

John 8

Free from sin.
Woman taken in adultery.

John 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;
32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

The full truth is to be revealed, when he departs.

33 They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?
34 Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.
35 And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever.
36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

A servant may be sold, or fired.
But the Son is the heir.
A servant of sin cannot abide in the house of God.
How does he make them free? "The truth shall make you free."

Verse 37

John 8:37 I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you.

They said, "We're Abraham's seed, we've never been in bondage."
He says, "I know you're Abraham's seed, after the flesh."
But he's not talking about physical bondage. But spiritual.

They may be Abraham's seed after the flesh, but look at what they are doing.
He said, "ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you."

And we can see how his word has no place in them.
He's repeated himself, and they still don't get it.

Verse 38

John 8:38 I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father.

They may be Abraham's physical descendants, but they aren't his spiritual descendants.

He's speaking what he has seen with his Father, which is God.
But they're doing what they have seen with their father. Their spiritual father.

Not Abraham. Not God.

Verse 39

John 8:39 They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.

He just told them that though they are Abraham's seed, what they are doing doesn't match. But they're still trying to say that Abraham is their father.

And so Jesus says, "Look, if you were following Abraham, if you were of the same spirit as Abraham, then you'd do his works."

Verse 40

John 8:40 But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham.

You're seeking to kill a man that told you the truth from God.
What action of Abraham are you basing that off of?
Abraham never killed anybody, never stoned or crucified anyone.
And certainly not because they were speaking the word of God to him.

Their behavior has absolutely no resemblance to anything that Abraham ever did.

Verse 41

John 8:41 Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.

They said, "Abraham's the only father we got. We're not born of fornication. We're not Samaritans. Here, we can show you our pedigree."
"Abraham is our father, the only other father we got is God. He's our spiritual Father."

That's what Jesus has been talking about the whole time.
And they just started to get it.
That's how focused they are on the flesh.

Verse 42

John 8:42 Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

Jesus says, "God's my Father, and you hate me. So God can't be your father."
"God is the one who I proceeded forth and came from."
"God is the one that sent me, expressly, I'm on his mission."
"So if God was your Father, you would love me."

Verse 43

John 8:43 Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.

It is clear, they just can't hear him.
He hasn't told them much new here. He's told them all of this before.
And yet they still don't get it.
Why?
Because they can't hear his word.

Not physically. Spiritually.
Their mind hears it. But their heart doesn't.

Jesus has been pretty clear here, what he is implying, and yet they still don't get it.
So he's going to tell them in so many words.

Verse 44

John 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Their spiritual father is not God, it isn't Abraham. It is the devil.
And just as he does the works of his Father, they will do the lusts of their Father.
Just as he was a murderer, they seek to kill him.
That's where that comes from. Not from Abraham.
They can't hear the truth, because their father the devil wouldn't either.
He abode not in the truth, because he blocked it out of his heart, so that there is no truth in him.
And so out of his own self he speaks lies. Nobody had to put that there, with no truth there, what else could there be?
And so he is a liar, and the father of lies.
So them also telling lies, ("we're not going to kill you"), makes them the devil's children.
That doesn't come from Abraham either.

Verse 45

John 8:45 And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.

And so they follow lies. Of their father the devil.
They do his works. They've patterned their life after him.
And they like it. They love darkness.
And they've patterned their life off of the lies of the king of darkness.
And so they refuse to hear the truth of God that Jesus is telling them.
Just like there is no truth in their father, they will not allow any truth into their heart either.
And so they believe him not.

Now it may seem that the subject has been changed here, from the first half of the chapter.
That we're no longer talking about grace.

Jesus is giving a hint about how they can have the light of life.
How they can sin no more.
How they can stop doing the works of their father the devil.
And instead do the works of God.
They need a new Father.
They need to be born again, by the Spirit of God.
So that God is their spiritual Father, and they can do the works of God.
Just as Jesus does. Because God is his Father.

Verse 46

John 8:46 Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

They brought a woman taken in adultery, and yet they couldn't even condemn here.
He says, "Who is going to condemn me? Who convinceth me of sin?"
"Where are the witnesses? If I've sinned, then let them come forward and testify against me."
"I'm not unwilling to stand and be judged. Where are those mine accusers, hath no man condemned me?"

"And if not, if I say the truth, then why do ye not believe me?"

"If I am lying, then prove my guilt; or if you can't, if not, then why won't you believe me?"

He just told them why. And he's going to tell them again.
But he's pointing out the proof of it.
It isn't because he is in the wrong that they don't believe him.
They try to make that their excuse, but it doesn't hold up.
If that were so, then they should simply have brought him for judgment.

Verse 47

John 8:47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.

There is no doubt that he that is of God heareth God's words.
But they don't hear them. That is the word that he is speaking, it is not a word of sin.
Therefore they are not of God.

Verse 48

John 8:48 Then answered the Jews, and said unto him, Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil?

They return him the compliment.
They say, "You're the one that is speaking of the devil."
"You're the one who is born of fornication. You're a Samaritan, you're not a true Jew."

Verse 49

John 8:49 Jesus answered, I have not a devil; but I honour my Father, and ye do dishonour me.

“I don’t have a devil.”

“And I’ve never tried to hide my parentage. I’ve got nothing to hide.”

“I’ve told you who my Father is. I’ve honored him.”

“I’m honoring my Father, God, and you are dishonoring me.”

“And therefore you are dishonoring God.”

Verse 50

John 8:50 And I seek not mine own glory: there is one that seeketh and judgeth.

“I’m not responding to your slurs because I care for my own sake.”

“I’m not seeking my own glory.”

“I just want to warn you that there is one that seeketh and judgeth.”

“And so I can’t let you say this about him. I have to honor him.”

Verse 51

John 8:51 Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.

So Jesus comes back to what he was saying that started this whole discussion.

They are the servants of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever.

But the Son abideth ever. Therefore if the Son shall make them free, they shall be free indeed.

If they continue in his word, they will be his disciples indeed, and they will know the truth, and the truth will set them free.

And so, If a man keep his saying, he shall never see death.

Verses 52-53

John 8:52 Then said the Jews unto him, Now we know that thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and thou sayest, If a man keep my saying, he shall never taste of death.

53 Art thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead? and the prophets are dead: whom makest thou thyself?

“Even those that gave the scriptures to us, even the prophets, even Abraham himself, with whom God made the covenant, they are all dead.”

“The word didn’t give them eternal life. They died. And yet you’re saying you have a word that can save from death.”

“Are you saying that you’re greater than them? Who are you making yourself out to be?”

These people are so stupid. They cannot hear his words.

They’ve been over this several times already just in this chapter.

They already asked him this, and he told them. “I told you from the beginning.”

Verse 54

John 8:54 Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God:

So again, he tells them plainly, that God is his Father.

He is not honoring himself. If he was, that would be meaningless.
But he warns them against dishonoring him, because it is his father (their God), that honors him.

They say he is their God.

But he's not.

They are.

They are as gods, knowing good and evil.

They think they know when to kill him, regardless of the law.

They follow their own words, not the words of God.

They don't seek God's kingdom, but their own.

But they say he is their God.

Because they are liars.

Verse 55

John 8:55 Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him, and keep his saying.

They say he's their God, but they haven't known him.

That's obvious.

But he does know him.

And if he denied that, which is what it seems they want, then he would be a liar just like them.

But he does know him, and he won't lie about it, because he keeps his saying.

He keeps the word.

Verse 56

John 8:56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.

Abraham rejoiced in anticipation of Christ. He counted seeing the day of Christ a rejoicing.

And when he saw it, he was glad.

He wasn't disappointed.

Did Abraham see his day?

He saw God face to face, and God told him he was going to have a son.

And he named that son Isaac, which means laughter.

Abraham saw a day, when God provided himself a lamb, that might be sacrificed for the seed of promise. He saw the seed as it were raised to life again.

Genesis 22:14 And **Abraham** called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be **seen**.

Hebrews 11:8 By faith **Abraham**, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11 Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

12 Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having **seen** them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

Abraham was glad at the promise of a coming redeemer.
Not the law. That's not what he rejoiced in. He didn't have it.

If they were Abraham's children, they'd rejoice in the Man who is fulfilling that promise.

Verse 57

John 8:57 Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham?

They're still thinking in physical terms, when he's be talking in spiritual.

Verse 58

John 8:58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

I am that I am.
The eternal, self-existent One.
In the beginning was the Word.

He is God the Son. That's what he's repeatedly told them.

Verse 59

John 8:59 Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

So here again they want to kill him.
Why? Have they convinced him of sin now?
Because it is what Abraham would do?
No. But because he's proven that they aren't following Abraham.

But he escapes.

Chapter 9 verse 1

John 9:1 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

Jesus gets away from them, and as he's walking along, he comes across this blind man.

Verse 2

John 9:2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

The disciples ask why such a horrible thing happened, if God was punishing someone. Is it because of some sin.

And remember, we've just had a chapter that was all about sin. And being made free from sin.

And those that are servants of sin cannot abide in the house for ever. They cannot enter into the kingdom of God. The Son has to set them free.

So does relate to the fact to some people in this life have physical ailments and disabilities? Is that a way of God responding to sin by placing an added curse on certain people? Kind of like the Jews are all under the curse and want to get out of it and into the kingdom, but they need to be freed from sin in order for that to be possible?

So John has declared this spiritual truth here, about how sin prevents us from being able to abide in the house of God.

And he's going to clarify how that relates to our present life.

Because he knows how infatuated people can get with the physical, and he doesn't want us to apply this incorrectly.

Verse 3

John 9:3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

There is no connection between this man's birth defect and any sin that someone committed. It's not a punishment.

On the contrary, it is to provide an opportunity for the works of God to be made manifest.

In other words, sin prevents us from entering into God's kingdom. We've got to be born again. But it doesn't cause God to punish us by how we are born the first time.

God didn't prevent this man from seeing life because of some sin he committed.

But sin will prevent you from seeing the kingdom of God.

So God didn't curse this man with blindness from the womb.
Rather, he allowed this to happen, so that in the end he could manifest his words in him.
This man is going to be a means of manifesting the works of God.

Verse 4

John 9:4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

Jesus tells them, "There's only a limited window in which I can do this."
He's again reminding them that he's going away.

And so in the short time that he was here, they needed to be some special opportunities for him to manifest the works of God.
And this is one of them.

Because there is a time of darkness, a night coming, when they're not going to be out there working.
They're going to be cowering in fear, because their Lord is crucified.

Verse 5

John 9:5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

But right now he is here, he is the light of the world. And so it is day, it is light, it is the time to work. It is the time for him to do the works that manifest that he is indeed the Son of the Father.

Verse 6

John 9:6 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

This would be kind of weird in any culture.
But under the law all bodily fluids were considered unclean.
If a father spit in his daughter's face, she'd be unclean for seven days.

So Jesus has just made this man unclean.
Once again he's doing a miracle that the Jews will have a problem with.
When there is absolutely no need.

And rubbing dirt in somebody's eyes isn't helpful.

Verse 7

John 9:7 And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

So Jesus rubs dirt and spittle in this guy's eyes, and tells him to go and wash, and he does, and he's given sight.

And so once again we notice here that Jesus has turned this into a miracle involving the word. He physically interacted with this man, but the man was only healed after Jesus gave him a command, and he followed it. After he heard the word, and did it.

Because it is in the same way that they need to hear the word, that speaks of a water of life, the Spirit of God.

And they need to be baptized into that Spirit. (Just as this man went and washed)

And when they are, when they respond to the word, and believe it, and that happens, they are given sight. They are given light.

The wind bloweth where it listeth, and so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

They are then able to comprehend and conform to the will of God.

Verses 8-12

John 9:8 The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?

9 Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he.

10 Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?

11 He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.

12 Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not.

So the neighbors see that that this guy that they know was blind, can now see.

And he tells him that he is indeed the one, and how his eyes were opened.

So they ask him where is this Jesus that did this.

But he doesn't know. He never saw him.

He wasn't healed when Jesus touched him, and rubbed dirt and spit in his eyes.

He was healed when he followed Jesus's word, and Jesus wasn't even there.

He doesn't know where he is.

Verses 13-16

John 9:13 They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind.

14 And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes.

15 Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see.

16 Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them.

So Jesus again did work on the sabbath. He made clay. That's work. No doubt about that.

So the Pharisees are perplexed.

How can this man be of God if he is breaking the sabbath?

But how can a sinner do such miracles?

And the answer is simple. He can't just be your average man of God. He must be that Prophet, come to bring in a new covenant, that transcends the old one.

Verse 17

John 9:17 They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet.

The man that was healed believes Jesus is a prophet.
Just like Elisha had Naaman the Syrian, a leper, wash and be healed.

Verses 18-23

John 9:18 But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight.

19 And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see?

20 His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind:

21 But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself.

22 These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue.

23 Therefore said his parents, He is of age; ask him.

So their way of initially dealing with this conundrum was disbelieve that the miracle had taken place at all.

But when the man's own parents testify, that is no longer possible.

But the Pharisees have already decided that Jesus cannot be the Christ. And they've decided to persecute anybody who says that he is.

Verses 24

John 9:24 Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, Give God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner.

So they tell the man, don't give the praise to Jesus, give it to God. This man is sinner.

Isn't that kind of silly?

If God did this, then God was working through this man.

Verse 25

John 9:25 He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.

The man says, "I don't know if he is a sinner, but I do know that he healed me. Isn't that enough?"

This man is ready to believe based on this miracle.

A blind man, who had to just take Jesus word, because he couldn't see the miracles that he did. And yet those that have been unwilling to accept the word, that have been demanding signs, are unwilling to believe this one.

Verses 26-27

John 9:26 Then said they to him again, What did he to thee? how opened he thine eyes?

27 He answered them, I have told you already, and ye did not hear: wherefore would ye hear it again? will ye also be his disciples?

So the Pharisees are still struggling with this, and they keep asking him how Jesus did the miracle, trying to see if maybe the man was mistaken, if maybe Jesus actually did it without working on the sabbath.

And the man says, Look I already told you. Why do you need to hear again? So that you can follow him? So that you can emulate him, and be his disciples?

Verses 28-29

John 9:28 Then they reviled him, and said, Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses' disciples.

29 We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow, we know not from whence he is.

Verses 30-33

John 9:30 The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes.

31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

32 Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind.

33 If this man were not of God, he could do nothing.

This had to have been achieved supernaturally, no man has ever given sight to someone born blind.

The only possible explanation is that this man is of God, and doing the will of God.

Verse 34

John 9:34 They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out.

So they say he was born in sin, just like the disciples asked Jesus.

They don't answer his argument, they just cast him out of the synagogue.

Verses 35-38

John 9:35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God?

36 He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him?

37 And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee.

38 And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him.

This is similar to how Jesus went and found the man that he healed on the sabbath day by the pool of Bethesda.

Except this time Jesus says something different.

He told that man, Sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.

But he asks this man a question. If he believes on the Son of God.

And the man asks who he is.

And Jesus says, you're looking at him, and he's speaking to you.

You've both seen him and heard his word.

And the man believes on him, and worships him.

You see, that dispels the Pharisees' conundrum.

If this man is the Son of God, then he isn't bound by the sabbath.

If this man is come to set us free, and bring in a new covenant, then God has given him a work that transcends the old covenant.

Verse 39

John 9:39 And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.

Now, up to now, Jesus has repeatedly said that he didn't come for condemnation. That he didn't come for judgment.

That he wasn't going to judge and condemn them.

But now he says that there is a way that his coming relates to judgment.

"For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind."

We're going to be shown what he means by that.

Verses 40-41

John 9:40 And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also?

41 Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.

Do you remember how Jesus told Nicodemus, I didn't come for condemnation, that those that believe not are condemned already?

But then he added that “This is the condemnation: light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”

In other words, they were already condemned.

But, they also came under a new condemnation, in that when presented with the light, they rejected it.

And so when he says that he came for judgement, that’s what he means.

Those that are blind, those that are in darkness, they’re under condemnation.

But they are blind without that condemnation. That isn’t what causes it.

We are just born that way. We are born in darkness, apart from the light of God.

Just as this man was born blind.

Not because of sin. Not because of some sin we’ll commit. Not because of some sin our parents committed.

Not because of some original sin.

But because this is simply a cursed and dark world.

And so we are in darkness, we are apart from the light, even without sin.

We are under condemnation.

But there is an even greater condemnation.

When light comes into the world. When you see it. When the Pharisees saw what Jesus did.

When they heard the word.

And when you decide you love darkness rather than light,

then you remain under condemnation. When you say, “we see”, and you have seen, but you don’t believe, then your sin remaineth.

It was already there. But it remains.

And on top of that you’ve seen the light, and rejected it.

But if you acknowledge that you are blind. That you need the light.

And you believe on the light, then you will not have sin.

Your past sin will be taken away. It will be washed away.

And in the process of that washing you also receive a well of the water of life inside of yourself.

Not only is your uncleanness taken away, but you are given sight.

You can understand and do the will of God.

When you believe on the word.