

Episode #1-34 – The Way of the Fathers

I. The purpose of the gospel of John is to produce believers in the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the One anointed by God to be the Savior of the world, and that Jesus is the Son of God, God represented in human form.

II. The issue of belief or lack of belief continues. The Lord Jesus while teaching in the temple declared that He is the light of the world, and gives LIFE to all who follow Him. The Pharisees did not believe, claiming this is untrue because He only testified of Himself. But His Father testified with Him by miracles. Anyone who does not believe He is God will die in his sins.

III. Those who believed. John 8:30-36.

- A. V.30. These believed, so were they saved? No, see verses 44, 48, 59. Faith is more than just believing. It requires a proper response!
- B. V.31. The next step after believing is abiding. If they do this, then they will be disciples. Sadly, they did not abide.
- C. V.32. Truth will make you free. Free of what? Sin and death.
- D. V.33. This was a silly argument, since Abraham's seed was often in bondage. They were even then in bondage to Rome!
- E. V.34. He speaks "truly, truly." They are under bondage to sin. Their slavery to sin is what He was talking about in verse 32.
- F. V.35. Slaves of sin cannot abide in God's house (Israel) for ever (into the eon.) Eon = for the outflow = in perpetuity. But a son is in the house for good.
- G. V.36. Since the son abides in the house forever, so does His decision to make one free. So one who is made free by the Son is free for good!

IV. The "believers" try to silence Him. John 8:37-11.

- A. V.37. Want to kill Him to silence His words. What good being Abraham's seed, then?
- B. V.38. What could be more natural? But ultimately is a contrast between their actions.
- C. V.39. They claim Abraham as their father, but do not do his works.
- D. V.40. When Abraham heard truth from God (like through Melchizedek) he always listened. But they tried to kill the One Who spoke the truth.
- E. V.41. They have a different father. They claim to be legitimate children with God as their Father. This was really supreme arrogance.
- F. V.42. They do not act like God any more than like Abraham. Sent = apostello.
- G. V.43. God is able to communicate. They could not hear because would not believe.
- H. V.44. Their true father is the devil. They were not morally corrupt, but highly religious, and thought they were justified by righteous deeds, yet they rejected God's word. This tells us about devil and his character. He is a manslayer like Cain (Gen.4.) He takes his stand in lies since his first lie told to Adam and Eve.
- I. V.45. They rejected Him **because** He told the truth. Like Cain, wanted **their** way.
- J. V.46. Two questions they cannot answer. Some today convict Him of sins! He answered the second question in v. 44, but they could not believe Him.
- K. V.47. Though they were part of Israel, God's nation, they still had individual choice. Their choices showed their character was not of God, but of the devil.

VI. Conclusion: These men believed Jesus was the Messiah, yet rejected Him anyway. Some realize Jesus is Lord and Savior today, yet will not come to Him for salvation. Will we be like that? Or will we keep His words, and prove we belong to him? The choice is ours!