

3 Possessing the Truth

Sermon Series: The Inquisition of Jesus

John 8:31-36

April 22, 2018

- **Removing the Obstacles of Unbelief.**
- **Analyzing The Evidence of who Jesus is.**
- **Possessing the Truth.**

During the Illegal **Trial of Jesus** when He went before **Pontus Pilate**, Jesus and Pilate had a very interesting exchange: **John 18:37-38** Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world-- **to bear witness to the truth**. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸ Pilate said to him, "**What is truth?**" After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, "I find no guilt in him.

Jesus revealed in **John 14:6** Jesus said to him, "I am the **Way**, and the **Truth**, and the **Life**. No one comes to the Father except **through me**.

No one can receive **Eternal Life** apart from **Jesus Christ!**

In keeping with what Jesus said about Himself in **John 14:6** Our outline will follow Jesus' description of who He is!

- I. **The Way to Possessing the Truth is Conferred (31-36)** So Jesus said to the Jews who had **believed him**, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

The ABC's of the Way to Possessing The Truth!

- **The Audience Jesus Addressed (31)** So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him,
- **The Condition to know the Truth (31)** "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples,
- **The Benefit of being a Disciple (32)** and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

II. The Truth to Possessing the Truth is

Challenged (33) They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

The Jews who were gathered became defensive and responded with anger as they always been told that they were already free because of being an offspring of Abraham. They were placing their faith and trust in being a son of Abraham!

Abraham was the giver of the Law and Jesus was telling them that He has come to give Life!

Self-Deception – The power of self-deception in unconverted man is infinite. These Jews are no more unreasonable than those in the Church today who hold to a Works Salvation or that say We are not dead to sin, We have Grace, We have Faith, We have the Spirit, I'm a good person, but they have never had a personal relationship with Jesus.

1 John 1:8 If we say we have no sin, we **deceive ourselves**, and the truth is not in us.

They were indeed in **Self-Bondage**. This Proud assertion of Self-Sufficiency is itself evidence of the very bondage that Jesus is referring to.

III. Jesus now explains to them that The Life to Possessing the Truth is a Choice (34) Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who **practices sin is a slave** to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the **son remains forever**. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

I have heard people **Condemn** The Bible because it **Condoned** Slavery.

Deuteronomy 15:12-16 If any of your people-- Hebrew men or women-- **sell themselves to you** and serve you six years, in the seventh year you must **let them go free**. ¹³ And when you release them, do not send them away empty-handed. ¹⁴ Supply them liberally from your flock, your threshing floor and your winepress. Give to them as the LORD your God has blessed you. ¹⁵ Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you. That is why I give you this command today. ¹⁶ But if your servant says to you, "I do not want to leave you," because he loves you and your family and is well off with you,

- **You can Choose Life as a Slave! (34)** Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who **practices sin is a slave** to sin. ³⁵ The slave **does not remain** in the house forever;

- ❖ **A Slave is not Permanently part of the Family**
- ❖ **A Slave has no Family Privileges.**
- ❖ **A Slave has no Family Inheritance.**
 - **You can Choose Life with the Son! (35-36) the son remains forever.³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.**
- ❖ **As a Son You are Adopted Galatians 4:4-5** But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive **adoption as sons**.
- ❖ **As a Son You have an Inheritance Ephesians 1:10-11** And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ-- everything in heaven and on earth.¹¹ Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have **received an inheritance from God**,
- ❖ **As a Son You are Free in Christ Romans 8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.² For the law of the **Spirit of life** has **set you free in Christ** Jesus from the law of sin and death.