


Lesson 13: In Jerusalem For the Feast

January 27, 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

8:46-47 – **“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.

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

8:48-50 – These Jews that *“had believed Him”* (8:31) now resort to name-calling, **“thou art a Samaritan, and hast a demon”** (Common: John 7:20; 8:52; and 10:20; Matthew 9:34; 11:18; 12:24ff.; Mark 3:22ff., etc.)

- Their silence of accusations is deafening! Often to avoid the issue of truth versus error, emotions are stirred.
- The Samaritans were a “mixed breed” (Jews and Gentiles) and were held in contempt by both Jews and Gentiles (cf. John 4:9). Jesus does not respond to their prejudice.

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- However, if Jesus had a demon His actions and words would not be designed to honor the Father.
- Jesus is content to let God judge between them. Truly God would know whether Jesus or these Jews had truly honored the Father by obedience.

The Jews Seek To Kill Jesus For Claiming To Be Of An Eternal Nature – 8:51-59

- **8:51** – *“Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my word, he shall never see death.”*

Jesus speaks of spiritual death, but these Jews do not understand. All they can perceive is physical death. (cf. John 5:24)

- Note the emphasis John places on keeping *“my word.”* cf. John 14:23; 15:20; 17:6; 1 John 2:2ff; 2 John 9; etc.)

The Jews Seek To Kill Jesus For Claiming To Be Of An Eternal Nature – 8:51-59

8:52-53 – These Jews correctly recognize the greatness of Abraham and the prophets, yet they had all died.

- The statement of Jesus seemed blasphemous to them.
 - How could Jesus claim that by keeping His word, one would be delivered from death?
 - Was Jesus greater than Abraham or the prophets who had died?
 - *“Whom makest thou thyself?”* They want to know who He is claiming to be (cf. 5:18; 10:33; 19:7, 12).

The Jews Seek To Kill Jesus For Claiming To Be Of An Eternal Nature – 8:51-59

8:54-55 – Jesus once again makes clear His claim of divine sonship.

- Jesus had not honored Himself, but instead God, His Father, had glorified Him (attributed honor to Him).
- Once again their actions prove that they did not know the Father. (cf. 8:29, 44; cf. 1 John 2:3-4)

The Jews Seek To Kill Jesus For Claiming To Be Of An Eternal Nature – 8:51-59

8:56 – Abraham had rejoiced to “**see**” the day of Jesus.

- This was in anticipation of the promise that through Abraham’s seed, all nations of the earth would be blessed. (cf. Genesis 12:3; 22:18; cf. Hebrews 11:17)
- Abraham saw it “*by faith*” and was glad.
- Jesus is the Christ, the promised seed of Abraham (cf. Matthew 1:1), therefore the fulfillment of Abraham’s hope. (Galatians 3:7-9, 14-16, 26-29)

The Jews Seek To Kill Jesus For Claiming To Be Of An Eternal Nature – 8:51-59

8:57 – “*The Jews therefore said unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and **hast thou seen Abraham?***”

The Jews were amazed that Jesus could say this when He was not even fifty years old.

- How could Jesus claim He had seen Abraham when Abraham had been dead almost 2,000 years?
- Luke says Jesus was “*about thirty years old*” (Luke 3:23) at the beginning of His public ministry.

The Jews Seek To Kill Jesus For Claiming To Be Of An Eternal Nature – 8:51-59

8:58 – “BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS, I AM” is a significant claim of eternal existence.

- It conveys the idea of timeless presence.
- The tense of the Greek verb is exactly the same as that used in Exodus 3:14 in the Septuagint Version (the Greek translation of Hebrew scriptures used by the Jews).
- Jesus quotes the scriptures exactly and applies it to Himself.
- Either He was deluded, hallucinating, insane, deliberately deceiving, or He really is who He claimed to be – DEITY!