

Rev. Lex DeLong / General

True Equity and the Greatest Love / John 8:31–59

Notes

06/30 John 8:31-59, "The Truth That Sets You Free," Subtitle: Enslaved or Free?, Scripture: Rom. 8:1-4

Truth is not relative, it is absolute.

We are not a product of our culture and context, they simply just influence us.

The substance of who we are is not self-determined, it is established by God.

To sin is not freedom, it is bondage.

To follow God's word is not bondage, it is freedom and life.

Do you believe?

The search for the truth that will set you free from the slavery of this life is done. If Jesus sets you free, then you are free indeed. Join us in person this Sunday morning at 10:30 for this discussion, or follow along online, live in the church app, on the website, or on YouTube.

Knowing God's Word means knowing truth and only truth will set you free (John 8:31-32)

- Denial is one of Satan's most powerful lies (John 8:33)

Everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin (John 8:34-47)

- Your actions reveal your master (John 8:34-41)
 - If it is Jesus then He sets you free, and you will indeed - be free
 - If it is sin then you will be its slave, and you will indeed - be in bondage
- Where you seek truth reveals your master (John 8:42-47)
 - If you listen to God, you are His
 - If you do not listen to God, you are not His

Life is found in the Words of God through Jesus Christ (John 8:48-59)

- Without God's Words, death through sin reigns (John 8:48-51; c.f., Rom. 5:12-16)
- Only God glorifies, seeks, and judges (John 8:50)
- Jesus is the source of life (John 8:51-59; Jesus is "**I am**")

This comes full circle back to Moses and the exodus of Israel from Egypt and the feast of booths that they were celebrating at that time.

The words 'I am' (*egō eimi*) are used in a number of different ways on the lips of Jesus in the Fourth Gospel (see Additional note: *Egō eimi*, p. 139). Here they are clearly used in an absolute sense representing the divine name. Thus when Jesus said to 'the Jews', 'before Abraham was born, I am', he was identifying himself with God. Perhaps Jesus was also implying that Abraham, great though he was, had lived and died, but that he, Jesus,

because he is one with God, remains forever as the 'I am'.

(*egō eimi*) represents the divine name. In Exodus 3:14 God says to Moses, 'I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: "I am has sent me to you." ' The 'I am who I am' is translated as *egō eimi ho ōn* in the LXX. In Isaiah 43:25; 51:12 *egō eimi* on its own functions as the divine name. Thus when Jesus said to 'the Jews', 'before Abraham was born, I am', he was identifying himself with God. He was not only pronouncing the name of God, which Jews normally did not dare to utter, but, even worse, he was claiming to be God.[1,2]

- [1,2]Colin G. Kruse, *John: An Introduction and Commentary*, vol. 4, Tyndale New Testament Commentaries (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2003), 140.

Knowing God's Word means knowing truth and only truth will set you free

Everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin

Life is found in the Words of God through Jesus Christ and once found cannot be taken away.

Truth is not relative, it is absolute.

We are not a product of our culture and context, they simply just influence us.

The substance of who we are is not self-determined, it is established by God.

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To follow God's word is not bondage, it is freedom and life.

Do you believe?

Do you believe?

John 11:25–26 NASB95

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"