



EXPLORE THE BIBLE[®]

The Gospel of John Sermon Series

Supports Session 10: I Am the Light

Sermon Title: “The Truth Will Set You Free” (John 8:31-47)

Connection to Session 10

In John 8:12, Jesus makes the statement: “I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life.” John 8:31-47 continues to build on the theme that Jesus is the Light of the world. For those who have come to see and walk in the light they continue in His Word, know the truth, and are set free.

Introduction/Opening

What is freedom? Where is freedom found? Many people today view freedom as following nothing and no one. For them, freedom is found in doing whatever they want, however, that is not actually freedom. That view is actually slavery to one’s desires. In John 8, Jesus tells His followers about true freedom. Freedom is found in following the Light of the world as people continue in Christ’s Word, know the truth, and are set free.

Outline

1. Are You Continuing in Christ’s Word? (8:31)
 - a) The Greek word translated “continue” is “abide.” The Greek word carries with it the idea of continually remaining in Christ’s Word.
 - b) “My word” is singular. This points us to the sum of Jesus’s teaching. Jesus is the sum of the Bible’s teaching. The entirety of the Bible was written to point us to Him.
 - c) Jesus taught that those who continue in His Word are “really my disciples” (v. 31). As was seen in John 6, many who turned away when Jesus’s teachings became hard. However, true disciples remain and continue in Christ’s Word.
2. Do You Know the Truth? (8:32a)
 - a) Jesus emphasized that His disciples “will know the truth” (v. 32). What truth is He referring to here? He is referring to the truth revealed in and by Himself. He is referring to the truth of the gospel. There is only one way to the truth, and that is by continuing in His Word.
3. Have You Been Set Free by the Truth? (8:32b)
 - a) From what do we need to be set free? Blindness to sin. In 8:33-34, the Jews had no idea they needed to be set free. However, Jesus explains to them how they were enslaved to sin. Therefore, they need to be set free from their sin.

b) To be set free, we must realize that we are sinners. This leads us to asking some hard questions: Have our eyes been opened to our sinfulness? How might we be living in darkness like the Jews? What false freedoms are we putting our trust in?

c) Jesus tells them that the truth will set them free.

Conclusion

The way the world describes freedom is slavery to our own sinful desires. True freedom comes from being a genuine disciple of Jesus Christ. True disciples are those who continue in Christ's Word, know the truth, and have been set free by the truth.

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