

The Truth Will Make You Free [part 2] John 8:44-59

Scripture Text:

44. You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.
45. But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me.
46. Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me?
47. He who is of God hears the words of God; for this reason you do not hear them, because you are not of God."
48. The Jews answered and said to Him, "Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?"
49. Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me.
50. But I do not seek My glory; there is One who seeks and judges.
51. Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he will never see death."
52. The Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon. Abraham died, and the prophets also; and You say, 'If anyone keeps My word, he will never taste of death.'
53. Surely You are not greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets died too; whom do You make Yourself out to be? "
54. Jesus answered, "If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say, 'He is our God';
55. and you have not come to know Him, but I know Him; and if I say that I do not know Him, I will be a liar like you, but I do know Him and keep His word.
56. Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."
57. So the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?"
58. Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."
59. Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple. (JOHN 8:44-59 NASB)

Outline:

- I. Satan the Father of Lies...God the Father of Truth (vv.44-47)
- II. The Consequence of Spiritual Blindness is Spiritual Death (vv.48-51)
- III. True Greatness and Glory Come from God (vv.52-55)
- IV. The Sight of Faith vs the Blindness of Unbelief (vv.56-59)

Worksheet:

- I. Satan the Father of Lies...God the Father of Truth (vv.44-47)
 - a. Contrary to what the Jews said regarding Abraham and God as being their Father, who does Jesus say is their real Father? (v.44)
 - b. What is it about them that makes Jesus declare this startling truth about them?
 - c. What were/are the desires of their Father (Satan) that they themselves desired also? (v.44)
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - d. The Jews had _____ in their hearts and did not stand in _____, just like their father _____.
 - e. These qualities that they shared with their father Satan came from where?

 - f. As Jesus reveals these truths, it should be apparent and noted that these indictments were not just against Satan, but also against His children, the _____.
 - g. Jesus spoke of this in Matthew 5
 - i. "You have heard that the ancients were told, 'you shall not commit murder' and 'Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.' But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell. (MATTHEW 5:21-22 NASB)
 - ii. Murder originates from the heart ("angry"), progresses to unkind words ("you good-for-nothing") and finally attacks on one's character or character assassination ("you fool"), which can ultimately lead to acts of violence and even murder.
 - h. Jesus was speaking the truth and not lies, therefore the Jews could not _____ Him. (v.45)
 - i. Jesus posed the Jews a challenge to convict Him of Sin. In the end the best they could come up with was _____. What was the problem with this verdict of guilt? (v.46) *[discussion]*

 - j. Jesus answers His own question from v.46 not for His benefit but for theirs and ours. Why could they "not believe" Jesus? (v.47)

 - k. Jesus tries to help them understand why they couldn't believe using a negative and a positive explanation?
 - i. They could not believe Him because they **were** of their father Satan who is a murderer and a liar. Thus, they were liars, told lies and believed lies.

- ii. They could not believe Him because they **were not** of God therefore, they could not “hear the words of God” (the truth).

II. The Consequence of Spiritual Blindness is Spiritual Death (vv.48-51)

- a. In response to Jesus’ words to the Jews they attacked Him “socially” as well as “spiritually”. (v.48)
- b. What were the Jews trying to do when they said that He (Jesus the Son of God) had a demon and was a Samaritan?

- c. What actions on the part of Jesus disqualify Him as being one with a demon? (v.49)

- d. What did Jesus rightly accuse the Jew of, following their statement to Him? (v.49)

- e. Jesus points out three important truths in v.50 to the Jews, what are they? (v.50)
 - i. Jesus was not seeking _____ for Himself.
 - ii. God the Father is seeking _____ for Himself.
 - iii. God the Father will also be the One to _____.
- f. The Jews where trying to judge Jesus with a self-righteous judgement that was not of God. Jesus rightly judged their actions because He relied on a righteous judgement from God.
- g. Jesus makes an astounding claim regarding those who “keep” His words. (v.51)
 - i. Notice that Jesus does not say those who “hear” His words will “never see death”, but rather those who “keep” His words.
 - ii. What is the significance of “keep” vs “hear” as it relates to Jesus’ words?
[discussion]

III. True Greatness and Glory Come from God (vv.52-55)

- a. The Jews continued insistence that Jesus had a demon was based on their assumption that Jesus was _____ and not telling the truth? (v.52)
- b. The _____ death of Abraham and the Prophets was the logical evidence that the Jews were relying on to conclude that Jesus was _____, had a _____ and must have been a _____ too.
- c. What did Jesus mean when He said, “If anyone keeps My word, he will never taste of death.” [discussion]

- d. The Jews were very concerned about the implications of Jesus’ statements because they seemed to suggest that He (Jesus) was greater than _____ and the _____. (v.53) This was a _____ block and a rock of _____ to them. (1 Peter 2:8)

- e. For this is contained in Scripture: " Behold , I lay in Zion a choice stone, a precious corner stone, And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed ." This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for those who disbelieve, " The stone which the builders rejected , This became the very corner stone, " and, "A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense "; for they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this doom they were also appointed. (1 PETER 2:6-8 NASB)
- f. Jesus says that seeking His own glory is nothing. The same holds true for _____. Who is the One who glorified Jesus and will glorify us? (v.54) _____ . How? _____
- g. Jesus states that the Jews do not have the close intimate relationship with God that they think they have, but He (Jesus) does have a close relationship with God the Father (Jesus "knows Him") this same One that the Jews call God. (v.55) Jesus also points out that if Jesus were to say that He did **NOT** know God the Father, then He (Jesus) would be a liar just like _____.
- h. Jesus proves this because He _____ God's word. (v.55)
- IV. The Sight of Faith vs the Blindness of Unbelief (vv.56-59)
- a. How did Abraham "see" the day of Jesus and rejoice? *[discussion]*

- b. Abraham's sight was a _____ sight and not a _____ sight.
- c. The Jews were still fixated on the _____ appearance of Jesus related to His apparent age, rather than the _____ reality of His eternal existence as the second Person of the Trinity. (v.57)
- d. What was Jesus saying when He said, "before Abraham was, I am [I AM]"? *[discussion]* (v.58)

- e. What was the understanding of the Jews after Jesus said this to them?

- f. Following the "forensic evidence" of the text, how do we know that this was their understanding about what Jesus had said as it relates to Himself? *[discussion]* (v.59)

- g. What was the reason for this behavior and their actions following Jesus' statement? Did they have a Biblical basis for this attempted action? (Lev. 24:16) *[discussion]*

- h. How can Jesus' escape be explained under the highly volatile conditions that surrounded Him? *[discussion]*

