

THE TRUE DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

In our last study we learned that John, Chapter 8 was the third of five Temple Discourses (John 7:10-10:21). We also learned that Jesus taught during the Feast of Tabernacles in the treasury section of the Temple (John 7:2, 14, 37; 8:20).

In this lesson, we are interested in the first of three Truly, Truly messianic doctrines taught in that third Temple Discourse (John 8:34, 51, 58).

<p style="text-align: center;">Four aspects of the first Truly, Truly messianic doctrine entitled: THE TRUE DISCIPLE OF CHRIST</p>

1. The first of the three Truly, Truly messianic doctrine was taught to new believers.

(Jn.8:30-31) "As He spoke (laleo/ p.a.ptc) these things, many (polus) **came to believe** (pisteuo/ a.a.ind.3pl) [transitive verb - merit is in the object of faith] **in Him**. So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed (pisteuo/ perf.a.ptc.3pl) Him."

WITNESS OF THE CROSS:

(Jn.3:14) "**When** (hotan) **you lift up** (hupsoo/ a.a.subj.2pl) **the Son of Man, then** (tote) **you will know** (ginosko/ f.m.ind.2pl)."

FIVE THINGS TO KNOW:

(Jn.8:28-29) "**that** (hoti)

- I am He, and
- I do nothing on My own initiative, but
- I speak (laleo/ p.a.ind.1ps) these things as the Father taught (didasko/ a.a.ind.3ps) Me. And
- He who sent Me is with Me; He has not left Me alone, for
- I always do the things that are pleasing to Him."

2. Jesus encouraged these new believers to become True Disciples.

(Jn.8:31-32) "So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "**If** (3cc / maybe) you continue (meno/ a.a.subj.2pl) in My word, **then you are truly disciples of Mine**; and **you will know (ginosko/ f.m.ind.2pl) the truth, and the truth (he aletheia) will make you free (eleutheroo/ f.a.ind.3ps)**."

Formula: (KBD) + (FHS) = T

(Knowledge of Bible Doctrine) PLUS (The filling ministry of The Indwelling Holy Spirit) equals that TRUTH that makes the True Disciple **spiritually free** in a world of Cosmos Diabolicus (Worldly Thinking) that opposes Divine Viewpoint Thinking (2Cor.10:3-5).

Principle:

Categorical Bible Doctrine (CBD) cycled into the soul becomes that Spiritual Truth (Divine Viewpoint) that enables the believer to walk, Spiritually Free! (2 Tim.3:16-17)

3. Pay attention to their response with a statement and a question:

(Jn.8:33) “They answered (apokrinomai/ a.p.ind.3pl) Him, ‘We are Abraham’s descendants (racial Jews) and have **never yet** been enslaved (douleo/perf.a.ind.1pl) to anyone; how is it that you say, You will become free?’”

Their emphasis was on their physical birth, not on their spiritual birth (regeneration). They believed they would go to Abraham’s bosom at death because of ritual circumcision - without being born again (Acts 15:1, 5; Luke 16).

As Abraham’s descendants, they have never been in bondage to anyone since Egypt. This is either profound ignorance or denial regarding their own history! (Assyrians, Babylon, Medo-Persians, Graeco-Macedonians, and presently Romans).

Personally, unwilling to accept the spiritual truth based on the Word of God, will hinder them in their spiritual growth. Spiritual growth is necessary in becoming a True Disciple of Jesus Christ (2 Pet.3:18).

(Jn. 8:31) “If you continue in My word, then you are truly My disciples.”

4. This led to Jesus’ first Truly, Truly messianic doctrine regarding a true disciple’s spiritual freedom (Jn.8:34-38).

Jesus began with a fundamental doctrine for common spiritual agreement. This would go something like this.

We can certainly agree that **“Everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.”** (Jn.8:34)

Then He moved to a common ground of contrast between a **son and slave** (Jn.8:35-36).

Then He challenged them personally on biblical grounds of common Mosaic Law (Jn.8:37; Ex.20:13) The 6th commandment (Gal.3:8, 16).

We learn that it is possible to be SAVED and never become a **TRUE DISCIPLE** (Jn.8:31-32, 36).

(Gal.5:1 **“It is for freedom that Christ sets us free; therefore, keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery (Law).”**

[Paul’s discussion on the issue of circumcision]

(Gal.5:2-12) “Behold I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will be of no benefit to you. And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he is under obligation to keep the whole Law. You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace. For we through the Spirit, by faith, are waiting for the hope of righteousness. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but faith working through love.

You were running well; who hindered you from obeying the truth? This persuasion *did not come* from Him who calls you. A little leaven leavens the whole lump *of dough*. I have confidence in you in the Lord that you will adopt no other view; but the one who is disturbing you will bear his judgment, whoever he is. But I, brethren, if I still preach circumcision, why am I still persecuted? Then the stumbling block of the cross has been abolished. I wish that those who are troubling you would even mutilate themselves.