



Lesson 13: In Jerusalem For the Feast

January 20, 2021
Jesus Teaches At The Feast
"I am the light of the world"
John 8:12-30

"The Truth Shall Make You Free" **John 8:31-50**

8:31-32 – The true test of discipleship is directly related to one's continuing in and obeying the word. (cf. 1 John 2:3-5; 5:3; John 14:15; 15:14)

- Obedience is undeniable testimony which confirms genuine discipleship. (cf. Luke 6:46; Matthew 7:21)
- Freedom from the bondage of sin is freedom indeed.
- Freedom from an afflicted conscience is obtained when sin is forgiven. (cf. 1 John 3:20-21)

"The Truth Shall Make You Free" **John 8:31-50**

8:33-36 – These Jews denied they had ever been in bondage to anyone, yet this was not true.

- Their confidence was in relationship with God through their fleshly lineage from Abraham.
 - *They are the seed of Abraham, heirs of the promises made to him* (Genesis 12:3; 17:16; 22:17, 18; etc.)
 - *They were a race of more than just freemen: "... kings of peoples shall be of her (Sarah)" and, "... thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies."*

"The Truth Shall Make You Free" **John 8:31-50**

8:33-36 – These Jews denied they had ever been in bondage to anyone, yet this was not true.

- They had been in bondage to the Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, and at that moment were subjects of the Romans.
 - *Jesus did not reply directly to this misstatement, but described bondage to and freedom from sin.*
cf. John 4; Matthew 22; 1 Timothy 1:4; 4:7

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- Jesus explains that they were like a servant who once had access to the house, but because of their sin they were separated from God. (Isaiah 59:1-2)
- If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. (cf. John 3:35-36)
 - *Only through obedience to the Son could they be delivered from the bondage of sin and once again be made free.* (cf. Romans 6:12-18)
- Truly, this is freedom indeed. As long as they "continued to commit sin," they were the slave of it as an habitual pattern of life.

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8:37-38 – Jesus points out their inconsistency.

- Jesus admits their claim of kinship with Abraham is an historical and genealogical fact.
- Yet they did not have the same spiritual attitude of Abraham.
- Jesus attributes their actions to a different father.

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8:39-40 – These Jews *“that had believed”* now affirm again that Abraham is their father.

- Yet, Abraham never sought to kill one who spoke the truth.
- If they were of Abraham’s spiritual lineage they would reflect the same nature and attitude of their father. (cf. Galatians 3:7-9, 26-29)
- In that they sought to kill the Son of God, they proved their father was not Abraham.
 - *The patriarch paid honor to all those who spoke in the name of God, as evidenced by his actions first with Melchizedek (Genesis 14) and later with the angels of the Lord (Genesis 18).*

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8:41-42 – When Jesus speaks of two fathers, the Jews deny that they were born out of wedlock.

- If they had the same father as Jesus did, they would love Him because He came from God.
- Jesus again affirms that His authority is from God.
 - John 3:35, *“The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.”*
 - John 7:28, *“Jesus therefore cried in the temple, teaching and saying, Ye both know me, and know whence I am; and I am not come of myself, but he that sent me is true, whom ye know not.”*

“The Truth Shall Make You Free”**John 8:31-50**

8:43-45 – *“Why do ye not understand my speech? (Even) because ye cannot hear my word.”*

These Jews did not understand Jesus because their prejudice had blinded them so they **could not hear and understand**.

– John 8:23, *“Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world.”* (cf. Matthew 13:13-15; John 12:39-40; cf. 2 Corinthians 4; 2 Thessalonians 2)

- Their evil disposition proved they were of the same spirit and character as the devil, their spiritual father. The devil was a murderer from the beginning and the father of lies. (Genesis 3:4; 1 John 3:8)
- There is no truth in him. (Note: 1 John 2:4)

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8:46-47 – **“Which of you convicteth me of sin?”**

- Jesus’ claim to be the Son of God was based on His works (cf. John 20:30-31), therefore He asks them to prove Him guilty of sin or any falsehood.
- They could not prove Jesus had committed sin, neither would they listen to the words of God which He spoke.
- As they did not love the truth more than a lie (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12), they were not of God.