

JOHN 8 vs 12

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What is knowledge? Dr. Dallas Willard of USC said, it is the necessary information, understanding and facts... giving the ability to act in a way that feeling, opinion or power -- benign or brute force cannot. Historically in western society, moral knowledge was seated in Old Testament law and New Testament love that Jesus taught. But in the last 200 years, **primarily through neglect in the church** who were charged as caretakers of what He taught; and through systematic efforts in education and public policy to deconstruct past practices... based on the body of knowledge driving the western protestant -- evangelical societies, relegating what Jesus said to non-knowledge, and then to fanciful folklore by the science and research communities... who claim to be the new purveyors of truth.



The fact that what Jesus taught has been erased from the common discourse, is not evidence that Jesus was wrong, as those cultures which embraced His teaching proved to be greatly prosperous, benevolent and most welcoming toward other nations.

What Jesus taught was not wrong; but His knowledge of what is right and true... is certain evidence that what Jesus said disrupts the feelings and opinions and desires of many people who enjoy their personal freedoms, but who do not enjoy nor embrace **what caused those personal freedoms to thrive**. The greatest obstructionists to what Jesus taught... were the religious leaders of the day, preferring their loveless, burdensome, manmade traditions. That is still true in our generation.

12 Then Jesus spoke again to them, saying, I am the light of the world he who follows **Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life** / if Jesus sounded like most people, then what He started would have died in the 1st century; we would not know His name; going with Jesus was not like following today's blind leaders through even the grayest areas of life.

13 Therefore the Pharisees said to Him, You bear record of yourself; so your record is not true / and listen to their angry, pharisaical tones as they retort with legalistic fervor; angry old men using their finest bullying from their superior positions of power; but is Jesus intimidated? No.

14 Jesus answered and said to them / this phrase always means 2 things: Jesus paused in the incident and sized up the situation... before He spoke,

Though I bear record of Myself, yet My record is true, for I know from where I came, and where I go; if anybody knew what was true, Jesus did; He saw things different than us:

but you cannot tell where I come from, and where I go / if the disciples who walked with Jesus didn't know much about His true nature until after the resurrection, then we can be confident, the religious leaders were short on the information, too.

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¹⁵ **You judge after the flesh; I judge no man or woman** / and that superficial criticism still pervades most church gatherings today. How different Jesus is than even those who claim to follow Him:

¹⁶ **And even if I judge, My judgment is true: for I am not alone in it, but I and the Father who sent me** / they agree with each other.

¹⁷ **It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two people is true** / and did you hear that? Jesus said the witness of 2 people; it is their law... because those walking in the law of God's love... they do not need other laws; so Jesus says: Let us do the math.

1

¹⁸ **I am One who bears witness of Myself,**

2

and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me.

¹⁹ **Then they said to Him, Where is your Father?** / and you can imagine: probably snidely laughing, most likely they knew the reports and rumors -- both good and bad... that swirled around the Lord.

Jesus answered / Jesus paused again, sizing up the situation... in their callous hardheads and hard hearts; reading more than their body language before He speaks; Jesus had come to save, they had already done an excellent job destroying... even themselves,

You neither know Me, nor My Father / seeing all the miracles that Jesus worked, and all the massive crowds who gathered to listen to His words, Jesus also saw the coldblooded religious leaders were mystified; the basic math was too difficult for them to put together:

if you had discerned who I am, you should have discerned who My Father is / Jesus saw these people had NO insight / proverbs asks, Who ascended to heaven or descended from heaven, what is His name and His Son's name; tell us if you know.

²⁰ **These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught at the temple, and no one tried to seize Him for His hour had not yet come** / perhaps their love for money... and for only the things of life they could see had blinded them to discern what mattered most. It would be interesting to know why Jesus ended this conversation at the treasury; since nobody seized Jesus to take Him and murder Him;

²¹ **Then Jesus again said to them,**

I go My way, and though you search for Me, yet will you die in your sins / Jesus often said to those following him, seek first the kingdom of God; these religious leaders knew what the Lord already said, you will seek me and find, when you search for me with all your heart -- **Jeremiah 29:13**; so there definitely was something wrong with their heart:

where I go, you cannot come.

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²² Then the Jewish leaders said, Will He kill himself? because He said, Where I go, you cannot come / and the reason is simple: because heaven has no trailer trash; so some were talking among themselves and discerned Jesus was talking about a life and death matter... little could they imagine it was regarding them, so Jesus starts to fill in some of the persistent questions.

²³ And He said to them, You are from beneath; I am from above: you are of this world; I am **not** of this world / hmm? Anybody want to argue with Jesus?

²⁴ So, I said to you, that you will die in your sins: for if you do **not** believe that I am He / who? In their culture since the days of Adam and Eve, the people of God anticipated the Anointed One, their Messiah, who was promised; but these bogus guardians had lost the proper information... and fixated on their traditions and excessive trappings of power and prestige that came with it, **you will die in your sins.**

²⁵ Then they said to Him, **Who are You?** And Jesus said to them, what have I said to you from the beginning.


²⁶ I have many things to say and to judge concerning you: but He who sent Me is true; and what I heard from Him, I tell to the world.

²⁷ They did not realize that He was speaking to them about the Father.

²⁸ Then Jesus said to them, When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and do nothing on My own; / this is the Aramaic name Daniel used of the Messiah... **but I speak these things as My Father taught Me.**

²⁹ And He who sent Me is with Me: the Father has not **left Me alone** / **aphiemi**... our Father in heaven does not **abandon** His people; for I always do what pleases Him.

³⁰ As He spoke these words, many believed on Him / Jesus is forever kind, willing to selflessly suffer injury for the smallest, the least significant one who turns to Him.

 ³¹ Then Jesus said to those **Jewish leaders who believed on him** / who knew He was the Messiah, **If you continue in My word, then you are My disciples indeed;**

³² **and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.**

Words still etched in the stone walls of countless hollow institutions of higher learning all over the western world. Words dishonestly plagiarized by speech writers and politicians who steal to fit their soured agendas while they twist and wrench them from the Lord Jesus. To any nation who will trash the motto: **In God we trust**, I am sure a Day is coming to test their resolve. Jesus said:

If you continue in My word, then you are My disciples indeed; And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.

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