

John 8:48-59

John 8:48-50 – *“(48) Then answered the Jews, and said unto him, Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil? (49) Jesus answered, I have not a devil; but I honour my Father, and ye do dishonour me. (50) And I seek not mine own glory: there is one that seeketh and judgeth.”*

- A. The charge continues that Jesus has a devil to discredit Jesus (**John 10:20**).
 - 1. They added to the charge of Jesus having a devil in saying he is also a Samaritan. This too is to discredit our Lord since the Jews had no dealings with Samaritans (**John 4:9**).
 - 2. Jesus promised the disciples that they would face the same things in their work for Him (**Matthew 10:24-25**).
- B. Jesus denied their charge and showed that He was not seeking to rob His Father of glory and honor (**John 5:41** and **John 7:18**).
 - 1. Jesus didn't seek His own honor or glory (**John 8:49-50; 54**), but the Jews missed that the Father did give glory to Jesus (**II Peter 1:16-18**; cf. **Matthew 17:1-5**).
 - 2. By dishonoring Christ, they also were dishonoring the Father (**John 5:23, John 15:23, and I John 2:23**).
 - 3. Jesus then inferred that Judgment was of His Father, not Himself (**John 5:30, John 5:45, and John 12:47-48**).

John 8:51-55 – *“(51) Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death. (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? (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: (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.”*

- A. Keeping the words of Christ means one will never see death (**John 5:24** and **John 6:50-51**).
 - 1. Jesus is not saying one will not face physical death, but rather that one will not see spiritual death (**John 11:21-26** and **I John 3:14**).
 - 2. One must keep the words of Christ to be saved (**Proverbs 4:4, Luke 11:28, John 14:23-24, and John 15:10**).
- B. These Jews returned to their crutch argument of using Abraham against Jesus. They needed to realize that Abraham was not a good excuse for denying Christ (**Luke 3:8** and **Galatians 3:29**).

1. Again, the Jews missed that Jesus was not denying that someone would die a physical death. It is spiritual death that one avoids by keeping the words of Christ (**Romans 6:16; 23, James 1:15, and James 5:19-20**).
 2. On top of that, the disobedient then face a “second death” (**Revelation 21:8**), which is avoidable through Christ (**Revelation 20:6**; cf. **John 10:11**).
- C. Jesus established that these Jews were liars that did not know God the Father (**Jeremiah 4:22, John 8:19, and John 16:1-3**).
1. You’re a liar if you don’t obey the Lord (**I John 2:4**).
 2. Those who reject Christ are saying that the Father is a liar (**I John 5:10**).

John 8:56-59 – *“(56) Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad. (57) Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? (58) Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am. (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.”*

- A. They’ve called Abraham their father, now they need to own that Abraham was glad to see Christ come (**Hebrews 11:8-13**).
1. Christ was the fulfillment of the promise to Abraham (**Genesis 22:18, Matthew 1:1, and Galatians 3:16**).
 2. Jesus coming in the flesh, through the seed of Abraham, was God’s plan for Jesus to be the captain of our salvation (**Hebrews 2:9-18**).
- B. These Jews showed their ignorance of who Jesus is by saying He was not yet fifty years old (**Isaiah 9:6-7, Micah 5:2** [cf. **Matthew 2:1-6**], **John 1:1-5, Colossians 1:16, and Hebrews 1:8-12**).
1. Jesus established His godhood by saying He is the “I Am” (**Exodus 3:14**).
 2. Certainly, Jesus claiming to be the “I Am” would confuse the ignorant because of what other Scriptures say (**Isaiah 45:5-6, Isaiah 45:18, Isaiah 46:9**, etc.).
- C. Since the Jews were ignorant to the identity of Jesus, they sought to kill Him as their law taught them (**Leviticus 24:16**).
1. When Jesus talked of being deity, the Jews reacted by seeking to kill Him (**John 10:30-33**).
 2. As we’ve discussed before, they will not succeed until it is the right time (**John 7:30 and John 8:20**; cf. **Mark 14:41 and John 13:1**).