

John 8:21-29

John 8:21-24 – *“(21) Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come. (22) Then said the Jews, Will he kill himself? because he saith, Whither I go, ye cannot come. (23) And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world. (24) I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.”*

A. Jesus, talking to the Pharisees (vs. **13-14**), says they cannot go where He was going (**Matthew 23:13**).

1. Jesus was heading back to the Father (**John 16:28**) in Heaven (**Matthew 6:9**, **Matthew 12:50**, and **I John 5:7**).
2. Jesus was not going to kill Himself as they ignorantly surmised. His plan was to ascend back into Heaven (**Luke 24:47-51**, **John 20:17**, and **Acts 1:1-11**).
3. They couldn't go to Heaven for two reasons:
 - a. No person, outside of Christ, will be in Heaven until after the resurrection and Judgment (**Luke 16:19-31**, **Luke 23:39-45**, **John 1:18**, **John 3:13**, **Acts 2:34**, and **I Thessalonians 4:13-18**).
 - b. Sinners (such as these Pharisees) will not be in Heaven (**I Corinthians 6:9-10**, **Galatians 5:19-21**, **Ephesians 5:3-6**, **II John 9**, and **Revelation 22:14-15**).

B. Rather than heading to heaven, the Pharisees were going to die in their sins (**Ezekiel 18:20-32**).

1. We need to pay careful attention to the statement “ye shall die in your sins”. This condemning statement reveals that these Pharisees were going to continue in their sins rather than repent of them (**Acts 3:19** and **II Peter 2:14-16**).
2. One, among many reasons that the Pharisees were going to die in their sins, was that they rejected the deity of Christ. You have to know, believe, and confess Christ as God to be saved (**Luke 12:8-9**, **John 17:3**, **Acts 8:36-38**, **Romans 10:10**, and **I John 3:23**).

John 8:25-27 – *“(25) Then said they unto him, Who art thou? And Jesus saith unto them, Even the same that I said unto you from the beginning. (26) I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him. (27) They understood not that he spake to them of the Father.”*

A. They asked Jesus who He was. This question is not always sincere (**Luke 22:66-71**).

1. Jesus had already told them who He was (**John 5:17-18**).
2. Jesus wasn't going to change His answer and deny Himself (**II Timothy 2:13**).

B. Jesus had many things to say and He did not get to say all of those things while He was physically on this earth (**John 16:12**).

1. The things He said and judged were of the Father (**John 6:38**, **John 7:16**, and **John 8:40**).

2. They did not understand that Jesus was speaking of God the Father because they were not true seekers (**John 8:47** and **II Corinthians 4:3-4**).

John 8:28-29 – *“(28) Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. (29) And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.”*

A. The lifting up of Christ refers to their crucifying Him (**John 12:32-34**).

1. Jesus was lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness (**John 3:14**; cf. **Numbers 21:1-9**).

2. When Jesus was crucified, those who did not ignore what was happening saw who Jesus really was (**Matthew 27:50-54**).

B. The Father was with Christ and would NEVER leave Him alone (**John 8:16**, **John 10:30**, **John 14:10-11**, and **John 16:32**).

1. It was the Father who sent Christ (**John 5:36-37** and **John 12:49**).

2. The obedience of Christ kept the Father with Him always (**John 15:10**, **Hebrews 4:15**, and **Hebrews 5:8-9**).