The Unadulterated Truth Shall Set You Free
2/11/2018
Sunday AM

Scripture: John 8:31-47
Introduction

- Last Sunday we talked about Feasting on Crumbs.
- We learned that if we humble ourselves, we can feast off what the world sees as crumbs.
- We asked the question, **Are others able to live off or your leftovers?**
- This morning we are going to look at **The Unadulterated Truth Shall Set You Free.**
- In a world of lies and misinformation, truth has become relative to what individuals say it is.
- Not just any "truth" sets you free, only the unadulterated truth really sets you free.
- **Unadulterated**: not mixed or diluted with any different or extra elements; complete and absolute.

John 8:31-47

31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.
32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 33 They answered him, "We are Abraham's
descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" 34 Jesus replied,
"I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. 35 Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but
a son belongs to it forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. 37 I know you are Abraham's
descendants. Yet you are ready to kill me, because you have no room for my word. 38 I am telling you what I
have seen in the Father's presence, and you do what you have heard from your father." 39 "Abraham is our
father," they answered. "If you were Abraham's children," said Jesus, "then you would 40 do the things Abraham
did. As it is, you are determined to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham
did not do such things. 41 You are doing the things your own father does." "We are not illegitimate children,"
they protested. "The only Father we have is God himself."
42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I
have not come on my own; but he sent me. 43 Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to
hear what I say. 44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a
murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his
native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. 45 Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! 46 Can
any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? 47 He who belongs to God
hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

- V.31 – Jesus gives us the definition of what a true disciple is. "If you hold to me teahing…"
- The Greek word used here for "hold" is *menō* which means "to remain, abide, to continue to be present, to be held, kept continually."
- **Does this mean that if you <u>do not</u> hold or continue in His teaching, you are <u>not</u> really a disciple?**
- V. 32 – This is a popular verse of Scripture that is quoted often, however it is often watered down.
- It is only after you have done what v. 31 says, that you can even know what the truth is.
- **What is this truth that Jesus is speaking of?**
- He is talking about the truth of His Word, the message of the Gospel.
- He is not talking simply about anything that may be a truth, He is talking about THE Truth.
- The verse goes on to say that "the truth will set you free." **What is that talking about?**
- Very simply, the truth of the Gospel will set your free from the bondage of sin and death; it will save you.
- Vv. 33-36 – They began to argue with Jesus about their heritage and not being slaves.
- Jesus reminds them that anyone that has sinned as be in slavery to sin.
- He uses an analogy of a slave in a household. The slave is not part of the family, but a son is.
- Jesus goes on to tell them that "if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."
- This was His blunt way of letting them know that He is the Son of God and can grant them freedom from sin, if they will only listen to what He is saying.

- Vv. 37-38 – Jesus begins to get very direct with these Jews and He admits to them that they are Abraham's decedents, yet they have no room for His word.
- He gets very direct with them in v. 38 when He tells them, "I am telling you what I have seen in the Father's presence, and you do what you have heard from your father."
- Vv.39-41 - They take offense to these words and repeat that "Abraham is our father."
- Jesus responds and says, "If you were Abraham's children…then you would do what Abraham did."
- He reminds them that they are looking for a way to kill Him despite Him telling them the truth from God.
- Again, He explains that they are doing the works of their own father.
- They respond to Him at the end of v. 41 "We are not illegitimate children…The only Father we have is God himself."

- Vv. 42-43 - Jesus gets extremely real with them and responds, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me."
- He then goes on to ask them, "Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say."
- Jesus had been speaking very clearly to them, but until they hold to His teachings, they cannot understand the truth.
- V. 44 – Up to this point Jesus had not told them flat out who their father was, but he does now. He says, "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."
- V. 45-46 – He continues by asking them why they do not believe Him when they cannot prove Him guilty of sin.
- V. 47 - This is the most hard hitting, Jesus says, "He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

- Jesus did not mince words with His audience in this passage, He told them The Unadulterated Truth.
- This was not something that they wanted to hear, but it was something that they needed to hear.
- We are living in a world that really is much worse than even what was experienced in this verse.
- **What is the best way to reach the world for Jesus?**
- For years the church has been trying to "water down" truth to make it more palatable for the world to accept
- **How has that been working out?**
- The percentage of people that are identifying as unbelievers is growing at a staggering rate and churches are emptying.
- When you alter the truth, you make it a lie.
- We must return to "Speaking the truth in love" as Ephesians 4:15 says.
- All that I am asking this morning is that we follow Jesus' example in this passage.
- **Are you comfortable with being Christlike when it looks like the passage we just read?**

Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study

Heaven

Part III: Grasping Redemptions far Reach

Chapters 8-10
This World Is Not Our Home…or Is It?
Why Is Earth's Redemption Essential to God's Plan?
What Will It Mean for the Curse to Be lifted?