

Christ, the Son of God
Studies in the Gospel of John

The Eternal God
Lesson 8
John 8

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
February 25, 2018

Purpose Statement

Therefore many other signs
Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples,
which are not written in this book;
but these have been written so that you may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God;
and that believing you may have life in His name.

John 20:30-31 (NASB)

- ▶ Who is Jesus?
- ▶ What does it matter?
- ▶ What must I do?

The Prologue (1:1-18)

- ▶ A short summary of the Gospel of John
- ▶ Jesus Christ is:
 - the Son of God – truly God – Eternal, Creator, Life
 - the Son of Man – truly human
- ▶ Jesus Christ, the Son of God became the Son of Man to:
 - bring eternal life
 - reveal God (full of grace and truth)
- ▶ Jesus Christ must be received by faith
- ▶ Important issues:
 - Light and darkness
 - Witness of John the Baptist
 - Response of the Jews
 - Law of Moses compared to Jesus Christ

Structure of the Gospel of John

- ▶ The Prologue (1:1-18)
- ▶ The Public Ministry of Jesus Christ (1:19-12:50)
- ▶ The Private Ministry of Jesus Christ with His Disciples (13-17)
- ▶ The Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ (18-20)
- ▶ The Epilogue (21)
- ▶ John's style: repetition and progression

Public Ministry – Review

- ▶ Names and titles of Jesus (1:19-51)
- ▶ Relation to the Father: sent, waiting, zeal (2)
- ▶ Faith – true v. false (3)
- ▶ The Gospel message (3)
- ▶ Savior of the world (4)
- ▶ Unbelief of “His own”
 - Jesus does miracles and teaches about Himself
 - The Jews seek to kill Him (5:18)
- ▶ How could the “guardians of Scripture” miss their Messiah?

The Eternal God – John 8

- ▶ The woman taken in adultery (8:1-11)
- ▶ Jesus Christ is the Light of the world (8:12-20)
- ▶ A lesson about two worlds (8:21-30)
- ▶ The truth will make you free (8:31-47)
- ▶ The centrality of Jesus Christ – I AM (8:48-59)

The Woman Taken in Adultery (8:1-11)

- ▶ John 7:53–8:11 is not found in the earliest and best manuscripts
 - Attached elsewhere in John and in Luke in some manuscripts
 - NKJV notes it is “found in over 900 manuscripts”
- ▶ Cannot be certain if it was originally part of John
- ▶ Text in Context:
 - “Go and sin no more” (5:14 and 8:11)
 - Law v. grace and truth (1:17)
 - The main point is the Jews’ failure to understand Scripture
 - The use of the Law to disprove the Messiah
- ▶ The text is more than appropriate in the context
- ▶ The providential preservation of Scripture

The Light of the World (8:12-20)

- ▶ Darkness and Light (Prov 4:19; Isa 9:2; Col 1:13; 1 Pet 2:9)
 - Prologue: “In Him was life . . . the Light of men” (1:4-5)
 - Darkness and Light are 2 spiritual spheres
 - Jesus is the Light that overcomes the darkness – the Light of life
- ▶ Pharisees reject His word as “not true”
 - Jesus speaks truth from heaven
 - Pharisees evaluate truth by the flesh (Cf. Num 15:32-36; Lev 24:10-23)
- ▶ This is illustrated by the story of the woman taken in adultery
- ▶ Jesus did not come to judge but give life (3:17; 5:22, 27; 9:39)
- ▶ Jesus came by authority of the Father, Whom they did not know
- ▶ They illustrate His truth by seeking to seize Him

A Lesson on Two Worlds (8:21-30)

- ▶ “I go away . . . you cannot come” (8:21)
- ▶ Of the world v. not of the world (8:23)
- ▶ The barrier between: “Your sin” (8:24)
- ▶ The bridge: faith in Jesus (8:24)
- ▶ “Who are You?” (8:25)
- ▶ Jesus is the Word from God (8:26-27)
- ▶ Jesus is the Lamb of God – the final argument (8:28)
- ▶ Jesus mission is from the Father Who is well pleased (8:29)
- ▶ Many came to believe (8:30)

The Truth Will Make You Free (8:31-47)

- ▶ The Word defines true disciples – “continue in” (Cf. 8:31 and 47)
- ▶ Knowledge of the truth makes freedom
- ▶ “Abraham’s descendants have never been enslaved to anyone”
- ▶ Jesus is speaking about spiritual slavery to sin (8:34)
- ▶ The evidence of this slavery (8:37-47)
 - A desire to kill Jesus (8:37)
 - Jesus’ word had no place in them (8:37)
 - Their conduct reflects their father (8:38)
 - They did not love Jesus (8:42)
- ▶ They are of the devil (8:44)
- ▶ You are not of God (8:45-47)

The Centrality of Jesus Christ (8:48-59)

- ▶ The response: blasphemy, not reason
- ▶ Jesus honors the Father by His words and works
- ▶ The Father seeks glory for the Son . . . and judges
- ▶ “Truly, truly . . . keep my words and live” (8:51)
- ▶ The Jews argue from the death of Abraham and the prophets
- ▶ Jesus responds:
 - My Father glorifies Me
 - They did not know God
 - Abraham “rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad”
- ▶ The capstone of Jesus testimony: Truly, truly . . . “I AM” (8:58)
- ▶ The response of the Jews – desire to kill

The Eternal God

- ▶ This chapter was written for us
- ▶ Jesus Christ is the Eternal God
- ▶ He was sent into darkness as the Light of the world
- ▶ Mankind cannot see because of the darkness
- ▶ Mankind must see (and receive) the Light or die eternally
- ▶ How can this be?
 - The Living Word (2 Cor 4:4-6)
 - The preaching of the cross
 - The work of the Holy Spirit
 - The drawing of the Father
- ▶ “We saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.” (1:14)