

## **WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?**

Religious Jews asked this rhetorical question haven been relentless with their sarcastic interrogative questions in John 8.

(Jn 8:53) "Surely You are not greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets died too; **whom do You make Yourself out to be?**" (Jn 8:51-53)

Jesus will identify who He is by three characteristics in (Jn.8:54-56). They respond in (Jn 8:57); and Jesus gave them the third Truly, Truly messianic doctrine in (Jn 8:58). Then they picked-up stones to kill Him in (Jn 8:59).

**This lesson will study four aspects of the apostate Jews question, "Who do you think you are?"**

- **An old saying**, "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen."
- **Apostate Jews view**, "If you can't stand the heat, kill the cook."

### **1. Rhetorical questioning is either based upon:**

- Positive volition (PV) attempting to seek truth, not understanding the importance of sitting quietly under a spiritual teacher and learn like the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4).
- Negative volition (NV) attempting to seek a way to destroy the message or the messenger like these religious Jews attacking Jesus (Jn 8:6, 37, 40-41, 59).

### **2. The doctrinal principle learned from Job:**

- False assumptions lead to
  - False expectations, which lead to
    - False interpretations, resulting in
      - False applications

(2 Cor.4:4) "In whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

(Jn 8:53) "Surely you are not greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets died too; **whom do You make Yourself out to be?**"

These religious Jews are saying to Jesus, "We are convinced You are not who You pretend to be when presenting Yourself to others. We consider this to be blasphemous to even think it, let alone to say it."

- **They would be correct, if what He said isn't true! (John 14:6) [What does the Bible say?]**

### **3. Jesus responded with three absolute truths of His identity with God (Jn 8:54-56).**

- **My glory of God** comes from God, My Father.  
(Jn 8:54) "If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say, 'He is our God'"

- **My knowledge of God** comes from My Son-Father relationship. [oida vs ginosko]  
(Jn 8:56) Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw *it* and was glad.”
- **My Day of God** was seen by your father Abraham. He saw and rejoiced and was glad in it.  
(Jn 8:57) So the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?”

**Question:** How did Abraham (21st.century BC) **see** (horao/ perf.a.ind) the Day of Christ (1st.century AD)?

(Gal.3:16) “Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, ‘And to seeds,’ as referring to many, but **rather to one**, ‘And to your seed,’ that is, **Christ**.”

(Gal.3:8) “The **Scriptures**, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the **gospel beforehand to Abraham**, saying, ‘All the nations will be blessed in You.’” (Gen.12; 15; 17; 22)

#### 4. Once again, these apostate Jews misquote Jesus.

(Jn 8:57) “So the Jews said to Him, ‘You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?’”

**Question:** Were you paying attention? What did Jesus tell them in (Jn 8:56)?

(Jn 8:57) “Abraham rejoiced to see My Day, and he saw it and was glad.”

They are not focused on listening to learn in order to live by what they are learning. They are connecting the dots as important.

- **Jews:** They are not listening for details to the directive will of God. They are listening to attack and destroy the message and messenger.
- **Jesus:** ‘Therefore I say to you that you will die in your sins; for **unless you believe that I am He**, you will die in your sins.’ (Jn 8:24)