

Jesus is the Light of the World

This passage follows Jesus' encounter with the Pharisees who had tried to trick Him into making statements which would have had Him arrested for violating the Laws of Moses' or the Romans. But Jesus' response concerning the adulterous woman they brought before Him was one of grace and forgiveness, with which no one could argue. Here Jesus continues teaching in the temple courts.

Read John 8:12-20 - "Jesus is the Light of the World"

v.12 – The darkness of evil can never extinguish God's light. It is the light of Christ which enables mankind to see ourselves as we really are: sinners, living in darkness, in need of a Savior. He lights the path ahead of us so we can see how to live. Look up: John 1:4-5, Psalm 119:105

v.13-18 – The Pharisees were certain that Jesus had trapped Himself in a blasphemous claim without a witness to His assertion, as the law required. Jesus responded that His confirming witness was God Himself.

Of what did Jesus accuse these Jewish leaders? Look at verses: 19, 23, 37, 44, 47

Read John 8:21-30 - "Jesus Warns of Coming Judgment"

v.21 – What sobering and terrifying truth does Jesus declare in this verse? Look up: Luke 16:22-26

If we express no desire to follow Jesus on earth, what would make us think we could follow Him to heaven?

v.24 - What is the declaration of Christ concerning those who do not believe Him? Look up: Acts 4:12

When calamity comes, the wicked are brought down, but even in death the righteous have a refuge. – Proverbs 14:32

Ever since the *Fall of man*, people are born in sin (Psalm 51:5) And unless dealt with, we will die in our sins. But if we address our sinfulness on this side of death, by trusting in who Jesus is and what He did to save us, we can avoid an eternity separated from God. Look up: Romans 3:23-24, Romans 6:23

v.25-30 – What did Jesus teach concerning Himself and the Father?

v.29-30 – His message of His unity with the Father was believed by many because His life was consistent with the message.

Read John 8:31-47 - "Jesus Speaks About God's True Children"

v.33-36 – Who did Jesus teach say were slaves, and who did He say were free?

There is nothing like the freedom we can have in Jesus. No money can buy it, no status can obtain it, no works can earn it, and nothing can match it. And tragically, so few Christians really walk in it. It can never be found except by walking in the light of Jesus and abiding in the Word of God.

v.37-39 – In what sense were these Pharisees Abraham's "*descendants*", but not his "*children*"? Look up: Galatians 3:6-7

v.40 – What proved that these Pharisees were not children of Abraham? Look also at verse 59.

v.41-42 – What proved they were not children of God? What then must *our* lives demonstrate as children of God?

Read John 8:48-59 - "Jesus States He is Eternal"

v.51 – What two claims of Jesus made these Jews furious? Look also at verse 58.

Within this chapter, what three things does Jesus Christ provide (verses: 12, 36, 51).

v.57 - His declaration that even *God Himself glorifies Jesus*, and that their beloved patriarch Abraham delighted in this fact, triggers the angry response: "*How could you know Abraham rejoiced in You? Were You there?*"

To which Jesus replies in verse 58, "*Yes!*" Look up: John 1:1, John 1:14

v.58 – "*I am*" = Jesus uses an unmistakably, and clearly divine title belonging to God alone (Exodus 3:13-14, Isaiah 43:10) to fully emphasize the point He has been making throughout this chapter. And His declaration was interpreted correctly by those listening to Jesus.

v.59 – Because of His blasphemous claim, the crowd attempted to kill Him. But it could not happen, because just as in John 7:30, *His hour had not yet come*.