

I want us to picture this setting. Jesus and these Jews are going back and forth. Jesus is giving them the truths of the Scriptures, and of history, and of Abraham's personal testimony. The more Jesus speaks the madder they become. They really get on the defensive. This is not a friendly conversation.

When the pressure is put on the flesh, the flesh will be manifested. If there is a certain area you really take pride in, when that area is attacked or questioned, if you are operating in the flesh, your chest will poke out and your heart rate will increase, your eyes will narrow, and you are ready to jump on someone.

If the truth is what is putting the pressure on you, and you refuse to hear the truth, you will hate the truth.

Any of you ever get on the scales and not like the numbers you see? How often have you said these scales must be off? You may go back a time or two, but it isn't long and you quit going to the scales; because when you do you have to face the truth.

How many of you ever got mad at the alarm clock when it is going off? You got mad because of the truth; it was time to get up and you didn't like the truth because you wanted to sleep longer.

The scales insulted your flesh and the alarm clock irritated your flesh, so now you hate both of them. All they did was tell you the truth.

Jesus is speaking the truth to these Jews. The truth is revealing where they are at spiritually. They don't like what Jesus Christ is saying. Look back at verses 30-32.

These are marks of a genuine believer. A genuine believer is a lover of the truth. You love the truth because the truth makes you free. The truth sets you free from assumptions and traditions of men. The truth gives you peace in your soul. The truth gives you peace and confidence in life and in death.

Some don't like the truths of the Scriptures because then it reveals the truth about their parents, grandparents, loved ones, etc...

They cannot bear the thought of their loved ones being in hell. So they hate the truth. When we get to verse 43 we will understand more about this.

Verse 39- Abraham is our father.

Here they are again looking to other things and people instead of looking to Christ. Jesus again gives them truth.

verse 39- If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.

children- true children; genuinely descendants.

The word would is in the imperfect tense. This means that if they were the true children of Abraham they would have been doing, in the past to the present, the works of Abraham.

Let's look at a few things about Abraham.

James 2:23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

Isaiah 41:8 But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend.

II Chronicles 20:7 Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever?

friend- to have affection for.

God had affection for Abraham. God loves Abraham.

I John 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.

Genesis 18:19 For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

justice- righteousness, blameless conduct, and integrity.

For Abraham to do justice is for Abraham to imitate His heavenly Father in righteousness and justice.

judgment- doing right in the Lords eyes.

Proverbs 21:3 To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

Proverbs 21:15 It is joy to the just to do judgment: but destruction shall be to the workers of iniquity.

It is a joy for someone who loves the Lord to do right in the Lords eyes. The Lord does that which is right, all the time. It is a joy for us who love the Lord to do right also. Not just with words and surely not with trying to pay off the Lord.

Verse 39- If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.

The works of Abraham are to live a life of integrity, blameless conduct, and to do right in the Lords eyes. Abraham would do this because he loved the Lord. Abraham didn't do this to be saved, he did this because he was saved. This is consistent with all who are saved. We live a life of repentance because we want to please our heavenly Father and we want to do right in His eyes because we love Him. This is part of the sanctification process. As we grow in the Word we get closer to the Lord; as we get closer to the Lord we see more sin in our lives and we repent of that sin. Again, this is not to be saved, but is a result of salvation.

We bring forth fruit worthy of repentance and we continue to do this.

If you and I are not in the Word consistently, every day, we will not live like this. The flesh will begin to have the preeminence in our lives and we will lose our joy in salvation.

We will be angry with the scales and the alarm clock. We will stay away from them. We may be forced to deal with the alarm clock, but we do it grudgingly. This is a miserable person. If your lifestyle is rebellion towards God's Word then the love of the Father is not in you.

Jesus tells them if they were truly Abraham's children they would be doing the works of Abraham. Abraham loved and obeyed the truth. He embraced it.

Verse 40- But, here comes the difference. "Ye seek to kill me". Notice why: a man that hath told you the truth; Ever since Jesus hath told them the truth, they have desired to kill Him.

Verse 40- which I have heard of God:

At the moment Christ told them the truth which came from God, they hated the truth and the One proclaiming it, and from Whom it came. They loved religion and would only use the Word of God for their advantage.

Matthew 15:1-9

The Word of God went against many of their traditions. They were against anything and anyone that would confront them. They didn't like dealing with conviction and they didn't like dealing with the truth. They may have to deal with the alarm clock, but they refuse to get on the scales.

Verse 40- this did not Abraham.

Abraham loved the truth and those who proclaimed the truth. He looked for the city whose builder and maker is God. He followed by faith and desired to live a life well pleasing to the Lord.

Some of you may deal with the evidences of a new day, but you refuse to get on the scales of the Word of God because it tells you what you don't want to hear and it shows you what you don't want to see. You may not want to see or hear it, but it doesn't change the facts. Thank God for His truth.

What does the Word of God say about you? To God be the glory.