

Title:

Text: John ~~13-20~~ 8:13-20

Take your Bibles, please and turn to John chapter 8. The Gospel of John chapter 8 and beginning with verse 13. Last Sunday we looked at the claim that Jesus make in Vs 12. His claim to b the LIGHT OF THE WORLD. Today, I want to look at the conflict that His calim brought both in the time of Jesus, as well as in our time.

John chapter 8 beginning with Vs 13...(Read Vs 13-20)

PRAYER

Now, we are looking at this opposition that is building towards the claims of Jesus to be God. And this is taking place at the Feast of Tabernacles. (1D) First Jesus claimed to be living water. (2D) Secondly, Jesus claimed to be the light of the World.

Now, when Jesus claimed to be the LIGHT OF THE WORLD ths resulted in tremndous conflict. And that is what I want to look at today. 4E on your outline. The conflict rsulting from the claim of Jesus to be the light of the world.

The Pharisees said in Vs 13, "YOUR WITNESS IS NOT TRUE."

Now, what did they mean by that? Did they have any evidence" Well, the meaning is that it is not trustworthy, or reliable. Because they thought He was the only one giving this witness.

In that day, and it is somewhat true today, that a man's testimony to his own character is not considered valuable if there are no other witnesses. So, there statement is, Well you are the only one saying this and you are bearing witness of yourself, and your witness is not trustworthy.

By the way, Jesus also said this. Look back at John 5 verse 31. Jesus said, "if I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true."

Now, it is true in the sense of literal facts. But it issue is trustworth. If a man bear witness of his own character, it is not trustworth until someone else agrees and bears witness that that is true.

That reminds me of Proverbs 27:2 which says, "let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and you your own lips."

To often we are jumping on our own band wagon and parading our skills and talents and abilities before others. And the Bible warns us to never parade ourselves. ~~Yes~~ But to let others praise you.

So, the issue is important, here. How do we know you are telling the truth? Can we count on it?

(3) Third, in Verse 14 to 19 we have the confirmation of His witness. It is confirmed that it is the truth. And there are four things, here, that I want you to see.

(1) One, his own experience is important. Vs 14 ^{Jesus} says "Even if I bear witness of myself, my witness is true; for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know,"

The point is that Jesus knew better than anyone else. Because he had experience it. It is a remainder of His heavenly origin. He came into the world. He knew from where he had come. And that was heaven. And he knows where He is going. Back to heaven. And this was the reason for his authority. And gives proof to his authority. He had no other witness. His witness is true because the experience was true. But, in the ~~yes~~ eyes of people, it had not yet been confirmed.

(2) Then the second thing that I want you to notice is the evaluation they were making. Vs 15. Jesus said: "You people judge according to the flesh; I am not judging any one."

Now, that is not flesh in contrast to spirit. Meaning: carnal christians vs. spiritual christians. That is not the point here at all. Judging after the flesh, here, is judging external appearance.

Now, fact it. When they saw Jesus they really had a problem. Because he wore the common clothes of the common person. And so they are judging by external appearance. The way he appeared. He could possible be/ have authority. Because the men of authority, whether they were civil or religious, when you saw them, both, you knew who they were. They had the robes and dress that was setting them apart in their position and authority. Not, Jesus ...he was like a man off the street. A common man.....

Jesus said, "Listen, you are judging after the flesh; I am not judging anyone.

Now, Christ does judge people. He is the great judge that we are going to face one day. The point here is that "I judge no man in that manner." After the flesh, according to appearance.

The Bible says in 1 Samuel 16:7 says that man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." And I am thankful that he doesn't judge me by appearance. No matter what we look like, no matter what our manner of dress is, that is not the way Jesus evaluates people. And for that I am thankful. He takes you as you are. And He knows what you are. Because he knows what goes on inside of you.

(3) The third thing is the evidence of his heavenly father. The evidence of his heavenly father in Vs 16-18.(Read 16-18)

"I am not alone" meaning "in the judgement of things"...He was one in purpose with the one who went me. He mentions, also, from the O.T. Vs 17, that the law said that the testimony of two men was true. You will find that in Deut. 17 verse 6. And also in chapter 19 vese 15. And you will, also, find Jesus using it in Matthew 18 verses 15-16. That in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word is established or confirmed.

His point here is that the heavenly Father is bearing witness of him. NOW, HOW WAS THE HEAVENLY FATHER BEARING WITNESS OF HIM?

He did so at the Baptism of Jesus. A voice from heaven said: "This is my beloved son, hear him." He has authority. Listen to Him.

But, also, according to Jesus the Father was bearing witness by the miracles that were being performed. "If you don't believe me," said Jesus, "at least believe the works that I am doing." "The heavenly Father," He said, is working in me. The heavenly Father bore witness that Jesus was the Messiah by the fact that the miracles and the signs that Jesus did only fulfilled the O.T. scriptures....They completely fulfilled them...Jesus performed the miracles that the Messiah was to perform. So, the heavenly Father bore witness to him.

(4) Then fourth, I would like you to notice the extent of their ignorance.
In Vs 19 these religious leaders said: "Where is your Father?" That is a smart remark...WHERE IS HE?.....

You say, "why was it a smart remark? Why were they being smart?" Well, we will see this later on in John. But their remark centered around the birth of Jesus. They felt that Mary was guilty of adultery.

Notice the answer of Jesus. This is not a sweet remark. Jesus, I believe was angry. He said: "You know neither me, nor my Father; if you knew me, you would know my Father, also,"

The extent of man's ignorance is that when he doesn't know Jesus, he doesn't know the ~~father~~//~~either~~/ heavenly Father.

In John 14 Philip said "show us the Father." And Jesus said, "Have I been with you for so long, Philip, and you have not known me. He who has seen me, has seen the Father."

In Matthew chapter 11 verse 27 Jesus said that all things are delivered over to me by my father; and no one knows the Son, except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father, except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal Him."

~~Listen~~ Listen, if Jesus doesn't reveal God the Father to you, you will not know Him....If you don't know Jesus, you will not know the heavenly Father. That is what Jesus said.

And in spite of the fact that these men were religious leaders ~~and~~//
~~ke~~/ they did not know the heavenly Father, nor did they know Jesus.

Jesus said in John 10:30 "I and my Father are one.".....If you have
seen me, you have seen the Father...

Every attribute and characteristic of the heavenly Father was manifested
by Jesus. They were one. One in essences and being. Different in function.
(4) Finally, notice the consequences in John 8:20The Consequences...
Vs 20.."These words He spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the Temple;
and no one seized Him, because His hour had not yet come."

They wanted to. And even today, hearing his claims, men want to ~~seize~~
seize him . You just go out and tell folks who Jesus is and watch their
reactions. Many will laugh...Many will think you are crazy....Many will
just shake their heads.....Man, you don't believe that stuff? DO YOU BELIEVE
IT?.....So, many people when they hear what the Bible says about Jesus,
that is when they check it off. Oh, they like Jesus. He was a good man,
a good teacher, a good prophet, but God. I am not sure of that.

Listen, I find that the one who has really believed in Christ is one
who has confessed that Jesus is Lord..... And that word "LORD" translates
into the Hebrew word "JEHOVAH". The very name Jesus means "JEHOVAH SAVES."
Salvation is here. And Jehovah has brought it.

Do you believe in Jesus? If you do you will never walk in darkness.
And you will have eternal life.

Let's close in prayer