

Morning Sermon May 6, 2018
"Christ's Sinlessness" John 8:46

I. Christ's sinlessness is presented, by Christ, as an argument for faith / trust –

"Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? (John 8:46 NKJ)

1. When Christ asks the question, "which of you convicts Me of sin?" He is not asking for opinions, some of them thought He was a drunkard, a wine-bibber, a Samaritan ...

No, if He is asking for anything He is asking for proof! None of them can convict Christ of sin; because He is completely SINLESS! Christ is stating a fact, He is without sin –

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. (Hebrews 4:15 NKJ)

2. Yet, He is doing more than stating this fact, He is also arguing for belief - And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? (John 8:46 NKJ)

A. His sinlessness is an argument for His honesty, they do not believe Him in spite of these things, why?

B. Jesus asks them why? Not because He does not know, but because He wants them to face the TRUTH, to be honest with themselves, He just told them –

"You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. ⁴⁵ "But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. (John 8:44-45 NKJ)

This is hard truth, we do not like hearing such things about ourselves, they had a little belief in Jesus - As He spoke these words, many believed in Him. (John 8:30 NKJ) They were willing to believe Him, until He started telling them the truth about themselves –

C. This truth was hard truth but also NEEDED truth, they needed to understand they were sinners; in order to be saved from sin –

Jesus answered and said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ³² "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance." (Luke 5:31-32 NKJ)

II. Christ's sinlessness is a reason for following, and not fighting, Christ –

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (John 8:12 NKJ)

1. We are called by Christ, to "follow" Christ, even in an extreme manner –

"And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. (Matthew 10:38 NKJ)

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. ²⁵ "For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. (Matthew 16:24-25 NKJ)

Across the will of nature leads on the path of God, not where the flesh delighteth, the feet of Jesus trod. O bliss to leave behind us, the fetters of the slave, to leave ourselves behind us, the gravestone and the grave. We follow in His footsteps, what if our feet be torn, where He has marked the pathway, all hail the briar and thorn! Scarce seen, scarce heard, unreckoned, despised defamed unknown, or heard but by on singing, on children, ever on!
Gerhard Tersteegen

2. Knowing Christ is sinless, knowing He never makes a wrong move, He never takes a wrong turn is extremely important for us who would follow Him in the difficult way –

"Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. (Matthew 7:14 NKJ)

3. Without Christ's leading we tend to stray –

All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:6 NKJ)

4. Beware of fighting Christ, beware of not believing or following Him – "Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins." (John 8:24 NKJ)

Only a Sinless One can save us from our sins - and from Jesus Christ, ... To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, (Revelation 1:5 NKJ)

Arnold A. Brevick

III. *Christ's sinlessness includes truth-telling, which an ungodly world cannot abide, but that we must take to heart, to be set free from sin –*

... And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? (John 8:46 NKJ)

1. *We live in a world, led by a liar – your father the devil ... he is a liar and the father of it.* ⁴⁵ "But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. (John 8:44-45 NKJ)

See also - "the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. (John 14:17 NKJ)

- A. *What kind of lies does the Devil tell? With every temptation to sin, he includes this lie –*

Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. (Genesis 3:4 NKJ)

- B. *There are many modifications of this lie, What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? (Romans 6:1 NKJ)*

The Devil says, "yes" "yes" "yes" sin and you will win, Christ died so that you might sin all you like!

Yet the Apostle Paul answers that question too - Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? (Romans 6:2 NKJ)

2. *Christ was born into our world to save us from sin – "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21 NKJ)*

Here in this chapter He is talking about setting us free from sin - Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed." ³² "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31-32 NKJ)

- A. *Whatever degree we still might be sinning, we are still slaves - Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. (John 8:34 NKJ)*

- B. *Christ speaks of being free indeed – "And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever." ³⁶ "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed (John. 8:35-36 NKJ)*

IV. *Christ's sinlessness is an argument for His Deity, and speaks loudly against any false idea of demon possession –*

1. *Who Christ is –*

Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." (John 8:58 NKJ)

- A. *I AM is a reference to Exodus 3:14 - And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" (Exodus 3:14 NKJ)*

- B. *Jesus is claiming Deity, and His hearers know it – Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by. (John 8:59 NKJ)*

- C. *What His enemies were wrongly saying – Then the Jews answered and said to Him, "Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?" (John 8:48 NKJ)*

2. *His sinlessness is an argument for His Deity, because all of us mere men are sinners-*

As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; ¹¹ There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. (Romans 3:10-11 NKJ)

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (Romans 3:23 NKJ)

3. *Yet, because these people REFUSED to see themselves as sinners, they cannot see Christ rightly either –*

- A. *Once they seemed to have faith - As He spoke these words, many believed in Him. (John 8:30 NKJ)*

- B. *But at the end of this chapter they don't – "For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. (Matthew 13:12 NKJ)*

Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. (John 8:31 NKJ)

But they did not abide - ⁴⁷ "He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God." (John 8:47 NKJ)