

The Gospel of John: That You May Believe
The Controversial Jesus
John 7:40-52 (page 745)

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Jesus causes division among people - the crowds
(7:40-44)

- He is the Prophet - which is an inadequate view of Jesus (v 40; Deut 18:15)
- He is the Messiah - which was an uncommitted view of Jesus
(v 41a; Psm 2; 2 Sam 7:14; Lk 6:46; Rom 16:25-27)
- His origins - which is an uninformed view of Jesus
(v 41a-42; Micah 5:2; Matt 2:3-6)

Jesus causes division among the leaders - the religious
and intellectuals (7:45-52)

- The religious leaders, in their pride and arrogance, believe everyone else is wrong (v 49-52)
 - The Temple guards - deceived (vs 47-48)
 - The crowd (mob) - cursed (v 49)
 - Nicodemus - personal insult (v 50-52)

Principles to Remember...

Because Jesus is unique, He inevitably causes division among people.

Sharing Christ truthfully with others will result in a divided response toward the Gospel message.

We should be prepared to be ridiculed, be subjected to peer pressure and to endure personal insult in order to faithfully proclaim Jesus to others.