

The Gospel of John

8:37-47

Welcome back to this week's study in the book of John.
As with this study and all bible studies, remember to pray before you start.

I know that last week's study was a tough one because it forced us to take a look at ourselves, and who we really serve. But it should not stop or hinder your walk with the Lord, but rather encourage and strengthen you to move forward. Always remember Jesus' words.

✠ **John 8:36** *Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.*

You are no longer a slave to sin that you have to serve it, but rather you have been made free in Jesus Christ, Who died for all the sins you have been bound to all these years. So today start walking as a free person in Jesus Christ!

This week, Jesus continues on speaking to the Jews.

✠ **John 8:37-41** *"I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father." 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. 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. You do the deeds of your father." Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father--God."*

Last week the Jews told Jesus that they were descendants of Abraham, and Jesus did not argue with this because it was true. But Jesus goes on to tell them that even though they are descendants of Abraham, they are not following Abraham's example.

✠ *Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. 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."*

We are so quick to say that we sin because we follow after the path of our parents. We say that they drank, so we drink. They had sex before marriage so we do the same thing also.

But Jesus tells us that this is not always the case, because if the Jews really followed after the way that Abraham lived, that they would believe in Jesus. But they didn't, therefore their sins were their own doing and they couldn't blame it on their ancestors. Jesus goes on to tell them that: *"You do the deeds of your father."*

They didn't like this because they knew exactly what Jesus was talking about, so they responded with: ***"We were not born of fornication; we have one Father--God."***

Once again so many will claim God as their father and say that there is only one God, but the way they live their life does not represent what they really believe.

There is only one God, but then why does the world serve after so many different things of gods? Money, sex, drugs, alcohol, covetousness, lying, stealing, adultery, fornication, murder etc. We could go on and on with the things that this world serves after, and we know that they do, because when trouble comes their way, they turn to the things they serve.

Some will turn to alcohol or drugs.

Some will turn to money to solve their problems, thinking if they won the Lotto that everything would be OK.

Some turn to shopping to try and find comfort.

Some will turn to stealing and covetousness, thinking that if they could just have something that someone else has, that they would be happy.

Some will turn to sex, thinking that they will find comfort in the arms or bed of another person.

Some turn to hatred and murder in their heart, thinking that if they could just get that person out of their life that everything would be OK.

People will turn to all sorts of things, then as a last resort they will turn to church, not to God, but rather looking for comfort, thinking that everything is fine because they walked in a building and sat there for an hour or so and listened to some guy talk about God. God says this to those who trust in the things of this world rather than Him.

† **Hab 2:18-20 (NLT)** *"What have you gained by worshiping all your man-made idols? How foolish to trust in something made by your own hands! What fools you are to believe such lies! How terrible it will be for you who beg lifeless wooden idols to save you. You ask speechless stone images to tell you what to do. Can an idol speak for God? They may be overlaid with gold and silver, but they are lifeless inside. But the LORD is in his holy Temple. Let all the earth be silent before him."*

† **Isaiah 57:12-14 (NLT)** *"Now I will expose your so-called good deeds that you consider so righteous. None of them will benefit or save you. Let's see if your idols can do anything for you when you cry to them for help. They are so helpless that a breath of wind can knock them down! But whoever trusts in me will possess the land and inherit my holy mountain. I will say, 'Rebuild the road! Clear away the rocks and stones so my people can return from captivity.'"*

Anyone can say that there is one God in heaven, but let their actions speak for them, not their words.

Even as Christians we say that we believe in Jesus and God and trust fully in Them, but do your actions show this or do others see you putting your trust in other things besides God?

Did you notice something else the Jews said? ***We were not born of fornication.***

They may have known about Jesus' birth and that Mary was His mother, but they also thought that Joseph was His father and that Jesus was conceived out of wedlock.

What a dirty thing to throw into someone's face, and it wasn't true.

When we are angry with someone we will try all sorts of things to get at them, even bringing ourselves down to the lowest parts of scum to bring up someone's past, thinking that they just don't fit up to our standards.

Just because a person is conceived out of wedlock does not make him or her a bad person. They had no choice in the matter and why drag someone's parents into this whole thing anyway. Are you mad at them also?

Jesus' response to the Jews saying that God is their Father is.

✠ ***John 8:42-47 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God."***

Jesus answers their statement about Him being born in fornication. ***for I proceeded forth and came from God.*** Speaking of the virgin birth.

Jesus also answers their statement that God is their father. ***If God were your Father, you would love Me.***

That is the true test of anyone who says that God is his or her God. Anyone can believe in God, but the simple fact is if they follow God it will show up on how they treat or what they think of Jesus.

People are quick to accept God, but they reject His Son Jesus.

Jesus said:

✠ ***Matt 10:32-33 "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven."***

God also said:

† **Matt 17:5** *While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"*

It would be like someone bringing an egg to you and saying, "I believe in the shell and that it exists, but the white and yolk are not really there."

Sounds stupid, but that's the way people think about God, they will accept the fact that there is a God, but deny the Godhead and reject the Savior, Jesus Christ and/or the Holy Spirit.

✎ *Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.*

People will say that they are from God and that God created them and the whole world, but still they don't understand the gospel, because they choose to believe a lie. The lie is that Jesus never existed, or He was born on Christmas Day and died on Easter, but that's it, and nothing more. Both means nothing to them, other than another holiday.

Even as Christians we celebrate these days just as the world does. Christmas is actually the celebration of Jesus' birthday and if you have read through past studies here, then you know that Jesus was not born on December 25th (see the Christmas study in misc studies.) So we should be having a birthday party for Jesus if we are to celebrate this day as we say we do.

Easter is also a pagan word not a Christian word. The early church fathers did not celebrate Easter as we do today. What we as Christians do celebrate on this day is Resurrection Day, when Jesus rose from the dead. So what should we be doing on this day? The same thing we should be doing everyday.

† **Luke 24:9** *Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest.*

We should be running out and telling everyone the good news of Jesus rising from the dead. But so many people think and feel like: *And their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them. Luke 24:11*

We quote scripture to them but still they won't believe, why?

✎ *Because you are not able to listen to My word. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.*

People are so use to believing lies that when the truth is presented to them, they won't believe it. Just think of creation verses evolution. There is so much information out there disproving evolution that it would make your head spin. But still the world wants to believe in evolution and refuses to believe the truth, even though all that information is out there disproving it.

It's like saying that the words you are reading here are not black. The proof is right in front of you, staring you right in the face, but if you are used to believing in lies like, this is really white letters and not black, you wont believe it.

People used to think that the world was flat and rested on the backs of turtles. But we have proved that this is not so, but believe it or not some still think this way, even though there are photographs from space showing the earth as round and no turtles to be found, but they refuse to believe it because it challenges their religion and the existence of their gods. Prove them wrong and their religion and gods are all worthless. Prove to the world that God created the heavens and the earth and all the worlds' false religions and gods become worthless.

So why would people not want you to believe the truth?

† ***Acts 19:24-27 For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Diana, brought no small profit to the craftsmen. He called them together with the workers of similar occupation, and said: "Men, you know that we have our prosperity by this trade. Moreover you see and hear that not only at Ephesus, but throughout almost all Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods which are made with hands. So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship."***

All for money and false religion, that's why the world wants you to believe in the lies. Because as soon as you start to believe and follow the bible, what happens? All the profits for alcohol, movies and magazines with sex and murder, TV shows and commercials glorifying sin, fancy expensive cars and homes, make-up and fancy clothes, and we could go on and on. But all these things will start to go away, because people wouldn't want them anymore. They would realize how useless they all are and how much it can hurt them rather than help them.

People will even read this and laugh at it thinking that we are all crazy. But you know what, there will come a time very soon that all the Christians will all be gone and the world will have its way. For about three and a half years things will seem to be great, but then the one they are serving will be exposed and the world will know who and what they have been really serving.

† **Dan 11:29-32 (NLT)** *Then at the appointed time he will once again invade the south, but this time the result will be different. For warships from western coastlands will scare him off, and he will withdraw and return home. But he will vent his anger against the people of the holy covenant and reward those who forsake the covenant. His army will take over the Temple fortress, polluting the sanctuary, putting a stop to the daily sacrifices, and setting up the sacrilegious object that causes desecration. He will flatter those who have violated the covenant and win them over to his side. But the people who know their God will be strong and will resist him.*

We are talking about the seven-year tribulation. For the first three and a half years, things will seem to be great, because those darn Christians are gone and we can have our fun, so people will think.

But in the middle of this seven-year tribulation.

† **Dan 11:31** *And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation.*

Meaning the antichrist will sit in the temple and proclaim himself to be god. Then all hell will break lose literally.

† **Rev 13:11-18** *Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.*

I am thankful that I won't be here, and I pray that if you are reading this that you will make the decision not to be here either. If that is your decision, then it's time to believe in God and His Son Jesus and stop believing the lies you have been told. But don't take my word for it, but rather read God's word and find out the truth for yourself!

What you believe shows you who your father is.

✠ *You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.*

But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.

A tough way to end this week's study, but there are some of you that have believed the lies of satan all these years. Today turn from your father the devil and turn to God and hear His words.

Next week we will continue on with this conversation between Jesus and the Jews.

May God richly bless you in His love, grace and mercy, and may God be your Father in heaven and on this earth!