



# MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

JANUARY 2022

## John 8: JESUS – GIVER OF LIFE, LIGHT, TRUTH, & ETERNAL SON OF GOD

Introductory Statement: In this Gospel John, son of Thunder, original member of JESUS' disciples, the one whom JESUS loved, apostle to the world, and recipient of apocalyptic visions presents JESUS as the Son of GOD. He emphasizes our LORD's divinity to all who would read his good-news account of JESUS. In this chapter John shares how JESUS offers grace and forgiveness to a sinner, how he confronts with Truth those who claim to believe in HIM, how children of the devil walk in darkness, and how HE existed eternally, holding the power of life within HIMself.

### Objectives:

*Following this study we should be able to...*

- *Understand the setting of events in this chapter*
- *Identify Grace-in-Action Moment(s).*
- *Gain insight into true discipleship?*
- *Understand the Key to freedom from bondage?*
- *Examine the significance of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of 7 "I AM" statements that JESUS declared in John's gospel (in relation to John's overall purpose)?*



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## THE SETTING

- Location: Jerusalem
  - Mount of Olives (Olive Grove, Place of Burial, Garden of Gethsemane, JESUS' post-resurrection ascension, place of HIS return)
  - Temple (near the Treasury)
- Occasion: Confrontation with Jewish leadership attempting to entrap HIM
- Second "I AM" Statement of Declaration in John's Gospel (Seven Total)
  - Statement #1 – "...Bread of Life" *John 6:35*
  - Statement #2 – "...Light of the World" *John 8:12*
  - Statement #3 – "...the Door" *John 10:9*
  - Statement #4 – "...the Good Shepherd" *John 10:11.14*
  - Statement #5 – "...the Resurrection and the Life" *John 11:25*
  - Statement #6 – "...the Way, the Truth, and the Life" *John 14:6*
  - Statement #7 – "... the Vine" *John 15:1-5*
- Characters
  - Jewish Leaders (probably Pharisees) – exalted Tradition of Elders
  - JESUS – Son of God; Life Giver; Non-Condemner
  - Un-named Woman - Adulteress
  - Jews – unspecified individuals
  - Moses – inactive mention
  - Abraham – inactive mention



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## THE CONFRONTATION

John 7:53-8:1-11 (MEV)

<sup>7:53</sup> Then everyone went to his own house. <sup>8:1</sup> But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. <sup>2</sup> Early in the morning He returned to the temple. All the people came to Him, and He sat down and taught them. <sup>3</sup> The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery. When they had put her in the middle, <sup>4</sup> they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of adultery. <sup>5</sup> Now Moses in the law commanded us to stone such, but what do You say?” <sup>6</sup> They said this, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear them. <sup>7</sup> So when they continued asking Him, He stood up and said to them, “Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.” <sup>8</sup> Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. <sup>9</sup> Being convicted by their conscience, those who heard it went out one by one, beginning with the eldest even to the last. Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. <sup>10</sup> When Jesus had stood up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, “Woman, where are your accusers? Did no one condemn you?” <sup>11</sup> She said, “No one, Lord.” Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more.”

- Scribes and Pharisees initiated this confrontation
  - Scribes – Administrative Assistants (Take notes, document, etc.)
  - Pharisees – Jewish Leaders representing common, working class; Influence base in Synagogue (vs. Temple); equal weight of scriptures and traditions of elders; believed in the after-life; self-righteous – please GOD by keeping law (or parts of it)



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- In Relation to JESUS (and others) – law police
- Presentation of Adulterous woman
  - Action performed to Test JESUS
  - Accusers were disingenuous
  - Where was the co-conspirator?
- JESUS Demonstrated the Fulfillment of the Scriptures concerning HIS purpose in coming
  - JESUS came to give Eternal Life, not condemnation
    - John 3:16-18  
<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. <sup>18</sup>He who believes in Him is not condemned. But he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
  - Life – *Zoe*’ – vitality given as a gift from GOD (physical & eternal); transfused from the LOGOS into created nature
  - Condemn – *Katakri’no* – to give judgment against (worthy of punishment)
- According to the Law, the Woman deserved to be killed
  - Exodus 20:14  
<sup>20:14</sup> You shall not commit adultery.



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- Leviticus 20:10  
<sup>20:10</sup> If a man commits adultery with another man's wife, even he who commits adultery with his neighbor's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.
  
- JESUS' Kingdom teaching about Judging & Condemning is exemplified here
  - Luke 6:41 (MEV)  
<sup>6:41</sup> "Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not see the beam that is in your own eye? <sup>42</sup> How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the beam that is in your own eye? You hypocrite! First remove the beam from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck that is in your brother's eye.
  - The Accusers suddenly remember the big beam in their eyes and back away
  - JESUS displays a Grace-In-Action moment (unmerited favor)
  - HIS light exposed the darkness of their ways

## THE LIGHT

- JESUS Expressed I AM The Light of the World
  - John 8:12-20 (MEV)  
<sup>8:12</sup> Again, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life."<sup>13</sup> The Pharisees therefore said to Him, "You bear witness of Yourself. Your testimony is not true."<sup>14</sup> Jesus answered them, "Though I



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bear witness of Myself, My testimony is true. For I know where I came from and where I am going. But you do not know where I came from or where I am going. <sup>15</sup> You judge according to the flesh. I judge no one. <sup>16</sup> Yet if I do judge, My judgment is true. For I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me. <sup>17</sup> Even in your law it is written that the testimony of two men is true. <sup>18</sup> I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father that sent Me bears witness of Me.” <sup>19</sup> Then they said to Him, “Where is Your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither Me nor My Father. If you knew Me, you would know My Father also.” <sup>20</sup> Jesus spoke these words in the treasury, as He taught in the temple. No one arrested Him, for His hour had not yet come.

- What is the significance of JEUS being Light in this world?
  - The World is Dark (as in creation)
    - Genesis 1:1-5 (MEV)
      - <sup>1:1</sup> In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> The earth was formless and void, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the water. <sup>3</sup> God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup> God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.
      - Darkness – *Skoti'a* – spiritual, moral obscurity (physical or moral); Skotos (root = the principle of sin with its certain results)
  - The Only answer to the World's condition is divine illumination (Light) to reveal and impart life
    - Light – Phos – manifestation of GOD's self-existent life



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- JESUS is the only way out of the darkness of death which sin causes and leads into
- See John chapter 1 (refer back to that teaching)
- The Light will enable them to see GOD's way of doing things
  - You Judge According to the Flesh – 8:15
    - Flesh – *Sarx* – Human Nature; of Human Origin or Empowerment
    - John 3:6-7
      - <sup>6</sup>That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'
    - Romans 6:6-8
      - <sup>6</sup>To be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace, <sup>7</sup>for the carnal mind is hostile toward God, for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can it be, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
    - 1 Corinthians 2:13-15
      - <sup>13</sup>These things also we proclaim, not in the words which man's wisdom teaches, but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. <sup>14</sup>But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>But he who is spiritual judges all things. Yet he himself is not judged by anyone.
- Your Present State of Darkness is preventing you from seeing and knowing my FATHER and ME



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- The FATHER sent ME. HE Testifies of ME and I will return to HIM
  - John 8:21-29 MEV
    - <sup>21</sup> Again, Jesus said to them, “I am going away, and you will seek Me, and you will die in your sins. Where I am going, you cannot come.”
    - <sup>22</sup> So the Jews said, “Will He kill Himself? For He said, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ” <sup>23</sup> He said to them, “You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world.
    - <sup>24</sup> Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins. For unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.” <sup>25</sup> They said to Him, “Who are You?” Jesus said to them, “Just who I have been telling you from the beginning. <sup>26</sup> I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true. So I tell the world what I heard from Him.” <sup>27</sup> They did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father. <sup>28</sup> So Jesus said to them, “When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and I do nothing of Myself. But I speak these things as My Father taught Me. <sup>29</sup> He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.”
  - You Cannot Join Me In Your Current State of Darkness
    - Unless you believe in ME you will die in your sinful state
    - JESUS cannot be Explained, HE must be Revealed

## THE TRUTH

- JESUS Declares that Truth is in HIMself
  - John 8:30-47 MEV
    - <sup>8:30</sup> As He spoke these words, many believed in Him. <sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you remain in My word, then you are truly My disciples. <sup>32</sup> You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set



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you free.”<sup>33</sup> They answered Him, “We are Abraham’s seed and have never been in bondage to anyone. Why do You say, ‘You shall be set free’?”<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.”<sup>35</sup> Now a slave does not remain in the house forever, but a son remains forever.<sup>36</sup> Therefore if the Son sets you free, you shall be free indeed.<sup>37</sup> I know that you are Abraham’s seed. But you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you.<sup>38</sup> I am telling what I have seen with My Father, and you are doing what you have seen with your father.”<sup>39</sup> They answered Him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham’s children, you would do the works of Abraham.”<sup>40</sup> But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this.<sup>41</sup> You are doing the works of your father.” Then they said to Him, “We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father: God.”<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I came from God and proceeded into the world. I did not come of My own authority, but He sent Me.”<sup>43</sup> Why do you not understand My speaking? Because you cannot bear to hear My word.<sup>44</sup> You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.<sup>45</sup> Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.<sup>46</sup> Which of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak the truth, why do you not believe Me?<sup>47</sup> He who is of God hears God’s words. Therefore, you do not hear them, because you are not of God.”

- JESUS Confronted those who believed in HIM with Truth
  - Belief is a Start toward Discipleship
    - Believe – Pisteuo’ – have faith in (being persuaded)



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- Disciple – Mathe'tes' – a learner who follows with an adaptive lifestyle (of the one being followed)
  - Discipleship is conditional – (IF)
    - Must remain an adherer to (remain in) my Words (Instructions)
  - Knowledge of Truth Accompanies Discipleship
    - Truth – Ale'theia – Reality (moral & divine; spoken, idea)
  - Truth Leads to Freedom
    - Freedom to Perceive JESUS as SON of GOD
    - Freedom to Have Relationship with the FATHER
    - Freedom of Identity as sons/daughters
    - Freedom from slavery to sin
    - Freedom from relationship with the devil

## THE ETERNAL SON OF GOD

- JESUS is who HE is
- John 8:48-59 (MEV)

<sup>5:48</sup> The Jews answered Him, “Do we not rightly say that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?” <sup>49</sup> Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon. But I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. <sup>50</sup> I do not seek glory for Myself. There is One who seeks it and judges. <sup>51</sup> Truly, truly I say to you, if anyone keeps My word, he shall never see death.” <sup>52</sup> Then the Jews said to Him, “Now we know that You have a demon. Abraham and the prophets died, and You say, ‘If a man keeps My word, he shall never taste death.’ <sup>53</sup> “Are You greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets are dead! Who do You make Yourself out to be?” <sup>54</sup> Jesus answered, “If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing. It is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say that He is your God. <sup>55</sup> Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. If I



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say, 'I do not know Him,' I shall be a liar like you. But I know Him and keep His word. <sup>56</sup> Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day. He saw it and was glad." <sup>57</sup> Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old. Have You seen Abraham?" <sup>58</sup> Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly I say to you, **before Abraham was born, I AM.**" <sup>59</sup> Then they took up stones to throw at Him. But Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple. Going through their midst, He passed by.

- The Jews understood the significance of the name I AM
- I AM Signifies GOD; Used to introduce HIMself to Moses and Israelites
  - Exodus 3:14
    - <sup>14</sup> And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM," and He said, "You will say this to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"
- JESUS declares that HE is GOD



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### **THE APPLICATION (Take-Away Points)**

- JESUS has not come to condemn you. Without HIM you are already condemned
- You can be forgiven for whatever sin you've committed
- JESUS silences those who accuse you
- Without JESUS you are not capable of understanding spiritual things
  - Spiritual – that which originates with GOD and is in Harmony with HIS character
- You need JESUS to remove the darkness from you life. HE is the Only light that can
- Upon Believing in JESUS as GOD's SON and Plan for redemption, You and I must become Disciples
- Discipleship Leads to True Freedom
- JESUS is the Eternal GOD