

A person is standing in a dark space, illuminated by a vertical beam of light from above. The person is silhouetted against the light, and the light creates a bright, hazy column that tapers towards the top. The background is dark and textured.

THE GOSPEL OF
JOHN

**The Light Shines
in the Darkness**

CHAPTER 7:1-24

“Overthinking Jesus”

John 7

¹ After this, Jesus traveled around Galilee. He wanted to stay out of Judea, where the Jewish leaders were plotting his death. ² But soon it was time for the Jewish Festival of Shelters, ³ and Jesus' brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, where your followers can see your miracles!"

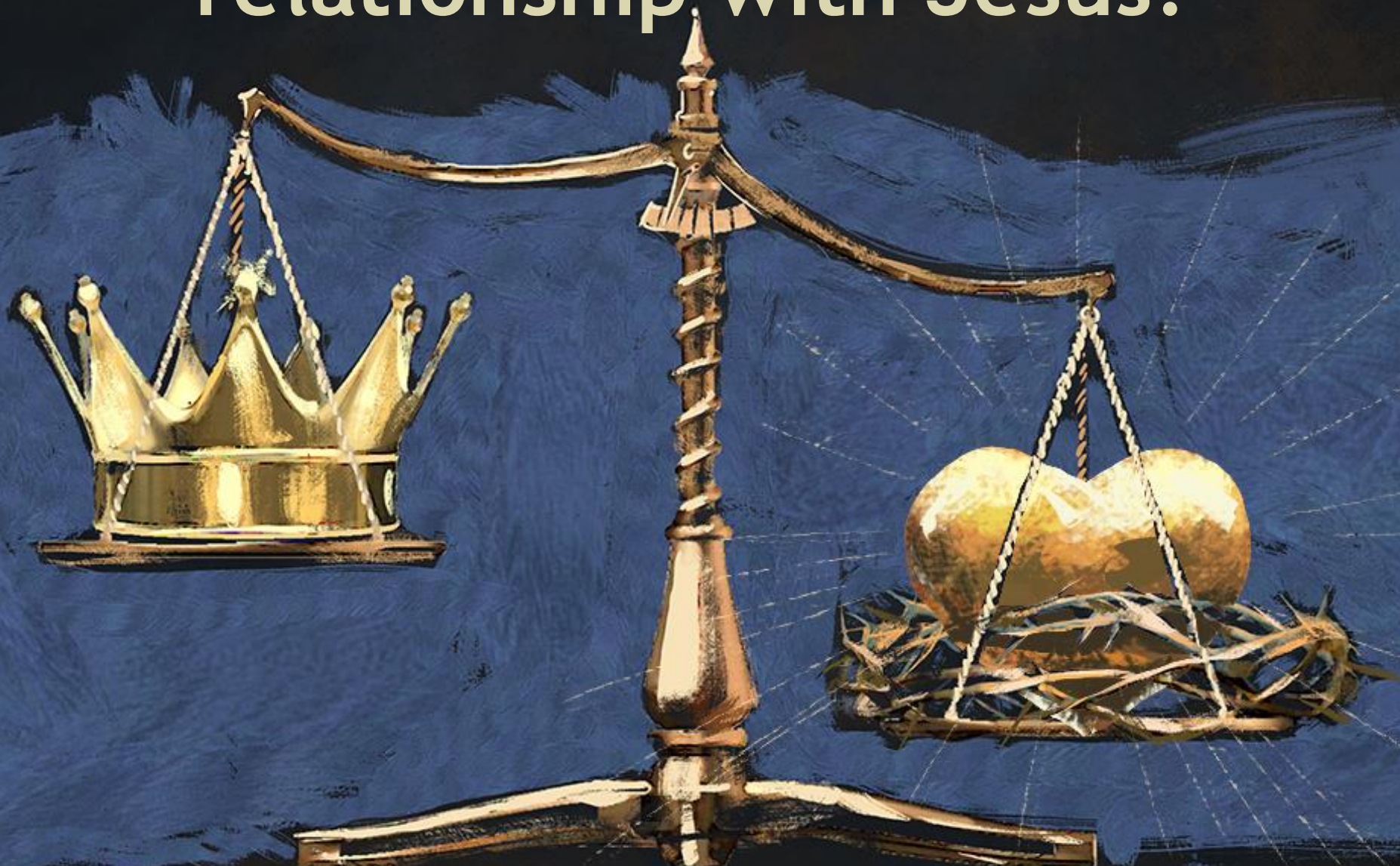
John 7

⁴ You can't become famous if you hide like this! If you can do such wonderful things, show yourself to the world!" ⁵ For even his brothers didn't believe in him. ⁶ Jesus replied, "Now is not the right time for me to go, but you can go anytime. ⁷ The world can't hate you, but it does hate me because I accuse it of doing evil.

John 7

⁸ You go on. I'm not going to this festival, because my time has not yet come.” ⁹ After saying these things, Jesus remained in Galilee.

What are we hoping to get out of our relationship with Jesus?



John 7

¹⁰ But after his brothers left for the festival, Jesus also went, though secretly, staying out of public view. ¹¹

The Jewish leaders tried to find him at the festival and kept asking if anyone had seen him. ¹² 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.”

John 7

¹³ 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

¹⁴ Then, midway through the festival, Jesus went up to the Temple and began to teach. ¹⁵ The people were surprised when they heard him. “How does he know so much when he hasn’t been trained?” they asked.

John 7

¹⁶ So Jesus told them, “My message is not my own; it comes from God who sent me. ¹⁷ Anyone who wants to do the will of God will know whether my teaching is from God or is merely my own. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ Moses gave you the law, but none of you obeys it! In fact, you are trying to kill me.”

**What does Jesus need to prove
in order for us to believe in Him?**



John 7

²⁰ The crowd replied, “You’re demon possessed! Who’s trying to kill you?” ²¹ Jesus replied, “I did one miracle on the Sabbath, and you were amazed. ²² 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.)

John 7

²³ 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? ²⁴ Look beneath the surface so you can judge correctly.”

When it comes to the Law, what is Jesus telling us to prioritize?



A person is standing in a dark space, illuminated by a single, bright beam of light that descends from the top left. The person is silhouetted against the light, and the beam creates a strong contrast with the surrounding darkness. The overall mood is one of hope and illumination.

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