

JOHN 8:30-59

REVIEW...

- **JOHN 8:1-11 - THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY...**
 - The Religious Leaders brought a woman to Jesus - caught in adultery - to be stoned...
 - Jesus said - he who has no sin cast the first stone - then wrote in the sand...
 - From the oldest to the youngest they all left - only the woman remained...
 - Jesus looked up - where are your accusers - 'neither do I accuse you - go and sin no more.'
- **JOHN 8:1-11 - THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY...**
 - On another day Jesus stood up in the Temple - I Am the Light of the world...
 - Those who follow Jesus - will not longer be in darkness / sin...
 - Jesus came to light the way to heaven - to show us how to live our lives for God!
 - The Religious leaders rejected the light - questioned Jesus claim...
 - It takes two or more witnesses - who did Jesus have to verify what He was saying...
 - Jesus is God - He did not need anyone to verify His claim!
 - But He told them His Father was the 2nd witness - the leaders thought He meant Joseph!
 - Jesus told them He was going away - and where He went they could not follow...
 - He was speaking of His citizenship - he belonged to heaven / they belonged to the earth...
 - Only when Jesus was up on the cross - then they would believe His words!

WHO IS YOUR FATHER... (3 THINGS)

- **1ST - FREED FROM SIN... VS. 30-36 (2 THINGS)**
 - 1st - As Jesus taught - many believed (*Aorist*) Him - that day... vs. 30-32
 - But it was not just about them believing that day - they needed to continue to believe...
 - I have met many people who will raise their hand when you present the Gospel...
 - But afterwards they go right back to their old lives - no lasting effect...
 - Believing in Jesus is not about a momentary decision - it is a life long commitment!
 - Jesus encouraged them to abide in His Word - then they would be His disciples...
 - They would know the truth - and the truth would set them free...
 - It is only when we continue to be in the Word - continue to believe in Jesus...
 - That we are going to discover the truth - life is about knowing God - **John 17:3**
 - That God gave us this life to choose - make a decision about our eternity...
 - When we make that choice - we are free cause we know where we will spend eternity!
- 2nd - Upset by Jesus words 'need to be set free' - the 'believers' argued with Jesus... vs. 33-36
 - We are the children of Abraham - and have never been in bondage...
 - But their argument was a lie - at that very moment they were slaves to Rome...
 - And before that they had been conquered by Greece / Babylon / Assyria...
 - In fact the Jews had not been free for over 400 years!
- But that was not the freedom Jesus was talking about - He was talking about sin...
 - 'I TELL YOU THE TRUTH' - whoever practices sin (*habit*) - is a slave to sin...
 - Sin is like a drug - the most addictive kind of drug - and it will take over your life...
 - The same way a drug dealer gets a new client - giving them a free sample...
 - Sin can seem to be enjoyable - but it sucks us in and we are trapped!
 - In the end we find we are in bondage to sin - morally and spiritually bankrupt!

- The slave does not abide in the Master's house - only the son does...
 - A slave is not a permanent member of a family - they can be fired at any time...
 - But a son will always have a home - no matter where he goes he is always welcome...
 - We either choose to be a slave to sin – or we choose to be a child of God...
 - We choose be either living for sin - or abiding in the Word of God...
 - **Romans 6:16** - “You become the slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God...”
 - The result of which is either we are a slave - and do not belong in the house of God...
 - Or we are a son - and therefore an always welcome into the presence of our Lord!
- If the Son sets you free - you are free indeed!
 - I heard a story about a young boy who was learning to ride a bike...
 - The only way he knew how to stop was by running into things...
 - His father had told him about the brakes – but he refused to use them...
 - The point being – Jesus has set free from sin – if we choose to use the brakes...
 - We no longer have to sin - we have the choice of being free – do we choose to use it...
 - Do we choose to live in bondage to sin – or do we choose to be free!
 - **Deuteronomy 30:19** – “I have set before you life and death, therefore choose life...”
- **2ND - WHO IS YOUR FATHER... VS. 37-47 (3 THINGS)**
 - o 1ST - The children of Abraham... vs. 37-40
 - The Jews were the descendants of Abraham - but they also sought to kill Jesus...
 - The reason was because they were full - and had no room left in them for His Word...
 - Jesus was giving them the Word the Father / they were full of the things of their father
 - There is only so much room in our hearts - we choose what we fill that room with...
 - If we fill our lives with everything but God - work / food / entertainment / sin...
 - Then we are not going to have any room / time left to give to Jesus!
 - They argued - Abraham is our Father...
 - Jesus pointed out - if they were the children of Abraham - they would act like Abraham
 - But instead they sought to kill Jesus - because He told them the truth from God...
 - Abraham never did anything like that - showing they were not his children!
 - Just because someone goes to church - does not make them a Christian...
 - We can say all the right things to sound like a Christian - come to church every Sunday...
 - But it is not about what we say – it is about the actions from our lives...
 - Not that we will not make occasional mistakes - we are all sinners...
 - But if we live a life that is defined by sin - then we show we do not know God...
 - **I John 3:6** - “Anyone who continues to live in Jesus will not sin. But anyone who keeps on sinning does not know [Jesus]...”
 - o 2ND - The children of satan... vs. 41-44
 - In anger the people replied - ‘We were not born of fornication - we have one Father - God’...
 - Likely a reference to miracle of the virgin birth - something we believe today...
 - But it would not have been the same in Jesus’ day - He was considered illegitimate...
 - Jesus grew up with the stigma of a questionable birth - ‘who is your father?’
 - This is the first of two insults the Jews threw at Jesus - because they were convicted...
 - It you throw a rock into a dog pound the one who yelps got hit...
 - You know when someone is convicted - because they react to what you say...

- The more upset they get at the Word of God - the more convicted they are by the Word!
- If God were their Father - they would love Jesus...
 - Jesus came from God - He was sent by God - but still they rejected Him...
 - They did not understand what Jesus said - because they had no power to hear His Word
 - Why were they unable to hear the Word of God - because of their sin...
 - When we choose to sin – we become ashamed – we knew better - we become ‘huya’...
 - Anything that has to do with God – reminds us of our sin – we try to avoid...
 - Sin keeps us from wanting to read our Bible – go to church – fellowship with believers...
 - Sin will keep us from fellowship/growing in the Lord – but the Lord keeps us from sin!
- You are of your father - the devil (*diablo - the accuser*)...
 - The proof was in their actions - they followed the example of their father...
 - The devil is a murderer - from the very beginning...
 - It was through the temptation in the garden - the devil brought death into the world!
 - If we like to tempt others to sin - then we are acting like the devil...
 - God does not play around when it comes to stumbling His children...
 - He is a VERY protective Father - and will deal with anyone who threatens His kids!
 - A sobering thought - something to keep in mind next time we ‘invite’ someone to...
 - Have a drink - go to the party - play the game - have a boyfriend/girlfriend...
 - The devil is a liar - he is the father of lies...
 - Nothing that the devil says is true - everything that comes from him is a lie...
 - He lies and tells you sin is fun - just give it a try - get you hooked like a drug dealer...
 - He lies and tells you once you have sinned - you cannot go back to God...
 - If we try and keep people from coming to God/church - we are acting like the devil...
 - And if we are acting like the devil - then it shows we are the children of the devil...
 - **I John 3:8** - “When people keep on sinning, it shows that they belong to the devil.”
- 3rd - The Love of the Word... vs. 45-47
 - Jesus told the truth - but they would not listen...
 - He had done nothing wrong - no one could make a single accusation against Him...
 - And yet they refused to listen - revealing they did not belong to God...
 - The person who refused to listen to the Word / come to church...
 - Not even noticing if they have read the Bible - care nothing for the Word...
 - Shows their true colors - they are not a child of God / they are a child of the devil...
 - **II Corinthians 13:5** – “Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you.”
 - The person who belongs to God - listens to the Word of God...
 - In fact the Love of the Word is the key proof that we are the children of God...
 - Do we light up when someone is teaching a Bible study...
 - Do we look forward to those moments when we get a chance to read the Word...
 - It is because we are the children of God - and we love to hear from our Father!
 - **Psalms 119:97** - “Oh, how I love your instructions! I think about them all day long...”
- 3rd - OBEY THE WORD... vs. 48-59 (3 THINGS)
 - 1st - In pure anger the Jews said - ‘You are a Samaritan - and have a demon’... vs. 48-50
 - They had no answer to Jesus’ test - all they could do was hurl insults...
 - To the Jew there was no worse thing than to be called a Samaritan...
 - Except perhaps to be called a demon possessed Samaritan...

- When you confront people with who their father is - expect them to be angry...
- Jesus patiently countered - I do not have a demon...
 - Note He did not even dignify the Samaritan comment with an answer...
 - Everything Jesus did was to honor the father - yet the people dishonored Jesus...
 - By dishonoring Jesus - they dishonored the Father - and the Father would judge them..
 - We ultimately share the fate of our 'father' - for good or for bad...
 - Either we experience the infinite wonder of heaven with God - **I Corinthians 2:9**
 - Or we suffer the unspeakable horrors of hell prepared for the devil - **Revelation 20:10**
 - That is why we tell people about Jesus - give them the Word - not to attack them...
 - We share cause of the very real danger that comes with rejecting Jesus Christ...
 - Hell is not temporary – hell is the 2nd death – eternal separation from God – no hope...
 - Keeping people from Hell is worth a little ridicule – worth being made fun of...
- o 2nd - 'I TELL YOU THE TRUTH' - whoever keeps the Word - will never die... vs. 51-55
 - The Jews answered - now we know you have a demon...
 - Abraham / Prophets are all dead - yet You say if someone listen to You they will not die
 - Are you greater than Abraham or the Prophets - who do you think You are!
 - When you tell people there is only one way to get to heaven - the Bible - faith in Jesus...
 - They will want to know what gives you the right to tell them who their father is!
 - They will challenge you - who do you think you are - what makes you an authority!
 - Jesus answered - 'I know the Father'...
 - To say Jesus did not know the Father - would make Him a 'liar like the Jews' (*slam*)...
 - The people did not know (*ginosko*) - have a personal experience with the father...
 - But Jesus knew (*eido*) / had seen the Father personally - and kept His Word (*logos*)!
 - So absolutely Jesus was greater than Abraham or the Prophets...
 - The reason why we have authority - is because we know Jesus / His Word!
 - The Gospel is not our opinion / it is the Word of God - it is THE fact!
 - We are not giving people our opinion - we are giving them the TRUTH!
- o 3rd - Abraham saw Jesus - and rejoiced... vs. 56-59
 - When did Abraham see Jesus - 2 thoughts...
 - When Melchizedek (*Jesus*) came out and blessed Abraham - **Genesis 14:18-19**
 - **Hebrews 7:1-3** - "**Melchizedek... [is] like the Son of God...**"
 - When the LORD appeared to Abraham and told Him he would have a son - **Genesis 19:1**
 - Both times Abraham rejoiced when He heard the Word of God...
 - In fact the name of the son God promised to give was 'Isaac' - meaning laughter!
 - You are not even 50 years old - and you say Abraham...
 - They were pointing out the physical impossibility of Jesus' claim because of His age...
 - Abraham had lived some 2000 years before the time of Jesus...
 - Before Abraham was - 'I Am'!
 - The 'I AM' - is one of the titles given by God to Moses (*burning bush*) - **Exodus 3**
 - There can be no mistake to what Jesus is saying - He saw Abraham - because He is God!
 - We can further be sure because in response the people took up stones to kill Him!
 - But Jesus was hidden from them - passed by them and left the Temple...
 - Life comes down to one very simple decision we must make - who is our father...
 - Do we choose to live our lives in bondage to sin - unwilling to hear the word...
 - Acting just like satan - showing that we are the sons of the devil...

- Or do we choose to abide in the Word of God - set free from sin - a child of God!