## The Truth Will Set You Free

5-19-24

John 8:32 (ESV) O/H

You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

This is an absolute truth! For you who have been employed by the US government, what government building is this verse carved into its foyer wall. CIA! This is an interesting verse when many people are seeking their own truth or when those who disagree with others by saying that is just your truth. This is the same mindset Pilate used with Jesus just before HIS crucifixion. Jesus said to Pilate:

John 18:37 (ESV)

Everyone who is of the truth listens to MY voice.

And Pilate representing humanity looks into the eyes of the eternal God, the creator of the universe and replies:

John 18:38 (ESV)

Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

Pilate like people today failed to see that Jesus is truth. We however know that Jesus is truth. We put "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" in context with Jesus. Let us go back to v.12 and see how Jesus builds up to this statement about the truth.

John 8:12 (ESV) O/H Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I AM the light of the world."

This is the second "I AM" assertion made by Jesus. The first was in John 6:35, "I AM the bread of life!"

Jesus now says, "I am the light of the world." Jesus professes to be not only the inexhaustible source of spiritual nourishment, but HE also professes to be the genuine light by which truth and falsehood can be distinguished. Only through Jesus can appropriate direction can be established. Jesus as the light of the World is rooted in the OT where it reveals the coming Messiah as the light to the nations (world).

Isaiah 42:6 (ESV)

I am the LORD; ... ... I will give YOU (Jesus) as a covenant for the people, a <u>light</u> for the nations.

Light and truth come only through Jesus. The only way to God is through Jesus.

John 8:19 (ESV)

Jesus said to them, "You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also."

The evidence that the religious did not 'know' the Father was that they did not know Jesus. False religions can be recognized by what they do with Jesus. Our Mormon friends erroneously believe: Jesus was created and not eternally existing. Our Muslim friends erroneously believe: Jesus is one of the five greatest messengers of God but not God. Our Hindu friends erroneously believe: Jesus is one of many gods but not the only God. Apostate churches also can be identified by their erroneous view of Jesus. BUT Jesus openly declared HIS deity and that salvation is solely through HIM.

John 8:24 (ESV) O/H

I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that "I AM" (he) you will die in your sins.

Note in your Bible, the word "he" is not in the original. This goes back to the same "I AM" in Exodus 3:14. God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." Jesus declares HIMSELF as the "I AM" the self-existing, eternal being, God!

When Jesus says, "you will die in your sins" HE means they themselves will bear the consequences of their sins because they do not believe that Jesus is the <u>I AM</u>. However, we understand that truth and freedom only come from Jesus. <u>Anyone who claims truth not consistent with Jesus, they are just rearranging the chairs on the Titanic.</u> They may work harder than anyone and their work may look orderly, but only eternal destruction will be their heritage.

## However, for us who trust in Jesus, "The Truth Will Set US Free!"

John 8:31-32 (ESV) O/H

If you abide in MY WORD, you are truly MY disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

## We trust in Jesus, the LIGHT, the Foundation for Truth and Freedom!

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV) O/H

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.