

Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

January 20, 2021

Tonight we will review verse 12 (detailed comments in last week's study) and move on to deal with speaking truth and lies and the consequences of each because it is something we all struggle with.

John 8: 12 - 30

12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. **13** The Pharisees therefore said unto him, Thou bearest record of thyself; thy record is not true. **14** Jesus answered and said unto them, Though I bear record of myself, yet my record is true: for I know whence I came, and whither I go; but ye cannot tell whence I come, and whither I go. **15** Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man. **16** And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me. **17** It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true. **18** I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me. **19** Then said they unto him, Where is thy Father? Jesus answered, Ye neither know me, nor my Father: if ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also. **20** These words spake Jesus in the treasury, as he taught in the temple: and no man laid hands on him; for his hour was not yet come. **21** Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come. **22** Then said the Jews, Will he kill himself? because he saith, Whither I go, ye cannot come. **23** And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world. **24** I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins. **25** Then said they unto him, Who art thou? And Jesus saith unto them, Even the same that I said unto you from the beginning. **26** I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him. **27** They understood not that he spake to them of the Father. **28** Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. **29** And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him. **30** As he spake these words, many believed on him.

Verse 12

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

See details from last week's lesson on this verse.

Verse 13

The Pharisees therefore said unto him, Thou bearest record of thyself; thy record is not true.

*In this verse the Pharisees start the argument because they feel His words are just words, and not even true.

*In our generation - how many people really believe the Bible is true? Many people think its just a collection of stories, some with moral value, some are impossible to believe. In our Christian walk, we will encounter these people.

*Then there are others who will use the Word as a means to get something they want and in doing so will falsify it to meet their needs. (An example was a Texas preacher who scammed people out of money)

*We must be on guard that we stick to Truth and not be like the Pharisees.

Verse 14

Jesus answered and said unto them, Though I bear record of myself, yet my record is true: for I know whence I came, and whither I go; but ye cannot tell whence I come, and whither I go.

*This is how Jesus responds to the Pharisees: Yes He witnesses of himself but the entire Bible is a witness to who Jesus is. (over 300 prophecies)

*But also we have seen with our own eyes (witnessed) how Jesus' Words have changed people, strengthened us and built up our faith through the Word. Jesus tells the Pharisees where He came from and where He is going (Heaven).

I Corinthians 2:9

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

*There are many mysteries we can't understand. (example are the 7 mysteries in the Catholic church)

I Corinthians 13: 12

For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

*Some things we can't see now but later we will see them clearly. We don't know the answers but when we see Jesus face to face and things will be clear and we will know the answers. When we are with Him we will understand so much better. To be in the presence of Jesus will be to understand why things happened the way they did.

Verses 15 through 18

15 *Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man.* **16** *And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me.* **17** *It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true.* **18** *I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me.*

*We often judge people by what they do - we are judge and jury.

*Jesus came into the world to save the world from the judgement of sin. But one day He will be the judge of all people!

Philippians 2: 5 - 11

5 *Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:* **6** *Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:* **7** *But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:* **8** *And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.* **9** *Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:* **10** *That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;* **11** *And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

2 Timothy 4: 1

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

*This is Paul writing to Timothy. Jesus will be the judge and we will be the judged. Judgement will be true judgement. We cannot hide what we do,

say or believe from Jesus, the Judge. Jesus is One with God, the Father. And you cannot hide anything from God.

Verse 19

Then said they unto him, Where is thy Father? Jesus answered, Ye neither know me, nor my Father: if ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also.

*Oftentimes people react to a situation by asking - Where is your God now? Especially when bad things happen and we do not understand the saving Grace of Jesus.

*Believers are no immune to this:

Pastor Tom related that he had been a Christian for a long time and there were times when things didn't work out the way he thought they 'should have' or how he 'wanted them to work out.' And his reaction was - where are you God? Like the man in the New Testament who cried - I believe Lord but help my unbelief!

*If you have lost something (for example keys, wallet), it's always exactly where you left it. Just go back to where you last knew where it was.

Pastor Tom added this illustration: When he'd shoot a deer, he'd track the blood marks and tie ribbon on trees where he had spotted blood, in case he lost the trail. Then he could go back and find the trail by the ribbons.

[Jill's note: Keeping a spiritual journal is a bit like marking the trail with ribbon. If you find yourself in a dark place or lost, you can always return to your journal writings to see where you started getting lost. Then get back on the path again.]

Verse 20

These words spake Jesus in the treasury, as he taught in the temple: and no man laid hands on him; for his hour was not yet come.

Verse 21

Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come.

*This verse shares the Gospel message very simply: If you die in sin, you do not go to Heaven. It is so simple and plain and yet sin blinds us from the Truth. Sin takes our eyes away from the Word.

Verse 22

Then said the Jews, Will he kill himself? because he saith, Whither I go, ye cannot come.

*The irony here in this verse is that the Jewish leaders are asking if Jesus is going to kill himself when they are actually the ones who are plotting his death themselves!

Verse 23

And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world.

*The Pharisees are of the earth, of this world. But Jesus is from above, not of this world. Jesus is not like us even though he made himself like us. God loved us so very much that He subjected Himself to hurt, pain, rejection and even death for us.

Verse 24

I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.

*The Gospel is presented here once again: If you do not believe in me, you will not go to Heaven.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Verses 25 through 30

25 Then said they unto him, Who art thou? And Jesus saith unto them, Even the same that I said unto you from the beginning. **26** I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him. **27** They understood not that he spake to them of the Father. **28** Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. **29** And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him. **30** As he spake these words, many believed on him.

Pastor Tom asked us to read through these verses on our own and then closed with these remarks:

Pastor Tom referred to the pastor who gave the benediction at the Presidential Inauguration today. Stopped short of praying "In Jesus' Name".

Isaiah 53: 10

Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.

*This prophecy was foretold hundreds of years before Jesus was born. It is a mystery to us that it pleased God to hurt His Son, offering Him up as a sacrifice for our sins.

*But the love of God is so great that He was pleased to see Jesus crucified (lifted up) for our sins...To bring Him Glory.... Not that we even or ever could deserve it.

Good night everyone!

And we praise God for keeping Karen Clevenger and her neighbors safe tonight when a fire occurred in their laundry room!