

JOHN

Chapter Eight

FAITH COMES BY HEARING: Read Chapter Eight

Summary: Verses 1-59

1. Jesus is teaching in the temple again when the Pharisees bring an adulterous woman to test Him. If Jesus condemns her, He is not who he says He is in John 7 ("If ANY man thirst, they can come to me."). If Jesus accepts her, He does not follow the law that says to stone her.
2. Jesus convicts each of the accusers of their own sin, and they depart from the woman. Because the accusers have gone, Jesus does not have to follow the law and stone her. Jesus tells her that He does not condemn her either but acknowledges her sin when he encourages her to sin no more.
3. Jesus claims to be the light of the world and the Pharisees call Him a liar. He teaches them that He not only bears witness of Himself, but His Father also does, thus meeting the law's requirement for two men to make a testimony true.
4. The Pharisees ask Jesus where His Father is and Jesus responds stating that they neither know Him or His Father. He warns them of the danger of disbelief leading to death in their sin.
5. Jesus teaches that He only does what He has been taught by His Father, and that He always does things that please him.
6. Some of the Jews began to believe Jesus, and He encourages them by telling them to continue in His word and the truth will make them free. He reveals that sin is slavery and that only the Son can set a servant free.
7. The Pharisees refer to Abraham as their father, but Jesus rebukes them because they are not acting like Abraham. They then claim that God is their Father, and Jesus rebukes them again because they do not listen to Him or love Him. He contends that the devil is their father because they do not believe the truth.
8. The Pharisees accuse Jesus of being possessed when he offers eternal life to those that keep his words. They ask Him if he is greater than Abraham. Jesus tells them that He does not honor Himself, but his father honors Him.
9. Jesus tells the Jews that "their father" Abraham was excited about the time when He would come. The Jews ask if/how Jesus saw Abraham, and Jesus tells them that He was before Abraham. At this point, the Jews have had enough and they begin to gather stones to throw at Jesus. Jesus is able to hide and escape without injury.

REFLECTION

1. What verse stuck out most to you?
2. What does Jesus' response to the adulterous woman's accusers mean to you?
3. What does Jesus' need to learn from/listen to His Father teach us about our role as parents?
4. Jesus implies that the Pharisees' father is whoever they act like or serve. Who are you acting like? Serving?
5. Abraham was excited about the promise of Jesus, but his descendants refuse to believe in Him. What issues or practices can cause such a divide within a people?
6. This passage distinctly shows the difference between children of the devil and children of the Father. What is it that separates these two families? Is it the same today?
7. Do you ever consider that lost people (sinners) are not just people who are bad? It's not an issue of being bad. To be a sinner is to be in the wrong family. Why do we often connect sin to intention rather than to the fact that it's a family issue? You are either in the family of God or the family of Satan.
8. This whole chapter is about a FATHER issue. It's about Satan being a father and God being a father. Why do you think this 'father' issue is so important in understanding Christianity? Do you have any 'father' issues?

APPLICATION

1. What can you do this week to view God as more of a Father figure in your life?

