

## Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ Disconnects and Contentions, Part 2

Last time...the Pharisees are highly offended by Jesus and heatedly contend with Him  
Thus far in Jesus' ministry...

Matt 5:20      For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven

Matt 15:7-9    *Ye hypocrites*, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with *their* lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching *for* doctrines the commandments of men

John 5:18      Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God

Matt 16:4      A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas

John 8:1-11    they dug a pit for Him...they fell into their own pit

John 8:12      Again, claiming to be God

Now...Jesus is still in a highly contentious conversation with the Pharisees regarding a number of “issues”

Is 55:8-9      For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways My ways, saith the LORD. For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts

Because God and unregenerate man are “disconnected”

Is 59:2          But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *His* face from you

Fallen man (male + female) is disconnected from God,  
he is disoriented in his heart and mind

The disconnects and contentions last week in John 8:13-24

- The True Witness
- The Father
- “of”, “from”...eternal destinations

This time...the disconnects and contentions in John 8:25-32

- Messiah, the Servant of God
- Freedom

v25 Who art thou:

Jesus said, “for if ye believe not that I am, ye shall die in your sins.”

I AM...the name of God, as revealed to Moses in the burning bush  
(Ex 3:14): I AM that I AM

The Pharisees’ immediate response to that eye-popping statement is,  
“Who are You?!”

They are not honestly curious, asking because they really want to know  
They are irritated and annoyed, taunting and baiting Him  
They do not know Him

The devils did

Mark 1:24	Let <i>us</i> alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God
Mark 3:11	...the Son of God

The cleansed lepers were sent to them as a testimony to them

Mark 1:44	See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them
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But the Jews did not know Him

Is 1:3	The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: <i>but</i> Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider
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Jesus answers, I am just as I have said (words and deeds) all along,  
ever since I started My ministry – the Son of man

Jesus has publically referred to Himself as the “Son of man” perhaps  
2 dozen times

The Jews do not recognize their Messiah, in spite of having Messianic  
Scripture to guide them

Dan 7:13      I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him

So He is not going to say it again now, in response to their unbelieving taunt

v26-27    I have many things to day and judge...they understood not:  
          “I have so much more to say to you and to judge you of (v16)...later.  
          (That is not why I have been sent as the Messiah, the Servant of God.)  
          I will say to the world what He Who sent Me gave Me to say.”  
          Deut 18:18-19...including John 7:37-38 and John 8:12

And Jesus’ words went right over their heads  
          They did not believe so they did not understand  
          They listened thru the filter of their human reasoning, agenda, beliefs, and traditions...not thru the filter of the Word of God

Ps 111:10      The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom

Knowing they did not understand, Jesus continues...

v28-29    When ye have lifted up the Son of Man:  
          When ye have lifted up the Son of Man...

- executed Him
- Roman crucifixion at this stage in the “times of the Gentiles”
- fulfilling Messianic Scripture

○ Gen 49:10      The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him *shall* the gathering of the people *be*

○ Num 21:4-9      Jews spoke against God and Moses  
                          They loathed the manna from heaven  
                          The Lord sent fiery serpents, many died  
                          “We have sinned!”  
                          “Make a fiery serpent of brass (curse, sin)  
  and put it on a pole (Cross)...every  
  one bitten when he looks (faith) at  
  the brass serpent on a pole will live

○ Dan 9:26a      shall Messiah be cut off, but not for Himself

- Ps 22:6-18      I am a worm...despised of the people  
All they that see Me laugh Me to scorn...
- Is 53:3-10      He is despised and rejected of men,  
                         a man of sorrows  
we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God  
Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him  
                         (Gen 3:15)...make His soul an offering  
                         for sin  
He shall prolong His days (resurrection)

- as mentioned/foretold already to one of them, Nic  
(John 3:14, John 7:50-52)

then shall you perceive that

- I AM (again, *he* is in italics...)
  - God the Savior
    - Is 45:15
    - Is 45:21
    - Hosea 13:4
  - your Messiah, the Servant of God
    - Is 42:1-7 Thine, Thee are singular vs plural (nation)  
In Whom My soul delights (Matt 3:17)  
meek, lowly (Matt 11:29)  
righteous, light (v12)  
freedom
- I do not do My will, I only do My Father's will and only speak the words My Father gave Me to speak
  - John 4:32 His food was to do the Father's will
  - cannot be accused of sinning for God cannot sin
  - Jesus is NOT another self-glorifying, self-proclaimed Messiah

He that sent Me is with Me

- NOT Joseph!
- The Father they know not (v19)
- *meta*: joined, one in essence (John 10:30)

The Father has not left Me alone

- Is 42:6      I the LORD...will hold Your (singular vs plural) hand and  
                         will keep You (singular vs plural)
- Rom 8:31 for Jesus also!
- Heb 13:5b for Jesus too!

One other thing...Jesus was prophesying to the Pharisees, telling them the future in advance, so they might repent now

1. When ye have lifted up the Son of Man –  
that is exactly what is going to happen in the future
2. Then shall ye perceive that I AM – that is exactly what some of them  
will do in the future (John 19:38-42 then Acts 2-4, Acts 6:7)

v30 many believed:

Jesus is speaking to the Pharisees, but many people are there (v2)  
Many believed on Him, had faith in Him, leaned on Him, trusted Him

Hab 2:4  
Rom 10:17  
Is 55:10-11

Now Jesus has a word to the wise, a word of encouragement, to those (and these)  
believers

v31-32 If ye continue in My Word...disciples...truth...free:

If...the hearer has a choice, a choice is not imposed upon the hearer

ye continue...obey, do, stay, remain (not to left or right), stand, abide

in My Word...

- Him...John 1:1
- the words of eternal life...John 6:67-69

3 “fruits” of continuing in His Word

1. ye are My disciples indeed...true/genuine learners, followers vs  
pretenders and false disciples, self-deceived
2. ye shall (a certainty) know (“to know absolutely”)  
the (singular, exclusive vs shades of gray relativism) truth
3. the truth shall (a certainty, a promise) make (because it is not the  
natural state) you (singular, personal vs plural) free (liberated)

Is 42:7            to bring prisoners out of the prison house

## **Application**

### 1. Who are You? (v25)

That is THE Question for all eternity!

Matt 16:13, 15

What is your answer to The Question?

If man hears the testimony of Who Jesus is and stubbornly refuses to believe it,  
the Lord will at some point stop “identifying” Himself to him...so

2 Cor 6:2

### 2. We are not alone (v29)

Just as the Father did not leave Jesus alone, Jesus has and never will leave us alone

He is with us on this difficult journey...leading us thru the trials and tribulations, that the

- Father’s will of conforming us into the image of His Son
- Father’s testimony of His Son

would be accomplished

### 3. I do always those things that please Him (v28)

Oh that I/we could say what Jesus said, that

- I...I am responsible for me
- do...faith is active
- ALWAYS...never do not do
- the things that please my Father

PTL, I/we are “in Christ” so, from the Father’s perspective, it is so!!!

### 4. The truth shall make you free (v32)

Free from what?

- Lies/deception...v32

Col 2:7-8

- Ignorance...v19

Col 1:10

Col 2:3

- Darkness...v12

Acts 26:18, Col 1:13

Is 2:5            come ye, and let us walk in the light of the LORD

Eph 5:8           For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light

Phil 2:14-16a   Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life

because we have been made free from

- Sin...v34

Ezk 18:1-4, 23, 30-32 with Rom 3:10, Rom 6:23

NOT freedom to sin...that is license

Freedom to NOT sin!

Sin nature: can only sin

Born again, nature of Christ: do not have to sin, can say "NO!"

- Death...v24

Col 2:13-14

- The wrath of God...v21

Col 3:5-6, 15

Freedom comes only in surrender and submission to the Lord Jesus Christ...

it never comes from

- independence of Self
- money or man
- democracy or any other form of human government

As Man looks for love in all the wrong places,

Man looks for freedom in all the wrong places

Love and Freedom are found ONLY...in Christ ,the Son of Man, the Son of God

2 Cor 3:17      Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord *is*, there *is* liberty.