

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ Disconnects and Contentions, Part 3

Last time...on the day after the last and great day of the Feast of Tabernacles, in the direct confrontation between Jesus Christ and the Pharisees, we have observed the disconnects and contentions between God and fallen, unregenerate man

1. The Truth of Jesus' witness
2. The Father
3. From where Jesus came
4. The purpose of the Messiah (Servant of God vs King of God)
5. Freedom

This time...the confrontation continues...and it gets personal, gets "testy"

The issues are "freedom" and "father"; listen carefully to what Jesus is saying.

v30-33 We be Abraham's seed:

The Pharisees, who did not believe on Him, object to what Jesus just said to those who believed on Him

We are the descendents of Abraham...and of Isaac and Jacob,
the Chosen People of God to whom God has given the Law/Word!

We have never been in slavery to any man...we have not been anyone's
slaves, ever

So why are You telling them they shall be made free by Your words?!

Wait, what?!

This is an irrational statement

The Jews were repeatedly enslaved/oppressed throughout their history.
Even now, they can just look to the north and see...The Roman fortress called
Antonio Fortress, filled with Roman soldiers, very real evidence of Roman
occupation and oppression

Or do they understand the spiritual nature of Jesus' words,
claiming even more irrationally the Jews have never been in bondage to
sin?

Jesus tests that statement of being Abraham's descendants and never being in
bondage by the self-righteous Pharisees...
with the Word of God, the Final Authority (Acts 17:11, 1 Thes 5:21)

v34-36 commits sin is the servant of sin...make you free, ye shall be free indeed:
First, Jesus addresses the “never in bondage” statement

Verily, verily, I say unto you...”Thus says the Lord”
The Word of God is our measure of truth

Whosoever commits sin is the servant of sin...who?

Ps 14:2-3 The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, *and* seek God. They are all gone aside, they are *all* together become filthy: *there is* none that doeth good, no, not one

David, inspired by the Holy Spirit
Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, quoting in Rom 3, a bulletproof case that every person is a sinner...including Rom 3:23

1 Kings 8:46a If they sin against thee, (for *there is* no man that sins not,)

Solomon, son of David, inspired by the Holy Spirit and endowed with wisdom more than any other man, while dedicating the Temple...later destroyed for their gross idolatry

From God’s perspective (absolute truth, the Word of God), all people everywhere are slaves to sin

And the servant...of sin

abides not in the house...the house of God (all are in the Temple, v20),
lives not in the presence of God (Is 59:2)

no slaves of sin live in the Father’s house
(heaven, eternity/forever in His presence)

the Son...of God, God incarnate is not like all men who are slaves to sin,
is not a sinner or a slave of sin but

abides ever...lives forever in the Father’s house, is eternal, like God

Jesus is plainly declaring He is

- The Son of God the Father (v24)
- sinless, without sin...not of Adam’s fallen sin nature

If the Son shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed!

Slaves in bondage cannot free themselves...slave rebellion is impossible
To be made free from sin...liberated, delivered from slavery to sin...they
need a Helper “on the outside” Who is free from sin

Slaves to sin cannot make themselves sinless; they must be made sinless
by One (a Kinsman-Redeemer) more powerful than sin

The Son of God is the (singular, exclusive) One to make slaves
free/sinless...deliverance and redemption are His work
Their Kinsman-Redeemer is speaking to them face-to-face!

Note: If you are reading NKJV or NIV, you read “a son” in v35 rather
than “the Son”, a subtle attack on the Deity of Jesus Christ and
a misappropriation of deity to man

What are the Test Results of the statement by the self-righteous Pharisees of never
being in bondage in v33?

Fail, false...according to the Word of God

Now Jesus will address...test the statement...of being Abraham’s
seed/descendents

v37-38 ye are...but ye seek...ye do:

I know that you are Abrahams’ seed...I know you are the descendents of A(I&J),
that is your bloodline

but...in direct contrast to that

ye seek to kill me...you desire to kill Me (v24, 28)...the God of A(I&J)
per Ex 3:6, 14...thereby “disowning” Abraham as their father)

because My word...the truth that will make you free from slavery of sin (v31-36)

has no place in you...cannot enter your hard hearts and your closed minds
(and your spirit is dead, v21)

I speak...testify as a True Witness (v13-18)

that which I have seen with My Father...seen and experienced with (*para*, beside)
My Father, i.e. in His presence

Jesus is an Eyewitness, His testimony is that of an Eyewitness of God the
Father (John 1:18)

and ye do that which you have seen of your father...just as I have done as I have
seen of My Father, you do as you have seen of your father

You say you are...but ye do

An eternity-threatening disconnect between what they say and
what they do...the “do-ing” is the reality, not the “say-ing”

v39-41a Abraham is our father...if ye were...ye would do...ye do:
The Jews snap right back – “Abraham is our father.”

Jesus continues to test the statement of the self-righteous Pharisees that
they are the descendants of Abraham and, therefore, Abraham is
their father

If ye were Abraham’s children, ye would do the works of Abraham...

Gen 15:6

John 6:28-29

Heb 11:8-19

“the Hall of Faith”

Rom 4:17-22

But now ye seek to kill Me...you do not as Abraham, so you are not of Abraham;

Do not, so are not

The evidence of their lives says differently than their words

Faith is active, much more than just spoken

People do what they believe

a man...the Son of God incarnate, the promised Seed of the Woman and
Kinsman-Redeemer

that has told you the truth...v31-32, 38a in just this conversation,
not to mention all His words

which I have heard of God...in the presence of God
(an “ear-witness” as well as an eyewitness)

this...seek to kill Me as you do

did not Abraham, you do the deeds of your father...a father different than
Abraham

So what are the Test Results of the statements by the self-righteous Pharisees that
they are Abraham’s children and Abraham is their father?
Fail, false...according to the Word of God

v41b-43 We be not born of fornication...If God were your Father:
Now the Pharisees get ugly

We be not born of fornication...sexual relations between man and woman outside
the legal boundaries of marriage i.e. sexual sin that greatly offends God
because it speaks of the greater spiritual rebellion against Him

The Pharisees think they know the history of Jesus' conception

Their accusation: Jesus' father would be

- either Joseph (before consummation of the marriage;
bad enough)
- or another man (why Joseph wanted to divorce Mary;
the ugliest scenario)

We have one Father, God...you have 2 fathers (taking the ugliest scenario)

Jesus tests the statement of the Pharisees regarding their father and His conception

If God were your Father...Jesus ignores the personal insult and speaks of
His Father

ye would love Me: *agape*, (denial of Self for the benefit/good of another
i.e. God loving man, Rom 5:9),

but clearly do not so clearly God is not their Father

for I proceeded forth...I issued from, I departed from

and came from...arrived from

God...in heaven/eternity; plainly declaring that He is the Son of God

neither came I of Myself, but He sent Me...not My will but My Father's will

- born of a virgin, called "God with us" (Is 7:14)
- his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God,
The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. (Is 9:6)
- to come from everlasting/eternity (Micah 5:2 with Is 57:15)
- the Son of David would be called Lord by David (Ps 110:1)

Messianic Scripture given to the Jews so they would recognize their
Messiah when He came

Why do ye not understand My speech...to know absolutely, without doubt or
confusion

because ye cannot hear My word...are not able to hear with understanding
because of hard, blind hearts and closed minds, because do not believe

Gen 15:6, Heb 11:6

What are the Test Results of the statement by the self-righteous Pharisees that
Jesus was born of fornication and God is their Father?
Fail, false...according to the Word of God

So who is their father, as evidenced by the things they do (v38b, v41a)?

v44 Ye are of your father the devil:

Jesus is not “getting ugly” because the Pharisees did (v41)
He is still testing their statement that their Father is God, His Father

Ye are of your father the devil...they are children of the world (v23) and they are
children of the devil

the lusts of your father ye will do...seek to kill Him (v37b, 40)

he was a murderer from the beginning...bloodlust from Gen 3 and Gen 4 until this
very day with special interest in

- the Jews themselves...bloodline of AI&J, the bloodline of...
- the Seed of the Woman

and abode not in the truth because there is no truth in him...rejects,
does not believe the truth (Word of God)

When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own...his will and word, not My Father's

he is a liar and the father of it...capable of only lying, anti-truth personified
Since they do the works of the devil, the self-righteous Pharisees are liars
99% true + 1% lie = a lie

1 John 2:22

Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the
Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and
the Son

2 Cor 11:13-15

...false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming
themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no
marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an
angel of light. Therefore *it is* no great thing if his
ministers also be transformed as the ministers of
righteousness;

v45-47 I tell you the truth...ye believe me not:
v43 is true because this is true

And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not...

 Their hard, blind hearts and closed minds fail to see the evidence of the
 truth being spoken by their Messiah and Kinsman-Redeemer

 They have no faith in the testimony of God and His Son
 (words and deeds)

 Instead, they have “disowned” Abraham in favor of the murderer and liar

 Satan, whom they believe, as evidenced by what they do

 They are listening to their father...but not “My Father”

Which of you convinces Me of sin...a challenge from Jesus to the “bookkeepers”

 Can any of you convict/rebuke/reprove Me of sin?

 Can any of you prove I am unqualified to say v34-35?

 There are no takers on this day...or any other day...on Jesus’ challenge
 Why not?

 Jesus Christ is sinless, without sin...absolutely unique,

 Light in Whom there is no darkness at all

And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe Me...the most foolish thing any
person could do

He that is of God hears God’s words...all who are of, belongs to,
hear/understand/do the Father’s word

ye therefore...since v47a is true

hear them not, because ye are not of God...the self-righteous Pharisees do not
hear Jesus because they do not belong to God the Father,
because they do not believe His testimony (Hab 2:4, Gen 15:6)

Instead, they are of the devil because they do as he does, doing the work
of their father the devil, and believing his testimony about Jesus

1 John 2:23 Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the
Father

Is 8:20 the law and to the testimony: if they speak not
 according to this word, *it is* because *there is* no light
 in them

with v12, 1 John 1:5

v48 thou art a Samaritan...hast a devil:

 The Pharisees “hit back” with

- a dodge of Jesus’ challenge, ignoring it completely
- another personal insult and a curse...accusing his birth by fornication (false) was between his mother and a Samaritan
- another blasphemy...Jesus was demon-possessed (Matt 12:22-31)

v49-50 I have not...I honor My Father:

 Jesus tests the statement/slander by the self-righteous Pharisees regarding His lineage and demon-possession

 He again ignores the personal insult but addresses the blasphemy/slander because it attacks the honor of His Father

 I have not a devil...as evidenced by no fruit of the devil’s work (words or deeds) but fruit of His Father

 but I honor My Father...doing His will, doing His works , speaking His words... as evidenced by the Word of God

 ye do dishonor Me...seek to kill, do not believe

 To not believe Jesus is to dishonor the Father and the Son

 1 John 5:10b he that believeth not God hath made Him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of His Son

 And I seek not Mine own glory...Jesus came not for His glory/honor but for the glory/honor of the Father

 He is NOT another self-glorifying Messiah

 There is One that seeks and judges...John 17:1-5

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 So what are the Test Results of the statement by the self-righteous Pharisees regarding Jesus’ lineage and demon-possession?

 Fail, false...according to the Word of God

 Rom 3:4 let God be true, but every man a liar

Application

1. Every man serves someone, no man is truly lord of his own life
 - a. The Creator God...a benevolent Master with an easy yoke desiring the freedom of the willing servant
 - b. Sin/Self/Satan...a cruel, lying, murderous taskmaster bent on the death of the slave
2. There is no pride worse than spiritual pride...it is the form of pride
 - most like the devil
 - nearest the slippery slope – rapid spiritual degeneration
3. Hearing involves a choice

Men have a choice – to believe the truth of God or the lies of the god of this fallen world

Faith is active, much more than just spoken
People do what they believe

If I say the truth, why do ye not believe Me...the most foolish thing any person could do
4. To be Christ-like includes turning the other cheek on personal attacks/insults but to not stand silent when the honor of our Lord is attacked
5. Jesus Christ
 - is God incarnate – perfect, sinless
 - is our Kinsman-Redeemer
 - makes us free indeed from the bondage of sin and death,
liberates us from the clutches of Satan
 - re-connects and re-orient us

1 John 4:15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God,
God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

Rom 6:16-18

And the indwelling Spirit of Christ is quick to point out the contradiction between
our

- words and deeds
- profession and action

as He conforms us into the image of God's Son