

The Truth of Jesus Will Make You Free

John 8:21-40

Jesus Predicts His Departure

²¹ Then Jesus said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin. Where I go you cannot come." ²² So the Jews said, "Will He kill Himself, because He says, 'Where I go you cannot come'?"

²³ And He said to them, "You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world.

²⁴ Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins." ²⁵ Then they said to Him, "Who are You?" And Jesus said to them, "Just what I have been saying to you from the beginning. ²⁶ I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him." ²⁷ They did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father.

²⁸ Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am *He*, and *that* I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. ²⁹ And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him." ³⁰ As He spoke these words, many believed in Him.

The Truth Shall Make You Free

³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.

³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." ³³ They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How *can* You say, 'You will be made free'?" ³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵ And a slave does not abide in the house forever, *but* a son abides forever. ³⁶ Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

Abraham's Seed and Satan's

³⁷ "I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you.

³⁸ I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father." ³⁹ They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. ⁴⁰ But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this.

Questions:

1. Jesus again says (v 21) He is going away where they cannot come (when He told them this in 7:33-36 they had mocked Him). What does He now say will happen to them instead of just seeking and not finding Him?
2. Jesus points out that they are from beneath (this world), but He is from above (heaven). What is the real problem in their being of this world? What is their only remedy (and ours) to this problem? vs 23-24
3. What powerful meaning is there in Jesus' saying in vs 23 "if you do not believe that I am"? (Notice "I am (*He*)" is added by translators but the original is "I am") Compare this with Exodus 3:14 and Isaiah 43:10-13.
4. The people ask "Who are you?" (v 25) not understanding His "I am" claims (Jn 6:35 **I am** bread of life; Jn 8:12 **I am** light of the world; Jn 8:24 believe **I am** *He*). But who did He remind them had **sent** Him?
5. What is Jesus referring to "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He"? vs 28-29 What would be made clear when these very people would lift Him up?
6. What does Jesus mean by "abiding in My word"? v 31 When Jesus says "you will know the truth" (v 32) is this the same as knowing that Him as the "I am"? How does abiding in His word differ from the law of Moses?
7. Why did the people take offense at His saying the truth would make them free? What type freedom was Jesus meaning .. freedom from what?
8. To the Jews on what basis did they see themselves as free as God's children? How is this different from the freedom Jesus is promising?
9. What showed that Jesus' word had no place in their hearts? They thought their father was Abraham, but who did their actions show their father to be?