

John 8:1-30 – 17 May 2026

“Exposing The Truth”

Introduction

- *Chap 6 begin Jesus’ 3rd year of public ministry
- *From Chap 7-10a Jesus is at the Feast of Tabernacles
- *Chap 8 begins w/ Jesus coming back to the Temple in Jerusalem the day after the Feast ends
- *Jesus is into the heart of His mission to give them the life-giving truth that *He* is the way to life with God

Today, we see 3 steps for shining the truth in an unbelieving world

#1 – Don’t get diverted: We offer grace & warn of judgement to come (Vs 1-11) [Woman in adultery]

Read 8:1-2

1. Jesus has been recently saying hard things
 - a. “Eat My flesh & drink My blood” (John 6:54)

- b. “I am the Bread of Life” (John 6:35)
- c. “If you’re thirsty, come to Me” (John 7:7)
- 2. And yet many people are *still* coming to Him
- 3. If we attract people w/ the truthful, substantive Word of God, they’ll stay; but if we attract w/ flattering, fluffy words, anything can distract them
- 4. Notice Jesus came to teach (It’s the main thing)
 - a. 50% - He entered a place to teach
 - b. 35% - He entered a place to heal
 - c. 10% - He entered w/ a confrontation/debate
 - d. 5% - He entered for other reasons

Read 8:3-5

- 1. Read Lev 20:10 – Where’s the man?
 - a. They’re not seeking justice but to challenge
- 2. Capital punishment was taken away by Rome
 - a. Talmud says 40 years up until the Temple was destroyed, they didn’t have death penalty

Read 8:6a

- 1. They want Jesus to break the Law or buck Rome

2. We're presented questions or situations sometimes b/c the person wants the answer, but sometimes b/c the person wants to distract us – recognize both

Read 8:6b-8

1. Jesus' response brought a hint at great judgement on *them* not her
 - a. Those who exercise justice over others; will find it *on their own head* (Read Matt 7:1-5)
 - b. Be a person that longs to offer grace
2. Jesus' delay brought a hint at great purpose
 - a. Read John 3:17 – His *1st coming* wasn't for judgement but to offer eternal life
 - b. It's His *2nd coming* that is for judgement
3. Notice, her life & pain were just a toy in their game to catch Jesus – they cared not for her
4. Jesus didn't deny justice, but highlighted that the integrity of the judges matters
 - a. Read John 7:24 – This wasn't whole justice

Read 8:9

1. Jesus pricked their conscience to realize that judgement is coming for *us all*
2. Oldest would be 1st to accept that he's sinful
3. Jesus got them to realize that they're putting a target on their own back if they stoned her

Read 8:10-11

1. We live in the reality that judgement is needed but we're not given the mission of *judgement*
 - a. We're given the mission of *offering escape from judgment*
2. This whole thing is a diversion to the mission of Christ
 - a. A former police officer tells of the tactics of roving bands of thieves: "They enter the store as a group. One or two separate themselves from the group, and the others start a loud commotion in another section of the store. This grabs the attention of the clerks and customers. As all eyes are turned to the disturbance, the accomplices fill their pockets with merchandise and cash, leaving before anyone

suspects. "Hours--sometimes even days--later, the victimized merchant realizes things are missing and calls the police. Too late." How often this effective strategy is used by the devil! We are seduced into paying attention to the distractions, while the work of sharing Jesus going almost completely undone

3. Jesus' response doesn't ignore justice but exalts grace and salvation
 - a. Doesn't ignore justice – "Go & sin no more"
 - b. Exalts grace – "I don't condemn you", I've come to save you

#2 – Live in the Light: We offer truth by knowing God in His Word (Vs 12-20) [Light of the World]

Read 8:12

1. Jesus uses imagery of light a lot in John 8-10
2. Light = knowing what to do & where to go
3. If you ever feel lost & don't know what to do or where to go, literally just ask Jesus in His Word
 - a. Then once we ask, follow His direction

Read 8:13-16

1. Jesus already proved in John 5:33-47 that there are many other witnesses to His truthfulness
2. What a paradox
 - a. **Jesus** is judging Himself in words **correctly**
 - i. He does know His own past & future
 - b. **They're** judging Jesus in words **incorrectly**
 - i. They're saying He's **not** the light of the World
3. They're misjudging Jesus b/c they're only thinking earthly, fleshly
 - a. Jesus on the other hand can judge correctly b/c He and the Father are one in essence

Read 8:17-18

1. When did the Father give veracity to Jesus?
 - a. At Jesus' baptism – "I'm well pleased"
2. What Jesus says and does are approved by God

Read 8:19-20

1. Your father was seen as your source, authority and identity

2. Had they known He was saying that they don't know **God** at all, they would have lost their mind
 - a. Their belief that they belong to God was based on being Abraham's literal children
 - b. We look at this is the 2nd half of John 8

#3 – Give the Gospel: We offer life from the dead thru Jesus (Vs 21-30)

Read 8:21-22

1. He wants them to think about how their sins are still on them
 - a. How their sins are preventing them from being with the Father
 - b. But they refuse to regard what He's actually saying
2. "Will He kill Himself?"
 - a. The only reason they go beyond thinking very directly here is to insult Him

Read 8:23-24

1. The world system is run by the devil, the god of this world
2. We are to be in this world (John 16:33), but not of it (John 17:14)
3. Look at the three parts of the timeline
 - a. “*You are from below*” – we’re born spiritually dead, not fit for heaven
 - b. “*You are of this world*” – we’re a slave to the desires of this world
 - c. “*You will die, unless...*” – the only way out of this bondage is to believe in Jesus!

Read 8:25-27

1. “Who are You? You know who I am”
 - a. The already have all the info they need to know who Jesus is
 - b. There’s nothing new He needs to tell them of Himself, they simply need to believe Him

2. Vs 26 – The Father has sent Jesus to say many things about people and their need to repent and believe in the Savior and they are true

Read 8:28-30

1. This isn't just how Jesus lived and died, this is how we should live and die
 - a. Paul said in I Cor 11:1, “Be imitators of me, as I imitate Christ”
 - b. We're to do the will of God, regardless of our comfort
2. When living for God's will, we're never alone
 - a. We always have a companion and guide
3. What is this that Jesus “will be lifted up”?
 - a. Lifted on the cross (Read John 3:14-15)
 - b. Then lifted in veneration (Read Phil 2:8-9)
4. Jesus always does what is pleasing to God
 - a. We can say, “I intend to always do things that are pleasing to the Father”

Conclusion

So, Jesus, the Light of the World, has come to expose the truth, and we ought to follow His lead

1. **Don't get diverted: Offer grace & warn of judgement to come**
 - a. Don't allow life to take on a foreign style that's not what Jesus has for you
2. **Live in the Light: Offer truth by knowing God in His Word**
 - a. Stay close to the Father thru His Word and we'll know truth from a lie – and live it!
3. **Give the Gospel: We offer life from the dead thru Jesus**
 - a. Get to the heart of the matter and offer the life-giving blood of Jesus to save from...
 - i. Sin's consequences & dissatisfaction &
 - ii. Depression, despair, death
 - iii. Jesus is the One that saves!