

“Who Art Thou?”
John 8:25-30

Introduction:

1. In Matthew 17:
 - Jesus Took Three Of His Disciples:
 - Peter & James & John:
 - “Into A High Mountain!”
 - And Was Transfigured:
 - Before Them! Shining Forth His Glory!
 - What A Remarkable Scene:
 - This Must Have Been!
 - As Jesus’ “Face Did Shine As The Sun, And His Raiment Was White As Light!”
 - But - As Great As This Sight Was!
 - A Greater Sign:
 - Would Follow!
 - Because Then - Matthew Records That:
 - “A Bright Cloud Overshadowed Them: And Behold A Voice Out Of The Cloud, Which Said, This Is My Beloved Son, In Whom I Am Well Pleased; Hear Ye Him!”
 - This Was God The Father’s Own Testimony:
 - About Jesus - As:
 - His Only Begotten Son!
 - And - Because Of:
 - The Father’s Great Love For Jesus - And:
 - Because Of His Great Pleasure In Jesus:
 - He Called On His Disciples:
 - To Hear Him!
 - And - For The Most Part:
 - They Did!
2. But - As We Turn Back In Our Bibles:
 - To John 8 - We Come To A Different Scene!
 - Because - All Throughout This Chapter:
 - Jesus Has Been Engaged:
 - With Another Crowd:
 - As He Taught At The Temple:
 - There In Jerusalem!
 - And - As He Taught:
 - He Met Up With Two Kinds Of People!
 - Those Who Were:
 - Humble Toward Him! Like His Disciples!
 - So That They Listened:
 - To What Jesus Had To Say! They Heard Him!
 - Sadly - Those Who Had Humble Hearts:
 - Seem To Be Few & Far Between!
 - Because - There Were Also Those Who Were:
 - Hardened Toward Him!
 - So That They Only Heard:
 - What They Wanted To Hear From Jesus!
 - To The Point Of Ignoring:
 - What They Really Needed To Hear From Jesus!
2. In 8:20-24 - Jesus Confronted:
 - The Unbelief:
 - In Those Whose Hearts:
 - Where Hard!
 - Even Saying To Them:
 - 8:24 - “I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins!”
 - Though To Some:

- These Words May Sound Harsh!
 - But - Coming From Jesus:
 - They Were Nothing But:
 - Grace & Truth Flowing:
 - From His Lips!
 - But - How Would The People:
 - Respond To Jesus This Time?
 - Would They Listen? Would They “Hear” Him?
 - Well - At The Beginning Of 8:25:
 - We Have Our Answer!
3. “Then Said They Unto Him, Who Art Thou?”
 - Now - If Their Hearts Were Humble:
 - They Might Have Asked This Question:
 - Honestly - Though Out Of Ignorance!
 - “*Who Are You?*”
 - And - They Might Have Had Their Answer Yet!
 - But - I Think Its Clear Once Again:
 - That Most Of Their Hearts Were Still Hard!
 - And So - They Asked This Question:
 - Out Of Skepticism & Scorn!
 - “Who *Are* You?”
 - “Who *Are You*” - To:
 - Say These Things:
 - About Yourself!
 - “Who *Are You*” - To:
 - Say These Things:
 - About Us!
4. Well - Whether Their Hearts:
 - Were Humble Or Hard:
 - Jesus Answers Them Once Again:
 - In A Way:
 - That Only He Could!
 - In A Way:
 - That Should Have Caused Them:
 - To Hear Him:
 - And Believe!
 - Let’s Look At The Rest Of:
 - 8:25-30 - “Then said they unto him, Who art thou? And Jesus saith unto them, Even the same that I said unto you from the beginning. / I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him. / They understood not that he spake to them of the Father. / Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. / And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him. / As he spake these words, many believed on him!”
5. In These Verses:
 - Jesus Tells Us Once Again:
 - Who He Is - From His Own Perspective!
 - And It Mirrors Who:
 - God The Father:
 - Said He Was - Back On The Mount Of Transfiguration!
 - And All They Needed To Do:
 - Was Hear Him - Fully!
 - And Believe!
 - And - In These Verses:
 - Jesus Reminds Us Of Two Things!
 - The Kind Of Message:
 - He Brought To Us! And:
 - The Kind Of Messenger:

- He Is To Us!
- And - Because Of:
 - Who He Is:
 - We Need To Hear Him - Fully!
 - And Believe / Trust Him!
 - Following Him With All Our Heart!
- And So - In 8:25-26:
 - Jesus First Reminds Them & Us About:

1. *The Kind Of Message He Brought!*

- Even To Us!
 - Though Jesus Was Asked:
 - “Who Are You?”
 - Once Again, Jesus Responds To Them:
 - With The Answer:
 - They Needed Most!
 - And So - 8:25b-26
 - “And Jesus saith unto them, Even the same that I said unto you from the beginning. / I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him!”
- Now - If They Had Been Listening - Jesus Already Told Them:
 - Who He Was! Already In John’s Gospel:
 - Jesus Revealed Himself As:
 - The Son Of God!
 - Who Was The Sovereign God!
 - The Great “I Am!”
 - Bread Of Life!
 - Light Of The World!
 - And - Jesus Already Revealed Himself As:
 - The Son Of Man!
 - Who Was Their Savior!
 - And So - Instead Of:
 - Repeating Himself - Jesus Calls On Them:
 - To Remember His Message!
 - About Himself! Because:
 - It Was:
- A Clear Message!
 - This Is Why - In 8:25b - Jesus Said:
 - “Even The Same That I Said Unto You From The Beginning!”
 - That Is - Jesus Never Hid:
 - Who He Was From Them!
 - And - He & His Message Never Changed!
 - Instead - He Shined Forth:
 - His Identity:
 - As The Light That He Was!
 - But - Did They Listen?
 - Did They Hear Him?
 - John Already Told Us:
 - Back In 1:5 - That:
 - Though - “The Light Shineth In Darkness” - Yet - “The Darkness Comprehended It Not!”
 - But Still - Jesus Message Was Clear!
 - It Was Also:
 - A Compassionate Message!
 - In 8:26 - Jesus Continued:
 - “I Have Many Things To Say And To Judge Of You!”
 - Though The Unbelieving Crowd Was More Fixed On:
 - *Who* Jesus Was - Jesus Was More Fixed On:

- **What** He Had To Say!
 - And - There Was Much More:
 - That They Needed To Hear!
- Including The Fact That:
 - He Would Be Their Judge!
 - But - Wait - Didn't Jesus Say:
 - Back In 8:15 - "I Judge No Man?"
 - True - But As We Saw There:
 - He Was Talking About His Own:
 - His Purpose & Perspective:
 - Compared To Theirs!
- Since Jesus Is The Judge Of All The Earth:
 - His Perspective Is Different Than Theirs!
 - 8:15 - "Ye Judge After The Flesh; I Judge No Man!"
 - In The Way That You Do!
 - Instead - Jesus Judges According To The Heart!
 - But Also:
- Even Though Jesus Is The Judge Of All The Earth:
 - His Purpose - In The Present:
 - Is Different Than His Purpose:
 - In The Future!
 - 8:26 - Jesus **Did** Have:
 - "Many Things To Say And To Judge Of Them!"
 - But - This Was Not The Time For That!
- He Came This Time:
 - In His Role As Their Savior - Not:
 - As Judge!
 - And - His Message Was One:
 - Of Mercy & Compassion!
 - Even As Peter Tells Us:
 - In 2 Peter 3:15 - "And Account That The Longsuffering Of Our Lord Is Salvation!"
 - And - Listen To / Hear Him!
 - But - Even More - Jesus Message Was:
 - A Consistent Message!
 - Consistent To The Truth:
 - Of God Himself!
 - As Jesus Said Again In 8:26b:
 - "But He That Sent Me Is True!"
 - Already In John:
 - Jesus Revealed That:
 - He Was True:
 - In His Person! (7:18)
 - In His Witness! (8:14) And:
 - In His Judgment! (8:16)
 - But - The Truth He Revealed:
 - Was Not Just His Own Truth!
 - It Was The Truth:
 - Of God The Father!
 - And - There Was Never A Time:
 - When His Truth:
 - Was Different Than:
 - The Truth Of The One Who Sent Him!
 - And So - Both He & His Message:
 - Could Be Trusted!
 - Absolutely Consistent!
 - But Also - His Message Was:
 - A Comprehensive Message!
 - Because - 8:26b:

- It Was A Message - Jesus Said:
 - "I Speak To The World Those Things Which I Have Heard Of Him!"
- The Words Jesus Said:
 - **To** Them - Were Not Just **For** Them!
 - They Were For:
 - The World!
- And So - When The Crowd Asked Jesus:
 - "Who **Are You?**"
 - Jesus Tells Them Instead:
 - To Hear / Listen To His Message!
- And Because His Message:
 - Is Clear & Compassionate & Consistent & Comprehensive:
 - His Message Reveals:
 - Who He Is!
- His Message Is The Gospel!
 - And - The Gospel Is What Tells Us:
 - That Jesus Is "God With Us!"
 - Emmanuel! Christmas!
 - And That - He Is "A Just God And A Savior; There Is None Beside (Him)!" (Isaiah 45:21)
- And - We Need Hear Him:
 - Because Of The Kind Of Message:
 - That He Has Brought:
 - Even To Us! In Our Sin & Darkness & Doubt!
 - There Is No Clearer Message:
 - Than The Gospel Message!
 - And:
 - There Is No More Compassionate & Consistent & Comprehensive Message:
 - Than The Gospel Message!
- But - How Did The People Respond?
 - 8:27 - "They understood not that he spake to them of the Father!"
 - Their Unbelief Still Clouded:
 - Their Understanding Of Jesus & His Message! Still!
 - And So - Jesus:
 - Reminds Them & Us Even More About:

2. ***The Kind Of Messenger He Is!***

- Even To Us!
 - So - 8:28-29 - "Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. / And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him!"
 - Once Again - Jesus Does Not Hide:
 - Who He Is! And:
 - He Reveals Even Further:
 - That He Is:
- The Prophetic Messenger:
 - Who Already Knows Everything:
 - That Would Be Done *To Him*:
 - *By Them!* Again - 8:28a:
 - "When Ye Have Lifted Up The Son Of Man, Then Shall Ye Know That I Am He!"
 - Jesus Already Used This Reference:
 - To Nicodemus - Back In 3:14-15:
 - "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up! / That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life!"
 - And - By This Reference:
 - He Described The *Manner*:
 - Of His Own Death - Which Would Become:

- The *Means* Of Salvation:
 - To Whoever Believes In Him!
- And - By His Death:
 - Through Their Hands:
 - They Would Come To Know:
 - Who He Is! His True Identity:
 - Again - As The “Great I Am!”
- This Can Be Known:
 - Today - Through Belief In The Gospel!
 - Or - It Will Be Known:
 - In The Future! When:
 - Philippians 2:10-11 - “At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; / And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father!”
- Of Course - When Jesus Died On The Cross:
 - He Was “Lifted Up!”
 - And So - This Part Of His Prophecy:
 - *Was Fulfilled* In The Past!
 - And So - The Rest Of His Prophecy:
 - *Will Be* Fulfilled In The Future!
 - So - Need To Hear Him!
 - The True Prophet!
 - This *Is* Who Jesus Is!
 - This Is The Kind Of Messenger He Is!
 - Also - Jesus Is:
- The Perfect Messenger!
 - Because - As Jesus Continues:
 - In 8:28b - “And that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things!”
 - So - In His Works:
 - What Jesus Did!
 - And - In His Words:
 - What Jesus Spoke!
 - He Was A Perfect, Faithful Messenger:
 - For God His Father!
 - This Does Not Mean That:
 - His Works & Words - If They Were Done By Himself:
 - Would Have Been Any Different:
 - Than His Fathers!
 - Because - They Were The Same!
 - They Were Completely & Perfectly Aligned!
 - This Only Means That:
 - Every Work He Did & Every Word He Spoke:
 - He Did In Submission To:
 - The Will Of His Father In Heaven!
 - And - Since This Is The Case!
 - Since Jesus Is This Kind Of Messenger:
 - “Come From God!” (3:3)
 - Then - What Else / Who Else Can We Hear?
 - Listen To! Look To! Learn From!
 - After All - “In Every Word Of Jesus The Mind Of The Father Is Expressed!” (William Hendrickson)
 - This Is The Kind Of Messenger:
 - Jesus Is To Us! But He Is Also:
 - The Pleasing Messenger!
 - As He Reveals Next In:
 - 8:29 - “And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him!”

- These Are Some Truths That:
 - The Crowd Knew Nothing About!
 - But - Would One Day:
 - Come To Know!
- That There Was & Is:
 - A Complete Fellowship:
 - Between God The Father & Jesus:
 - As God The Son!
 - And - Every Step Of The Way:
 - His Father:
 - Never Left Him Alone!
 - And - This Was The Evidence:
 - That Jesus Pleas'd His Father!
 - But Also:
- There Was & Is:
 - A Complete Faithfulness:
 - By Jesus - To His Father!
 - "For I Do Always Those Things That Please Him!"
- This Was The Testimony Of God The Father:
 - Back In Matthew 17:5:
 - "This Is My Beloved Son, In Whom I Am Well Pleas'd!"
- And This Is Why:
 - The Father Further Said:
 - "Hear Ye Him!"
 - Because Of The Kind Of Messenger:
 - Jesus Is - Even To Us!
 - He Is God's Own:
 - Prophetic, Perfect, And Pleasing Messenger:
 - Who Came To Deliver:
 - The Message Of Good News:
 - To This World!

Conclusion:

1. And - In Spite Of:
 - The Darkness That Surrounded Jesus:
 - On These Days That:
 - He Talked In The Temple:
 - In 8:30 - We Are Given:
 - A Little Glimpse Of Light!
 - Because - Then John Adds:
 - "As He Spoke These Words, Many Believed On Him!"
 - Some Of The Minds & Hearts:
 - Of That Crowd:
 - Were Opened To Believe!
 - But - What Kind Of Faith:
 - Would It Be?
 - Only Time Would Tell!
2. But - What God The Father:
 - Told Peter & James & John:
 - On The Top Of That Mountain:
 - So Many Years Ago:
 - Applies To You & Me Today!
 - "Hear Ye Him!"
 - Hear Jesus!
 - Listen To Him!
 - Look To Him!
 - Learn From Him!
3. Because:

- He Is The Kind Of Messenger:
 - We Needed - In Order To Deliver:
 - The Kind Of Message:
 - We Needed:
 - To Save Us From Our Darkness & Sin!

- 4. And Now - As Jesus Himself:
 - Learned From His Father:
 - In 8:28 - We Need To Learn:
 - From Jesus!
 - As A Student Would Learn:
 - From A Teacher!
 - As A Child Would Learn:
 - From A Parent!
- But - In Jesus:
 - We Have A Different Kind Of Instructor!
 - One Who Is Faithful:
 - As God's Messenger! And:
 - One Who Is True:
 - To His Message!

- 5. So - "Hear Ye Him!"

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