

## **John 8:12 – 59**

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~ In the last leg of our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God, we were with Jesus as a woman who had been caught in the very act of adultery was brought to Him by the Pharisee's in an attempt to entangle Jesus with His words concerning the Mosaic Law and what should happen to the woman. The Pharisee's didn't bring the man caught in the very act of adultery - only the woman, revealing it was nothing but a set-up. The Pharisee's weren't interested in stoning this woman - but they were interested in stoning Jesus for heresy! The Lord Jesus knew their hearts, so He did a very wonderful and marvelous work of grace. The Pharisees and scribes who were there were undeniably indicted for their fraud, tried and convicted by the Lord Jesus - and it was all done right in the Jew's own temple. The disposition was: the Pharisee's were in no position to be throwing stones. Of course, the Lord Jesus could have thrown all the stones He wanted to; but instead, He forgave this woman and sent her to sin no more. This was all done on the basis that the Lord Jesus had come to die on the cross and bear the sins of us all.

In this report, John follows his typical format of recording a miracle and then following it up with a discourse related to that particular subject or doctrinal field. Jesus makes the statement here again, "I am!" We have seen this occur again and again in the Old Testament. Jehovah said, "I am Who I am!" Frankly, we aren't told very much about God except that He is the self existing One; omnipotent, omniscient and all wisdom and power. Beyond that, we don't know much at all about God! The Lord Jesus came to this earth to reveal God to mankind. Learning the Scriptural truths that I am teaching in this so-called safari is the only way that revelation will ever occur. You don't have to learn it here - and you don't have to agree with me - but you'll have to learn Holy Writ somewhere if you want to know God properly, correctly and completely.

In this Gospel, Jesus has revealed Himself as the Bread of Life; and in this chapter He is referring to Himself as the "I am" again. He also says He is the

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light of the world. When we get to the tenth chapter, Jesus will be saying He is the Door. Only by Jesus, if any man enters, shall that man or woman be saved. If we enter that way, we will see Jesus as the Good Shepherd that giveth His life for the sheep. Jesus also makes the statement in this Gospel that He is the resurrection and the life – the way, the truth and the life – and that no man cometh unto the Father but by Him. Before this is all over, Jesus will also tell us how He is the genuine vine and how we are the branches.

By the time we are finished in this Book of John, we should have absorbed a great deal of light, learned more information about, and grown in the grace and knowledge of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ more than we ever have before. Otherwise, you didn't read these reports in the Spirit of God, friends. Every time you read this Gospel of Scripture from here forward in your life, new revelations should spring off of these pages like water flowing in the temple during the feast of tabernacles; or you just are not reading it correctly, properly and completely. We have already seen Jesus take the common place elements of life, such as bread and water and light, and use them to speak to the remarkable circumstances of our own lives. Many times, God uses the ordinary to explain the extraordinary – the physical to explain the spiritual. Jesus is the only One Who can use the temporal to teach the eternal; or the earthly to explain the Heavens.

The Holy Spirit uses our here and now to speak of our hereafter! God takes the limited to the unlimited and, in the finite, He speaks of the infinite. When Jesus says He is the light of the world, I suppose there is really nothing higher that could be said of Him. There is no higher plane Jesus could place Himself on than the light that enables our vision sensory perceptions. The light is holy, righteous and just. It shows us the way. The scribes and Pharisees that brought the woman to us in our last report were just as guilty as she was; and they had to flee Jesus teachings. When Christ turns on the light with sound doctrinal discourse, the rats, roaches, bats and bedbugs simply cannot hang around.

Light is probably the most complicated substantive matter mankind has to consider and examine. Of course, it is an essential of life. Life simply would

be impossible without light. The same is true of water. We have scientists who are very interested in finding other planets which may have water to sustain life. Interestingly, they rarely consider whether or not there is enough proper physical light there. Light is complicated, and we don't really know exactly what it is. Some scientists believe it is simply a wave. Others will tell you it isn't a wave at all but, rather, little particles of matter. Acting on these two principles, both of which seem to be paradoxically true, remarkable inventions have sprung forth.

Perhaps light is simply the absence of darkness. Naturally, the reverse may also be true. There is no color without light. A red rose isn't really red; it absorbs the entire spectrum of light except red and that's what we see, as some of you may know. A child knows nothing about any of this - but a very young child learns quickly to flip a light switch when they come into a dark room. Well, the Lord Jesus Christ is our spiritual light. As the sun makes physical light, He produces our Holy Light. Every ounce of light this world gets comes from the sun; and every ounce of spiritual light you get comes from the Lord Jesus Christ Himself!

Many people today are denying that Christ is the light of the world. They are walking in a lesser light - such as the moon or stars or, they have manufactured an altogether artificial light. Well, even the moon has no light of its own, only deflected light from the sun. And you may manufacture light - but without the sun as a source, you won't produce the electrical power to run your artificial light. The world, every nation, country, state, county, province, town and community on this earth owe absolutely everything to the Lord Jesus Christ. Without light there is no tomorrow. The world is experiencing the problems it is having because we are too far away from the light, spiritually speaking. All plants in all environments will mutate, yield poorly and even die if the light source is not proper for their environment. The world walks in abject darkness because men love darkness. As Christians, we are to walk in the light that is the Lord Jesus!

Now, let's be careful about this - because there are those who reduce it to the headlights on a car that some man manufactured and is now driving. They say we are to get in, take control of and drive the cars of our lives. I

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think that's a low plane of thinking that God deals extremely harshly with. No, friends, what we see here is the pillar of fire in the wilderness that Moses followed because it led the nation Israel through the wilderness. That is the sense in which we are to follow Him and look to Him as the light of the world. Notice what the Pharisee's reply was. A sharp conflict intensifies between the religious rulers and the Lord Jesus now. They are accusing Him of boasting when He claimed to be the light....

*12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*

*13 The Pharisees therefore said unto him, Thou bearest record of thyself; thy record is not true.*

*14 Jesus answered and said unto them, Though I bear record of myself, yet my record is true: for I know whence I came, and whither I go; but ye cannot tell whence I come, and whither I go.*

~ So, Jesus gives a three-fold reason why His own testimony of Himself is true. Jesus says He knows where He came from, and that was from Heaven. Jesus knows Himself because He is His own book. There are people who honestly believe they can tell you what happened on this earth a million plus years ago. The problem is: no man can tell you where they were just two hundred years ago. Man has no idea where He came from, friends – let's be honest with ourselves. Jesus knew where He came from. Further, the Pharisee's judged according to the flesh, but Jesus doesn't judge at all. The Lord Jesus was not here as our judge at the time in which we are studying, as we have said so many times before – Jesus was and is here as our SAVIOR. Christ is not judging according to the flesh today.

I hear many people tell others what they are going to say and do when they enter into the presence of Christ at the resurrection - both lost and saved. Well, that type of talk reveals an abject state of wholly fleshly-engineered thinking in a person. The fleshy man can always tell you what he thinks he is going to say when he appears before God for judgment. God says, "you have no idea what I am going to say to you in that day." Our judgment

down here is so extremely limited because it is a judgment of the flesh. We have no way of judging the hearts of others. This is the reason that science, with the most intriguing argument they can put forth – evolution – is nothing in the world but speculation.

The "assured and factual findings of science" contain subjective and highly fragmented factoids; but man runs with the latest discovery like they are an authority. It's pathetic, really. What this does is effectively divide people into those who accept speculation, and those who have received revelation. If you judge according to the flesh, you will, naturally, follow along with evolution and you will provide an exhaustive explanation for the origin of things and such – and you may even feel satisfied with that - for a while. If you judge in spiritual discernment, you will not judge in speculation, and you will not judge according to the flesh. Obviously, the natural man will tell you that YOU are the one accepting speculation when you judge spiritually. See, the blind man doesn't know if he is in a dark room or in the sunshine – it's all the same to him – the difference is the natural man might be able to feel some heat on his skin – no other discernment about what type of day or weather or conditions surround him, and he cannot realize immediate danger, either....

*15 Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man.*

*16 And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me.*

*17 It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true.*

*18 I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me.*

~ We have two accounts in the Word of God of the voice out of Heaven bearing witness to Jesus. Jesus also bore witness of Himself, and He gives three reasons which we considered earlier. Well, these Pharisees never let up from dogging Jesus about His suspicious birth, unless they are dogging Him about healing on the Sabbath. These Pharisees do not know God or

anything about Him. Notice how Jesus always speaks of His relationship with the Father in a different way than He speaks of OUR relationship with the Father. Our relationship is one that is through Him and through faith in what He will soon do in Jerusalem, according to the time period we are studying. We can only become children of God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus calls the Father such because of His position in the Trinity. Jesus is God - the Son. This has nothing to do with generations or regenerations, either. There is no Scriptural substantiation for any form of a generational God....

*19 Then said they unto him, Where is thy Father? Jesus answered; Ye neither know me, nor my Father: if ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also.*

*20 These words spake Jesus in the treasury, as he taught in the temple: and no man laid hands on him; for his hour was not yet come.*

*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.*

~ If you want to know the Father and have a relationship with Him you will have to come to Him through the Lord Jesus Christ, His Son. I have stressed that in no less than a calculated and over-bearing way because this safari will not mean much of anything to you once we leave the Gospels if you do not have this thinking and understanding to take along the way; in fact, it will be utterly meaningless from here without that mindset. The questions that are asked in verse nineteen and twenty-two reveal the thickness of darkness these people were in. They have no concept in their imaginations that Jesus has been teaching His disciples that He is going to Jerusalem to lay down His life in a redemptive death for their sins at the hands of the Gentiles and religious rulers. So, they ask, "... will He kill Himself?" They are incapable of conceiving that He will GIVE Himself a ransom for many. It's not part of their thinking, neither could it be; because they weren't

interested in the mind of Christ. We have that today in the lost man who continually rejects Christ as their Savior. What fools they really are....

*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.*

~ And here we go again with the "I am" - and the hypocrites of hate blindly and dumbly missing the point altogether. Compare this with the fifteenth chapter in first Corinthians. Paul is speaking there to those people about that which is earthy and that which is spiritual. The first man is the earthy man from earth, and the second man is the Lord Jesus Christ from Heaven. These people at this time were earthy.

Today, it is quite possible for the natural, earthly man to understand anything that another natural, earthly man can theorize or philosophize - verbally or written; or twist it into meaning something altogether different - providing that his intelligence quotient is equal to or above the next. Anything one man can reduce to math or otherwise work out logistically can also be done by the next man: and there's always someone a little sharper and a little bit brighter and just a little more edgy than you, too, by the way.

Divine and spiritual knowledge cannot be comprehended in a human capacity. While man's knowledge must be understood to be loved; the love of divine matters must be realized before its knowledge will be revealed to you. That just happens to be the way God does things in His realm. Only the Spirit of God can take these things of Christ and show them unto us. We only love God because He first loved us....

*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.*

~ This inevitably brings up the question of the heathen in the dark jungles of South America who may have never heard the Gospel. What happens if they die without learning of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus? Well, I don't answer "iffy" questions when I have no basis to form an



answer, but I do know this: the Bible says the Word of God went to all the earth from King Solomon and with the Queen of the South. A True and Living God has His Own way of getting those people the Gospel – they're His, too, friends! What we need to worry about is not the man in the jungle three thousand miles away – we need to worry about getting the Gospel to the neighborhood God has put us in to serve Him today. If you get the Word of God out where you're at today, then it will go to places you never even thought about taking it....

*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.*

~ So, here is the third question. First, the Pharisee's asked, "... Who is Your Father?" Second, they asked, "... Will He kill Himself?" And now they ask, "... Who are You?" They had no idea what His mission was; they had no clue what His work was - and they DID NOT know Him on any level. Well, Jesus has answered this question so many times concerning Himself it would probably just be a waste of time for Him to repeat it again. Jesus has told them He was the Messiah and that He is the Savior; and Jesus has told them in no uncertain terms that He is the Son of God in the flesh. Well, Jesus always says what He is going to do because that is what the Father sent Him to do....

*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.*

~ The Lord Jesus always does the will of the Father. Jesus never appeals to His own intellect or even His own knowledge of the Scriptures. To the young preacher today who likes to appear so intelligent and learned, may I say: it's the simplistic Gospel of truth that is vitally important to give to your flock today. Nothing else changes hearts and lives. You won't reach the atheist proving the Bible scientifically. You won't win a skeptic with apologetics. God says so. We need to be serving those groups some cold sweet milk. But we also have to remember, He said to feed His sheep. Jesus



never told us to feed His giraffe's. We have to know and understand the difference. Most people miss the point of this entirely, just as the apostles did, and do not know that Jesus is speaking to them of the Father....

*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.*

*30 As he spake these words, many believed on him.*

~ We are told in the Book of Acts that, after the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus, many Jews believed; and many Gentiles believed at that time, also. The redemptive death of Christ is what explains Him, friends - why He came to earth and Who He is. Some people erroneously believe this can be true without the virgin birth. Well, if you're saved then you'll believe in the virgin birth. See, you will never know Who He is until you know what He did for you. Faith alone saves, but the faith that saves will produce something in your life, my safari readers. This only happens when we continue in His Word.

The man or woman who is active in the church but is not interested in a sincere, systematic, proper, correct and complete study of the Word of God and what God says about all things – well, you better be super careful around that individual, friends; because they are dangerous - and they are out to destroy your faith and kill you. Are you continuing in His Word? Because, if not, then you just do not happen to be His disciple. That's the mark of a true apostle - the only mark. The Lord Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world – He is Who He says He is and believing in Him is what makes us free....

*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.*

*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?*

~ Jesus is laughing at the Pharisee's as we end this leg of our Spiritual Safari because these people had been in bondage in Egypt, Babylon and were currently under the iron yoke of Rome. To say they were never in bondage is ridiculous. All a religious ruler can do is misrepresent the facts. Strangely, it seems today that the more off-base an individual is, the more people will flock to and support their teaching. Well, we better get free in Christ, friends; or we are likely to be taken into any manner of bondage again. Most people blindly accept the mistake of thinking that conforming to this world is what will make you free. That's the great deception of Satan right now. Mankind is attempting to make this world a great place to go to hell in. Well, in this dark and miserable world that has rejected the Lord Jesus Christ, you can still come to Him, and He will still make you free. Only Christ can deliver you from the penalty of sins and the guilt, power and, someday, the presence of, sin....

*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.*

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

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

~ The Pharisee's insist that they are Abraham's children, but they are plotting to kill Jesus. When Jesus asks why they are plotting to kill Him - if

they are Abraham's seed - they say they don't know what He is talking about. Friends, these people already have a plan hatched to murder Jesus and, of course, they're denying it....

*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.*

*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.*

*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.*

*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.*

*43 Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.*

*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.*

~ If this doesn't answer, once and for all, the question regarding the 'universal fatherhood of god' and the 'universal brotherhood of mankind,' then you simply will not accept Scriptural reason as an answer, my friends. Anyone who says Jesus taught either of those heresies just happens to be completely and woefully ignorant of what the Lord Jesus taught. Jesus is saying the religious ruler's father is the devil. These are not children of God, although they sure claim to be. We have more of this going on right now than you can imagine, too. If all the masks were removed right now you would be utterly terrified to see who you are dealing with in your life. So would they.

This world is in BIG trouble today as nations meet at a conference table with other children of the devil and try to work out the problems they have made. They make agreements they have no intention of keeping. They always seem to call themselves children of God. People are being taken in by false teaching by the billions today. Our supposedly wise diplomats and seemingly smart politicians just happen to be working on a wrong premise altogether. The Bible does not teach ANYTHING that is currently being espoused as wisdom by this world, and this world has turned its back on God wholesale; in all governments, industries, universities - and in the home, too. This world is full of the children of the devil who are claiming they are the sons of the Lord Jesus Christ – Whom they do not know. Is that antagonistic to you? – Too bad, friends – pray about obtaining the ability to change your mind-set. I know everyone wants to think we are all nice, sweet brothers and sister and we should just have one huge world orgy together. But if you're standing for the truth, you're going to do what the Lord Jesus did and DENOUNCE that which is evil and that which is wrong and ANY teaching that is error! And that's exactly what the Lord Jesus is going to do now....

*45 And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.*

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

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

*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.*

*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.*

*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 ~*

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