

Christians on Campus
John Bible Study
Summer 2021
John (6)

John 8:1-59

As you read: highlight the words sin or sins in red and the words truth and freedom in blue.

¹But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ²And early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him, and He sat down and taught them. ³And the scribes and Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the midst, ⁴they said to Him, Teacher, this woman has been caught committing adultery, in the very act. ⁵Now in the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. What then do You say? ⁶But they said this to tempt Him, so that they might have reason to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote with His finger on the ground. ⁷But when they persisted in questioning Him, He stood up and said to them, He who is without sin among you, let him be the first to throw a stone at her. ⁸And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. ⁹And when they heard that, they went out one by one, beginning with the older ones. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman stood where she was, in the midst. ¹⁰And Jesus stood up and said to her, Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you? ¹¹And she said, No one, Lord. And Jesus said, Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.

¹²Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall by no means walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. ¹³The Pharisees then said to Him, You are testifying concerning Yourself; Your testimony is not true. ¹⁴Jesus answered and said to them, Even if I testify concerning Myself, My testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. ¹⁶But even if I do judge, My judgment is true, for I am not alone, but I and the Father who sent Me. ¹⁷And in your law also it has been written that the testimony of two men is true: ¹⁸I am One who testifies concerning Myself, and the Father who sent Me testifies concerning Me. ¹⁹They said then to Him, Where is Your Father? Jesus answered, You know neither Me nor My Father; if you knew Me, you would know My Father also. ²⁰These words He spoke in the treasury as He taught in the temple; and no one seized Him, because His hour had not yet come.

²¹He said therefore again to them, I am going away, and you will seek Me and will die in your sin. Where I am going, you cannot come. ²²The Jews then said, He is not going to kill Himself, is He, for He says, Where I am going, you cannot come? ²³And He said to them, You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world. ²⁴Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am, you will die in your sins. ²⁵They said then to Him, Who are You? Jesus said to them, Altogether that which I also tell you. ²⁶I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true, and what I have heard from Him, these things I speak to the world. ²⁷They did not understand that He was speaking to them of the Father.

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

³¹Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples; ³²And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free. ³³They answered Him, We are Abraham's seed and have never yet been enslaved to anyone. How is it that You say, You shall become free? ³⁴Jesus answered them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵And the slave does not abide in the house forever; the son does abide forever. ³⁶If therefore the Son sets you free, you shall be free indeed.

³⁷I know that you are Abraham's seed; but you seek to kill Me because My word has no place in you. ³⁸I speak the things which I have seen with My Father; so then, you also do the things which you have heard from your father. ³⁹They answered and said to Him, Our father is Abraham. Jesus said to them, If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. ⁴⁰But now you are seeking to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth which I heard from God; Abraham did not do this. ⁴¹You do the works of your father. They then said to Him, We were not born of fornication; we have one Father, God. ⁴²Jesus said to them, If God were your Father, you would love Me; for I came forth out from God and have come from Him; for I have not come of Myself, but He sent Me. ⁴³Why do you not understand My speaking? It is because you cannot hear My word. ⁴⁴You 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. When he speaks the lie, he speaks it out of his own possessions; for he is a liar and the father of it.

⁴⁵But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me. ⁴⁶Which of you convicts Me of sin? Since I speak truth, why do you not believe Me? ⁴⁷He who is of God hears the words of God; for this reason you do not hear them, because you are not of God. ⁴⁸The Jews answered and said to Him, Have we not spoken well in saying that You are a Samaritan and have a demon? ⁴⁹Jesus answered, I do not have a demon, but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. ⁵⁰But I do not seek My glory; there is One who seeks glory for Me and judges. ⁵¹Truly, truly, I say to you, If anyone keeps My word, he shall by no means see death forever.

⁵²The Jews therefore said to Him, Now we know that You have a demon. Abraham died, and the prophets too; yet You say, If anyone keeps My word, he shall by no means taste death forever. ⁵³Are You greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets died too. Who are You making Yourself? ⁵⁴Jesus answered, If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say that He is your God. ⁵⁵Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say that I do not know Him, I will be like you, a liar; but I do know Him and I keep His word. ⁵⁶Your father Abraham exulted that he would see My day, and he saw it and rejoiced. ⁵⁷The Jews then said to Him, You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham? ⁵⁸Jesus said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Before Abraham came into being, I am. ⁵⁹So they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus was hidden and went out of the temple.

Discussion Questions

1. In this chapter, we come to the case of a woman under the bondage of sin. What are her needs?
2. In verse 35, Jesus said, "Everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin." Have you ever felt like a slave to sin?
3. How can we be set free from sin? [Hints: John 8:31-36; 2 Cor. 3:6; Rom. 8:1-6; Gal. 3:21]

Supplementary Reading

John 8:32 fn. 1: In Greek the same as reality in 1:14, 17. The truth is not the so-called truth of doctrine but the reality of the divine things, which is the Lord Himself (see note 62 in ch. 14; 1:14, 17). This verse says that "the truth shall set you free," whereas v. 36 says that "the Son sets you free." This proves that the Son, the Lord Himself, is the truth. Since the Lord is the embodiment of God (Col. 2:9), He is the reality of what God is. Hence, reality is the very divine element of God realized by us. When the Lord as the great I Am comes into us as life, He shines within us as light, bringing the divine element as reality into us. This reality, which is the divine element imparted into us and realized by us, sets us free from the bondage of sin by the divine life as the light of man. When the Lord as the Word of God became flesh (1:14), He brought God to us as this reality, that God might be the grace for our enjoyment (1:17).