

"It may have been with reluctance our Lord disclosed to those who had some faith in Him, that in order to be His disciples (v. 31) they must accept His word, and find it in the freedom He proclaimed. He knew that this was not the freedom they sought. But it was compulsory that He should leave them in no dubiety [doubt] regarding the blessings He promised. It was impossible that they should accept the eternal life He brought to them, unless there was quickened within them some genuine desire for it. For what prevented them from receiving Him was not a mere easily rectified blunder about the Messianic office, it was an alienation in heart from a spiritual conception of God. And accordingly in depicting the climax of unbelief John is careful in this chapter to bring out that our Lord traced His rejection by the Jews to their inveterate repugnance to spiritual life, and their consequent blinding of themselves to the knowledge of God."

[Marcus Dods, *The Expositor's Bible: The Gospel of St. John, Vol. I*, W.R. Nicoll, ed. (London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1892), 3319]

John 8:37-47 [NKJV] ~ ³⁷"I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. ³⁸I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father."

³⁹They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father."

Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham.

⁴⁰But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. ⁴¹You do the deeds of your father."

Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father – God."

⁴²Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. ⁴³Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. ⁴⁴You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it. ⁴⁵But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. ⁴⁶Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? ⁴⁷He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God."

The Do in Doing

A Believer (a "Doing" Man / Woman) ...

- ➡ Is a _____ O__ the Word - L_____ TO the V_____ of God
- ➡ Is a _____ B__ the Word - L_____ OVER the W_____ of God
- ➡ Is a _____ F__ the Word - L_____ OTHERS to the T_____ of God

The Free in Freedom | A Believer (a "Free" Man / Woman) ...

1/29/2012

- ➡ Puts Himself (Herself) in Situations to Be Taught - **Learning**
- ➡ Prompts Himself (Herself) to Study what is Being Taught - **Knowing**
- ➡ Purposes in Himself (Herself) to Share what he/she Has Been Taught - **Living**