YOU WILL BE FREE INDEED

JOHN 8:30-36

OPEN YOUR BIBLES TO JOHN'S GOSPEL CHAPTER 8. THE SETTING IS THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM. JESUS IS EXCHANGING DIALOUGE WITH THE PHARISEES (RELIGIOUS JEWS). THERE IS HOWEVER, A CROWD OF LOCAL JEWS AND PILGRIM JEWS STANDING AROUND LISTENING TO THEM. JESUS IS CONFRONTING THE TRUTH THAT THEIR RELIGION CAN NOT SAVE THEM. THEY CLAIM THAT BECAUSE THEY ARE CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM, THEY HAVE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION. JESUS BOLDLY TELLS THEM, "YOU WILL DIE IN YOUR SIN AND WHERE I AM GOING YOU CAN NOT COME IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE THAT I AM HE." THIS HARD BUT GRACIOUS TRUTH TRANSENDS TO THIS VERY DAY. WE CAN GO TO CHURCH, BIBLE STUDY, CHRISTIAN CONCERTS, FEED THE POOR, TITHE, POST CHRISTIAN CONTENT ON SOCIAL MEDIA, AND STILL END UP IN HELL. JESUS SAID, "IF YOU LOVE ME, YOU WILL OBEY MY COMMANDS." "YOU WILL ABIDE IN ME AND I IN YOU." IT IS A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LIVING GOD THAT BRINGS SALVATION, NOT RELIGIOUS WORKS. TO BELIEVE THAT JESUS CHRIST DIED IN THE PLACE OF THE SINNER. RESURRECTED FROM THE DEAD BECAUSE THERE WAS NO SIN FOUND IN HIM. ASCENDED TO THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER AS THE MEDIATOR BETWEEN HOLY GOD AND SINFUL MAN. THIS TAKES AN ACT OF GOD

HIMSELF. THE SPRITUALLY DEAD CAN NOT BRING THEMSELVES TO LIFE. THIS IS WHY WE PREACH AND EVANGELIZE THE GOSPEL. SO THAT, THE SPIRITUALLY DEAD MAY HEAR THE WORD OF GOD BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND RECEIVE LIFE. JESUS ISN'T LOOKING FOR POPULARITY OR POLITICAL CORRECTNESS WHEN HE PREACHES. HE IS THE WAY TO GOD, THE TRUTH OF GOD, AND THE LIFE IN GOD. THERE IS NO OTHER MEANS OF SALVATION BUT THROUGH JESUS CHRIST…PERIOD. BY THE GRACE OF GOD THE FATHER DRAWS US, THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST ALONE SAVES US, ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES FOR GOD'S GLORY ALONE! THIS GOSPEL WAS WRITTEN NOT JUST TO AWAKEN FAITH IN NON-DISCIPLES, BUT TO ALSO WAKEUP PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY ARE DISCIPLES BUT AREN'T, AND TO HELP REAL DISCIPLES CONFIRM THEIR REALITY AND BE STRONGER IN THEIR FAITH

John 8:30-36 NIV

30 Even as he spoke, many believed in him.

31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. **32** Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

33 They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

34 Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. **35** Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. **36** So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

LORD, GIVE US EARS TO HEAR YOUR PRECIOUS PROMISES, MAY THE WORD OF THE LORD CONVICT, ENCOURAGE, AND FILL US TODAY. AMEN

John 8:30 NIV

30 Even as he spoke, many believed in him.

THE “MANY” BELIEVED INTELLECTUALLY BUT SUPERFICIALLY, THEY BELIEVED IN THEIR HEAD BUT NOT THEIR HEART, THEY WERE PROFESSORS OF FAITH BUT NOT POSSESSERS OF FAITH

Titus 1:15-16 NIV

15 To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted. **16** They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.

REAL FAITH IS MORE THAN JUST INTELLECTUAL KNOWLEDGE. IT IS THE FULL ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD

ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES, A SURRENDER TO THAT TRUTH, AND A CONDUCT THAT MIRRORS THE TRUTH WE HAVE SURRENDERED TO. OBEDIENCE DOESN'T SAVE US. FAITH ALONE SAVES US. OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD DEMONSTRATES THAT OUR FAITH IS GENUINE

FAITH ALONE SAVES BUT THE FAITH THAT SAVES IS NOT ALONE. REAL FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST WILL PRODUCE THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT; LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENTCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS, AND SELF CONTROL

John 8:31-32 NIV

31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. **32** Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

JESUS SETS A BENCHMARK FOR ASSURANCE OF SALVATION TO ALL WHO PROFESS BELIEF WITH AN "IF" -- "THEN" STATEMENT

DISCIPLE/MATHETES/STUDENT, COMMITTED LEARNER

IF… MY WORD LIVES IN YOU AND YOU HOLD IT, YOU ARE REALLY A CHRISTIAN. THIS IS NOT ABOUT PERFECTION, IT IS ABOUT THE DIRECTION OF OUR AFFECTION

THEN… YOU WILL KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD, YOURSELF, HUMANITY, AND A HOPEFUL FUTURE. AND BECAUSE OF THIS DIVINE KNOWLEDGE, YOU WILL BE SET FREE

SET FREE FROM WHAT?

SET FREE FROM THE BONDAGE OF YOUR PAST, PEOPLE, PLACES AND THINGS, SET FREE FROM YOURSELF, HABITUAL SIN, DEATH, AND CONDEMNATION. SET FREE FROM SPIRITUAL IGNORANCE AND LIES

Romans 6:15-16 NIV

15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means! **16** Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?

WE WILL SERVE GOD OR SERVE OUR SIN NATURE, IT'S A CHOICE

SO HOW DO WE CHOOSE RIGHTLY?

OUR LIVES SHOULD CONSIST OF DAILY FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD AND REPENTANCE…BECAUSE OF LOVE NOT DUTY

IN FACT, TO LEARN THE TRUTH AND CLAIM TO KNOW IT BUT NOT DO IT…. MAKES A PERSON A MODERN-DAY PHARISEE OPERATING OUT OF ARROGANT SELF DECEPTION

John 8:33-34 NIV

33 They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?”

34 Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.

THESE PHARISEES ARE DILUSIONAL, THEY ARE UNDER ROMAN CONTROL. JESUS MOVES PAST THEIR IGNORANCE AND BLASTS THEM WITH TRUTH

EVERYONE WHO IS STUCK IN HABITUAL SIN, IS A SLAVE TO IT

WE WILL ALWAYS WRESTLE WITH OUR SIN NATURE IN THIS LIFE BUT WE DO NOT HAVE TO BE SLAVES TO IT ANYMORE. WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT’S HELP, WE CAN OVERCOME THE TEMPTATION TO SIN

John 8:35-36 NIV

35 Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. **36** So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

JESUS IS TELLING THESE RELIGIOUS JEWS, THEY HAVE NO PLACE IN THE FAMILY OF GOD WITHOUT HIM

A SLAVE HAS NO RIGHTS TO THE FAMILY INHERITANCE, JESUS.. THE ONE AND ONLY SON OF GOD HAS ALL THAT THE FATHER HAS

SO, WHEN THE SON WHO HAS CONQUERED SIN SETS YOU FREE, YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY FREE!!!

THE INHERITANCE GIVEN TO JESUS BY THE FATHER IS NOW OURS TO ENJOY IN HIM

ANY SLAVE THAT RECIEVES FREEDOM MUST LEARN HOW TO WALK IN THAT FREEDOM

Romans 6:17-18 NIV

17 But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. **18** You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

SLAVE/DOULOS/SERVANT

NOT ONLY ARE WE SERVANTS TO RIGHTEOUSNESS BUT WE ARE CHILDREN IN THE FAMILY OF GOD!!

PURCHASED AND REDEEMED BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, ADOPTED INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD, HEIRS TO THE INHERITANCE OF THE SON OF GOD

Romans 8:14-17 NIV

14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. **15** The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, *"Abba,* Father." **16** The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. **17** Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

SUFFERING IN THE FLESH – FREEDOM IN CHRIST

SERVANTS TO GOD AND ONE ANOTHER YET CHILDREN IN THE FAMILY OF GOD, NEVER TO BE DISCARDED

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