

Series: Simply Jesus

Title: The Light of the World

Text: John 8

8:12 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.

This is a direct claim by Jesus to be the Messiah.

The Jews knew it!

They were very aware of the prophecies in Isaiah.

(Is 42, 48, 50, 53) Messianic Chapter.

The Messiah is referred to as the Servant of Jehovah.

(Is 42:6-7) The Messiah is the Light to the World.

(Is 49:5-6) The Messiah is the Light of the World

Jesus is proclaiming Himself the Messiah.

John proclaims Jesus to be the Messiah by identifying Him as 'The Light'

Jesus=Logos, God incarnate is the Light of the World

(John 1:4-5)

(John 1:7-9)

Light is a great metaphor to describe the Messiah b/c light dispels darkness.

(Is 9:2) Jesus identifies himself as messiah.

Jesus is the Light of Truth that dispels the darkness of falsehood.

Jesus is the Light of Wisdom that dispels the darkness of Ignorance.

Jesus is the Light of Holiness that dispels the darkness of Impurity.

Jesus is the Light of Joy that dispels the darkness of Sorrow.

Jesus is the Light of Life that dispels the darkness of Death.

8:12 I am the Light of the World...

The Tetragrammaton - "I AM" GOD Himself
(Ps 27:1) *The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?*

(1 Jn 1:5) *This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.*

The Jews knew what Jesus was claiming to be: God, Messiah; Light!

This was a significant moment:

This was during the Feast of Tabernacles.

They were commemorating how God had led them 40 years in the wilderness by a pillar of Fire by night.

They were led by Light!

They were led through the Wilderness by Light.

At this time, the court of temple had large candelabra's were setup all around.

They lit them to burn all night.

The light would shine upward out of the Temple Court to be seen all around the city as a pillar of light.

Jesus using this object lesson, pointed to Himself.

8:12 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.

Just as your ForeFathers followed ME in the wilderness to the Promised land, Follow ME now to Everlasting Life & Heaven.

This yearly, stunning ritual, points to Jesus, Follow Me!

He is not just a light to be seen or admired, but Followed.

8:30 As he spake these words, many believed on him.

8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed.

Have you believed?

Jesus Asked Martha (John 11:25-26)

Jesus makes the distinction between believer/disciple
Believer has Fire Insurance

A Disciple is a Follower, a Pattern of Jesus.

To Completely give yourself to Following Him.

Faith in Christ is all that is necessary for salvation.

Discipleship requires continuing in His Word.

The word *Continue* ~ 'remain.'

To persevere, to be steadfast, constant in any course.

Are you Continuing in His Word, The Bible?

Is the Bible your life line? (Jn 15:4-5; 7) *If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.*

The Bible describes itself as a...

Seed that takes root: (Matt 13:3-8)

Sword that discerns: (Heb 4:12)

Is the Bible your Final Authority? (Ps 138:2)

The Bible declares that it is to be ...

Searched: (John 5:39)

Obeded: (2 Pet 1:19)

The Bible calls Itself ...

The Word: (James 1:21-23)

The Word of God: (Luke 11:28)

The Word of Christ: (Col 3:16)

The Word of Life: (Phil 2:16)

The Word of Truth: (2 Tim 2:15)

If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed.

The word ***Indeed*** ~ word for a Fact! Present Reality.
Incontrovertible!

'if ye remain in my Word then you will in fact be my disciples.'

IF YOU DON'T - THEN YOU AREN'T

Jesus=Written Word of God is the Light of the World:
(Ps 119:105) *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*

8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Jesus set forth an eternal principle which His Jewish antagonists immediately misinterpreted.

There are several Greek words which are translated as 'know.'

The word 'know' has the sense of experiential knowledge.

That is, knowing the truth from personal experience.

I know not to stay up at night bing watching Netflix and expect to be on top of your game tomorrow!

I know not to drink coffee after 7pm & expect to go to sleep at t reasonable hour that night.

You will see the Results as promised. (Rom 12:1-2)
It is more than just an academic exercise.

8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

We all KNOW things by experience.

By Continuing in His Word, we will know also by practical experience His Truth Sets us Free.

Jesus said He was the Truth!

Logos~word became flesh is the Truth!

(John 14:6) *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

There is NO other way to go to heaven.

In Reverse, There is no going to heaven w/o Jesus!

Do you KNOW Jesus in Salvation?

Jesus said the Word of God is Truth:

The written Logos

(John 17:17) *Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*

Do you know Jesus: the Written Word of God?

Continuing in God's Word to the point it soaks into one's heart, altering one's living, is the level of truth which liberates one from sin.

(John 15:3) Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

The word "make free" is in reference to being 'set free from slavery.'

The slavery to which Jesus referred is made clear in verse 34. It is sin.

8:34 Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.

Jesus' reply makes His point.

"Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin."

The word ***Committeth*** ~ 'doing.'

The verb form implies ongoing or continual action.

The word servant is the basic word for a 'slave.'

(Rom 6:11-18)

Jesus in effect taught, one who continually does sin becomes a slave to sin.

This is true whether in reference to a specific sin or generically to sin in general. Sin enslaves.

Knowing and doing the truth, by contrast, is what emancipates from sin's bondage.

8:35-36 And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever. 36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

Jesus used a little illustration commonly understood in a culture in which slavery was still an accepted and widely practiced institution.

In a household employing slaves, the son of the master held permanent status.

He was part of the family.

Slaves came and went and held little or no authority in the household.

One slave could not free another.

However, if the son of the lord emancipated a slave, he was freed indeed.

(John 15:14-15) Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. 15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

Jesus, the truth, is the Son of God, which has the power to liberate from sin.

No mere man or human institution (religious or otherwise) holds such authority.

Not a Denomination, Not this Church, Not this Pastor.
Only Jesus can set you free!