



Knowing Christ

Children of God



John 7:1 – 8:59 Feast of Tabernacles

1. 7:1-9 Jesus moves from Galilee to Jerusalem
2. 7:10-25 The authority behind Jesus' teaching.
3. 7:25-36 The identity of Jesus.
4. 7:37-44 The promise of the Spirit.
5. 7:45-53 The Jewish leaders' unbelief.
6. 8:1-11 The Woman Caught in Adultery
7. 8:12-30 The Mind of Christ
8. 8:31-38 Free Indeed
9. 8:39-59 Children of God



Setting the Stage

Gauntlet Thrown Down

- ^{NAS} **John 8:37** "I know that you are Abraham's offspring; yet you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. ³⁸ "I speak the things which I have seen with *My* Father; therefore you also do the things which you heard from *your* father." ³⁹ They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you are Abraham's children, do the deeds of Abraham. ⁴⁰ "But as it is, you are seeking to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth, which I heard from God; this Abraham did not do. ⁴¹ "You are doing the deeds of your father." ...

Meltdown Triggered

- ^{NAS} **John 8:41** ... They said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God."⁴⁸ The Jews answered and said to Him, "Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?" ... ⁵² The Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon. Abraham died, and the prophets also; and You say, 'If anyone keeps My word, he shall never taste of death.'⁵³ "Surely You are not greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets died too; whom do You make Yourself out to be?" ... ⁵⁷ The Jews therefore said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?" ... ⁵⁹ Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself, and went out of the temple.

Getting the Point

Re-establishing Context

- ^{NAS} **John 20:30** Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.
- ^{NAS} **John 21:24** This is the disciple who bears witness of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his witness is true. ²⁵ And there are also many other things which Jesus did, which if they were written in detail, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books which were written.

John 8 in Light of 20:31

- **John 20:31** but these have been written **that as a result you may believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and **in order that being a continually believing one** you may have life in His name.
 1. Identity of Jesus
 2. Danger of unbelief
 3. Nature of genuine saving faith

1. Identity of Jesus

Son of God

- **NAS John 8:49** Jesus answered, "... I honor My Father ... ⁵⁰ "But I do not seek My glory; there is One who seeks and judges...⁵⁴ Jesus answered, "If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say, 'He is our God';
- **NAS John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

God

- ^{NAS} **John 8:42** Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me; for *I proceeded forth* and have come from God, for I have not even come on My own initiative, but He sent Me. ... ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I Am."
- ^{lit} **John 8:42** ...for *out of* the God I have come out of, for I have not come of Myself, but He sent Me.

2. The Danger of Unbelief

Unbelief is Sneaky

- **NAS John 8:30** As He spoke these things, many came to believe in Him. ³¹ Jesus therefore was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; ³² and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."
- **NAS John 8:43** "Why do you not understand what I am saying? It is because you cannot hear My word. ⁴⁴ "You 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. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature; for he is a liar, and the father of lies. ⁴⁵ "But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me.

The Danger is Real

- **NAS 2 Corinthians 13:5** Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you-- unless indeed you fail the test?
- **NAS 1 Corinthians 15:1** Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, ² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.
- **NAS Matthew 7:22** "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' ²³ "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.'

3.The Nature of Genuine Saving Faith

Abiding Fruit-Bearing Faith

- ^{NAS} **John 8:39** ... Jesus said to them, "If you are Abraham's children, do the deeds of Abraham ...⁴² Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me...⁴⁷ "He who is of God hears the words of God ...⁵¹ "Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death." ...⁵⁴ Jesus answered, "If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say, 'He is our God';⁵⁵ and you have not come to know Him, but I know Him; and if I say that I do not know Him, I shall be a liar like you, but I do know Him, and keep His word.⁵⁶ "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."

Applications

By their Fruit ...

- **NAS Matthew 7:16** "You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor figs from thistles, are they? ¹⁷ "Even so, every good tree bears good fruit; but the bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ "A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit...²⁰ "So then, you will know them by their fruits.
- **NAS 1 Corinthians 6:9** Or do you not know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived ...
- **NAS Galatians 6:7** Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh shall from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit shall from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Two Options

- A. ^{NAS} **Hebrews 10:26** For **if we** go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a certain terrifying expectation of judgment, and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries.
- B. ^{NAS} **1 John 1:7** but **if we** walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ **If we** say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ **If we** confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Conclusions

Walk by the Spirit

- **NAS Galatians 5:16** But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please... ¹⁹ Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

Live Like Christ

- ^{NAS} **Philippians 2:5** Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.