Calls Forth Disciples
- 2-3 Everyone Who Believes – God Loved World
- 4 But Whoever Drinks – Love the Living Water
- 5 Pick Up Your Mat – Loving the Lonely
- 6 I Am Bread – Love the Bread of Life
- 7 He Sent Me
- 8 I Am the Light
- 9 You Have Seen Me
- 10 I Know My Own
- 11 I Am the Resurrection

7:28 I am not here on my own authority, but He who sent Me is *True*.



Jesus Walks in Portico of Solomon,
James Tissot (1836-1902)

**Love the Father
Who Sent His Son**



**First ... a short message
from one of our own ...**

Michael T. Gracey

**He misses us, and
we miss him & Beverly**

**Never gonna give you up
Never gonna let you down
Never gonna run around
and desert you
Never gonna make you cry
Never gonna say "Good bye"
Never gonna tell a LIE
and hurt you ...**

John 6 opens with Jesus crossing to the “far shore” of Sea of Galilee Feeds 5,000 ... then **Walks on Water**

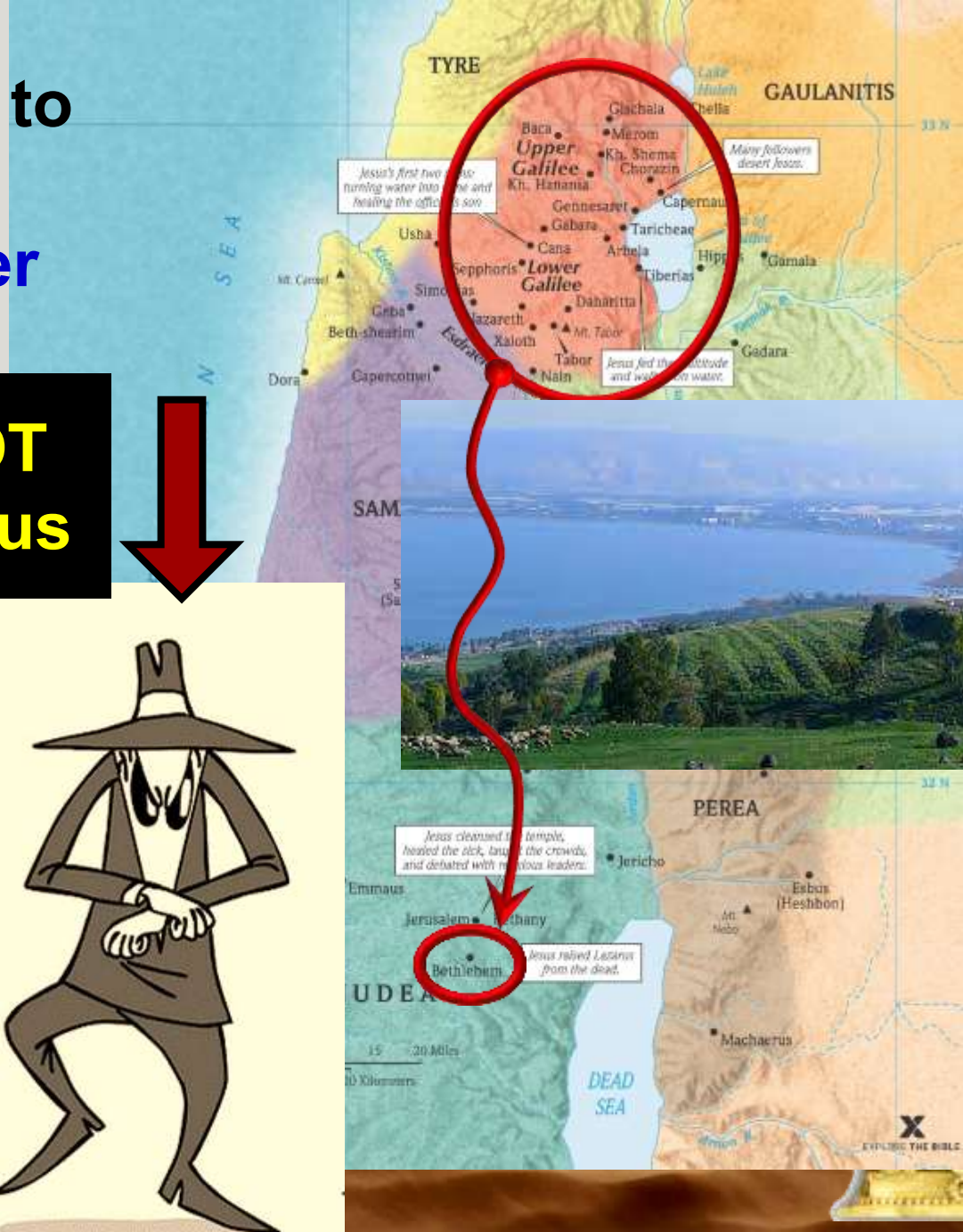
... Healing people all over ...

John 7 opens with Jesus **Walking around in Galilee**

Jesus’ brothers say he **SHOULD** go to Jerusalem *for* **Feast of Tabernacles**

“Not his time” ... then Jesus goes in **SECRET**

NOT Jesus



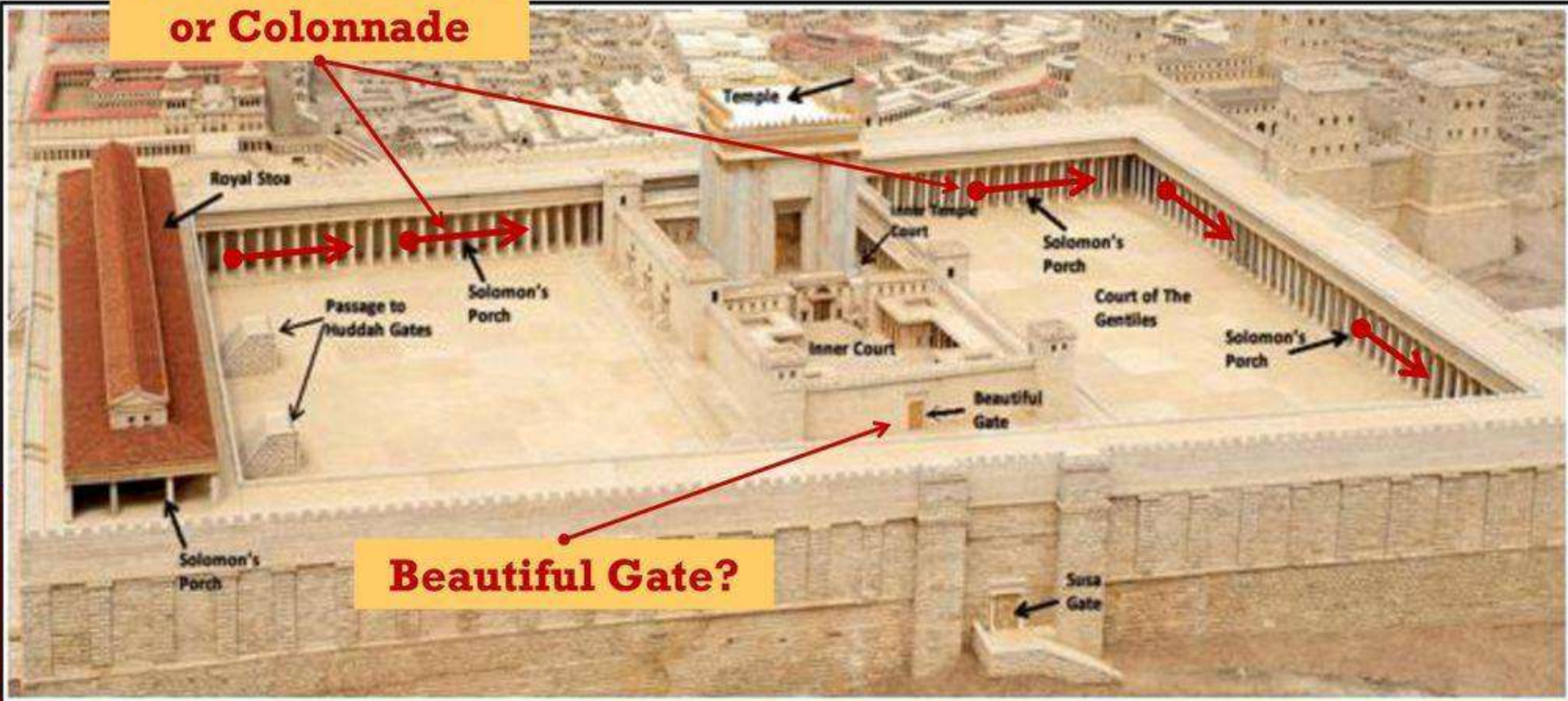
Rendition of Old Jerusalem

Portico of Solomon



Temple Complex

**Solomon's Porch
or Colonnade**



Beautiful Gate?

**Where did Jesus walk ... and teach?
Jesus ... unafraid in the Temple!**



Jesus Walks in Portico of Solomon - by James Tissot (1836-1902)

You ever go to a place you **KNEW** some

wanted to

Sabotage your **WORK**

LIE about YOU

KILL YOU?



John 7:1 Opens like a Mystery Theater

1 After this, Jesus went around in Galilee.
He didn't want to go about in Judea cause
the Jewish leaders there were
looking for a way to **KILL** Jesus.

John 7:2-9 Jewish Festival of Tabernacles
Jesus' brother jab him about going public
Jesus says his time has not yet come ...

7:10 However, after his brothers had left for the festival,
he went also, not publicly, but in **SECRET**

Danger ... To everyone He Meets, He Stays a Stranger
odds are He won't LIVE see **TOMORROW**



near

...



11 Now at the festival the Jewish leaders
were watching for Jesus, “Where is he?”

Jesus ... **HUNTED** ... for doing **GOOD**

7:12 crowds say, “He’s a good man.”

Others replied, “No, he deceives the people.”

Ahhhh ... mystery of mysteries ... **Cowardice?** or **Reason?**

13 But no one would say anything publicly about him for
FEAR of the leaders – *Fear of their Pastors?*

So many ... afraid to say what their HEARTS told them

So many ... unsure ... doubting ... **What would YOU do?**

Got to be **TOUGH** ... **to survive all the mysterious spinning**





YOU got to be **TOUGH**

So ... here's a message
from one of our own

Judge Coach Sergio Ramos

... from his younger years

Because you can't
starve us out
And you can't make us run
'Cause we're them old boys
raised on shotguns

We say grace,
and we say ma'am

If you ain't into that,
we don't give a

Jesus ... **HUNTED** ... for doing **GOOD**

14 ... halfway through the **FESTIVAL**

Jesus ... in temple courts ... teaches.

15 Jews were amazed, “How did this man get such learning without having been taught?”

16 Jesus answered, “My teaching is not my own. It comes from the **ONE** who sent me.

17 Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from **God** or whether I speak on my own.

WHAT Jesus *taught* is **MISSING** – here ... Jesus **IS RIGHT**



Leviticus 23 – describes Feasts prescribed

1. **Passover with Feast Unleavened Bread**
Death Angel passed *OVER* – Lamb & 7 days
2. **Feast of First Firsts/Weeks/Pentacost**
7 weeks or 50 days – completed Passover
3. **Feast of Trumpets**
4. **Day of Atonement**
5. **Feast of Tabernacles, Booths, Tents**

Deuteronomy 16
Focuses on 3



IMPORTANT *Exodus* Festivals

Persian Cyrus Degree to Free Jews 539 B.C.

Ezra & Nehemiah rebuild Jerusalem ...

Judaism—over 550 years STRONG in A.D. 30



USA America Founded in 1776 ...

Our culture has

Christian & Enlightenment Roots

Protestantism & Catholicism Dominate

VERY HARD for us today ... see Judaism

Ezra & Nehemiah rebuild Jerusalem ...

Judaism—over 550 years STRONG in A.D. 30

What I missed ... forgot ... find hard to see

MY CULTURE finds Jews wanting to

KILL JESUS very, very EVIL

Remember Paul ... before Damascus LIGHT

Jews were PROTECTING 500-year heritage!



7:18 Whoever speaks on their own does so
to gain personal glory,
but he who seeks the glory of the
ONE who sent Him is a man of truth;
there is nothing false about him.

19 Has not Moses given you the Law?
Yet **NOT ONE** of you keeps the Law.
Why are you trying to **KILL** me?”

20 “You are demon-possessed,” the crowd answered.
“Who is trying to kill you?”

LOT of Confusion – MYSTERY – over WHO to Believe





A.D. 30 Common Jew – WHO's RIGHT?

Obviously ... JESUS is Right

That's PART of the **Mystery Theater too**

- Because Jesus always *IS RIGHT***
- Doesn't bother to DEFEND much**

**Pharisees ... Crowds ... Disciples ???
to HEALED – he's undoubted**

Grand Metaphors ... Healings

- ✓ Living Water to Woman at the Well**
 - ✓ Born Again said to Nicodemus**
 - ✓ Man Paralyzed 38 years HEALED**
 - ✓ Bread of Life – Living Bread of Life**
- Now Jesus in Secret to Jerusalem**



Of all the healings, Jesus calls attention to **ONE**
21 Jesus said to them, **“I did ONE miracle,**
and you are all amazed.

Which one? After feeding 5,000 ...
Water Walking ... healing all over District of Galilee

7:22-23 bla, bla on Moses, circumcision, and
SABBATH

I think it is the healing man paralyzed 38 years on Sabbath

But there remains a **MYSTERY** as to how they

singled out ONE miracle over which to **KILL Jesus**





Mystery Theater ... spinning ...
so confusing for sooooo many ...

Round like a circle in a spiral,
like a wheel within a wheel

Never ending or beginning
on an ever spinning reel

Who can figure all angles ...



Jesus attempts a little *LEGAL REASONING*

Yah know, as if the **LAW** *really* was critical

23 Now if a boy can be

circumcised on the Sabbath

why are you angry with me for healing a
man's whole body on the Sabbath?

24 Stop judging by mere appearances,

but instead judge correctly

Notice ... not much defense ... just a simple bare-bones

Statement of the Obvious – *what circles are these?*





Mystery Theater ... spinning ...
what a mess of confusion to ALL
Like a snowball down a mountain
or a carnival balloon
Like a carousel that's turning
running rings around the moon



7:25-27 – crowd *mystified* the HUNTED One is

Speaking PUBLICLY

28 Jesus ... in the temple courts

“Yes, you KNOW me ... and where from ...

I am NOT here on my own authority,

but He who sent me is TRUE.

Jesus COULD have explained that ... *yet just States FACT!!*

However, Jesus KNEW that the sincere **ALREADY** knew ...

In their heart of hearts ... **they KNEW He was RIGHT**

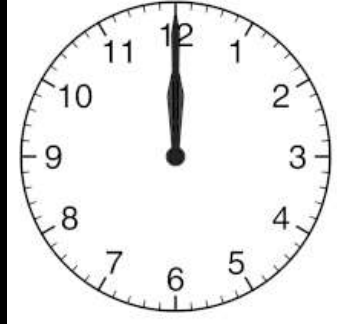
550 Years of Culture, Tradition – is hard to FACE





Mystery Theater ... spinning ...

**Like a clock whose hands
are sweeping past the
minutes of its face**



**And the world is like an apple
whirling silently in space**

**Like the circles that you find
in the Windmills of your Mind!**



**Many a common JEW ... FELT
Jesus was RIGHT ... but ... yet**

**30 At this they tried to SEIZE Jesus,
but NO one laid a hand on Him,
because His hour had NOT yet come.**

31 Still, many in the crowd believed in Him.

chief priests & Pharisees send guards to arrest him.

**33 Jesus said, “I am with you for only a short time,
and then I am going to the ONE who sent me.**

**34 You will look for me, but you will not find me;
and where I am, you cannot come.”**

Jesus ... simply telling them ... what they CANNOT KNOW

Jesus *KNOWS* this confuses them ... yet ... **STILL a FACT**





Mystery Theater ... spinning ...

Like a tunnel that you follow
to a tunnel of its own

Down a hollow to a cavern
where the sun has never shone

Like a door that keeps revolving
in a half-forgotten dream

Or the ripples from a pebble
someone tosses in a stream

“Only a short time,” Jesus said
as though he did NOT need to explain
Knowing confusion ripples in the stream

**INDEED, as their door of UNDERSTANDING
keeps revolving like a half-forgotten dream**

THREE Groups of people ... running in circles

- 1. Pharisees & Religious Leaders protecting their precious 550 Years of GOD's Law**
 - 2. Common Jew & others who BELIEVE because of healings**
 - 3. Common Jews, others BELIEVE their Pastors & Leaders**
- WE have trouble seeing ALL THREE as seriously Devote**

FOURTH—Jesus turning 550 years of God's Temple into ...

Mistaken Identity – 550 Years of Sincerity into MYSTERY





Mysterious Theater ... spinning

**Keys that jingle in your pocket,
words that jangle in your head**

**Why did summer GO SO QUICKLY,
was it something that YOU SAID?**

**Lovers walking along a SHORE and
leave their FOOTPRINTS in the sand**

***From Sea of Galilee ... Healing
Feeding ... Loving ... A River***

**Thru the byroads of Samaria
To the Courts of Solomon in**

Great Jerusalem



INDEED, the summer went too quickly ...

INDEED ... it certainly was something **Jesus SAID:**

**37 On the last & greatest day of the festival,
Jesus stood and said in a loud voice,**

“Let ANYONE who is thirsty come to me & *DRINK*.

**38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture said,
Rivers of Living Water will FLOW from *WITHIN* them.”**

**39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who
BELIEVED in him were **LATER** to receive.**

Up to that time the Spirit had **NOT been given
since Jesus had **NOT** yet been glorified.**



**Great MYSTERY
of Salvation
HERE He is ...
Only **NOT YET**
REVEALED
Easter Comes**



Mystery Theater ... *spinning* ...

So many confused ... a mystery

Like a circle in a spiral,
like a wheel within a wheel

Never ending or beginning
on an ever-spinning reel

As the images unwind,
like the circles that you find
in the windmills of your mind!

**For one group, PASTOR Pharisees
their minds circle to callousness**

7:40-49 Debates on *Messiah* from Bethlehem

7:50 Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier
... one of their own number, asked,

51 “Does OUR Law condemn a man without
First Hearing him to find out
what he has been doing?”

550 Years ... Blinded them to the RIVER of LIFE ...

52 They replied, “Are you from Galilee, too? Look into it,
You’ll find that a prophet does NOT come out of Galilee.”

Oh, the Windmills of THEIR minds ... spun a *blindness*
to those ... like Nicodemus & Healed ... who **BELIEVED**
River & Spring of Eternal Life **WALKED** among them

