

Title: The Truth Will Set You Free

Text: John 8:31-

Will you take your Bibles, please, and turn to John chapter 8. John chapter 8 beginning at Vs 31. There are notes in your bulletin. I n invite you to sue them as we study this wonderfulp portion of God's Word.¶

John chapter 8 ..Vs 31...(Read Vs 31-47)

Prayer

(1) The people are rebelling over His power to set men free.

(1) First of all, notice the power of His Word t in Verses 31and 32. The power of His word

And according to these verses there are three things that show you the power of his word.

(1) Number one, it has power to produce faith. The word of God has power to produce faith. Vs 30 says, "As he spoke these things, many came to believe in him."

Many believed as he spoke these words. Listen, if you want to be saved, believe God's Word. Believe it. The very word of God has power to produce faith.

People often say, "Oh, if I only had enough faith to believe God." Listen, God knows that you don't have enough faith. That is why he gave us his word. His word will give us faith.

Do you know that even in my christian life that I have more faith, more vision, more confidence in God, the more that I trust in his Word.

Guess what happens when I trust myself?....Frustration...Uncertainty... Discouragement....Negative attitudes....WHY?....Because you are not in His Word.. The Bible tells us to ~~r~~renew are minds daily in God's Word...The Word has power not only to produce faith for you to become a christian, but also to sustain you as a christian in your life. That is why we daily need to go ~~to~~ to the word of God. It is strengthening us. It is building us. It is ~~is~~ increasing our faith. So that no matter what the trail, no matter what the testings of our life, we can take it. Because we are on the winning side. We know what God's plan is...

(2) Secondly, it has the power to promote faithfulness. Vs 31 says, "Jesus therefore was sying to those Jews who had believed him, 'if you abide in my word, then you are truly disciples of mine.'"

Notice ~~it~~ says, "if you abide in my word." The idea is making your home there. I like that. Settling jdown in the Word. Are you settling own in the word of God? I mean you are making your home there.

Think of your home. If you have been in your home for 6 or 7 years, it is alfull hard to move, isn't it?

This is like putting a permanent home up in the word of God. If the Word of God is your home, it will be hard to get you to move.

Listen, here is the reason why many christian are not faithful. Why many christians backslide... They have never made the Word of God there home.

And notice, the promise. If the word of God is your home, then you are a disciple.

Now, I whole a position that not all wholed. Some believe that discipleship is only talking about being saved. I don't believe that. If you ~~that~~ you have a problem with Scripture. Because you see, Jesus put condition on discipleship that cannot be put on salvation.

Now, everyone who is saved ought to be a disciple. But it is not necessarily true. Because you see discipleship is an act. It is a moment of time ~~wh~~ in which they start the process.

Jesus spoke often about discipleship. And basical the word means "one who follows christ." It involves all areas of life and meeting the test. I will not go into all of that. But let me just say that there is one test here that Jesus gives of a disciple. The test of discipleship is abiding in his word.....

How do you know whether or not you are a real follower of Christ? The test is abiding in his jword. Making your home in the Word of God.

Now, his word has power to promote faithfulness. And that is a real blessing. Many christians are unfaithfull. Have you noticed that? We call it backsliding, out of ~~faith~~ fellowship, and so forth.

Listen, discipleship is abiding in the word. Do you know why people go up and down? Why they get away from Christ and the church? Why they chuch hope?...Do you know why? ...They are not abiding in the Word...The word of God promotes faithfulness in a believers life...

(3) And then third, it provides freedom.....Are you are tied up on the inside? Are you in bondage to sin or to yourself? Are you bond to your unhappiness or discouragement...Is there a root of bitter~~ness~~ in your life?

Listen, according to Vs 32 "you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Free....Know the truth...How can I know the truth?...The truth is in God wrod....Abiding in the Word promises me knowledg of the truth.

Wouldn't it be great to know the truth about everything? Abide in the word and you will know the truth about everything. And that truth about everything that is in the Word will make you free.

Wouldn't you like to be really free. People and things and attitudes and life circumstances trying to put you in bondage again, but they cannot because you are in the Word. And the Word sets you free....

You have discouragements, and trails, and pressures in life..But you are in the Word. And when the pressures of life come upon you you are set free because the Word of God is in you...

Now, that is the freedom that comes to a christian after he has experience the freedom/number one. Freedom number one is being set free from sin and its consequences. That is where you must start. The moment you believe that Jesus is who he claims to be, you are set free from sin and its consequence.

People say, well I believed that years ago, but I am not sure that I am really saved. Listen, make sure. I believe a lot of us never taught that to the kids who made the decision.

And we are concerned about that here at First Baptist. We want our kids to know the gospel of Christ.

Many say that they believe in Jesus, or I accepted him as a child, but you never really did it. You might have liked Jesus like you like a brother, that doesn't mean you are saved.

Do you believe what the Bible teaches about Jesus? Do you accept those claims? Why not settle it, if you are not sure. You can be sure. You ought to have confidence in the freedom from sin and its consequences. You can know that right now. You can settle it right where you are sitting. Just say to Jesus Christ that you believe that he is God. That he is the saviour. I can not save myself. Only Jesus who is God can save me...You do that and you will have the confidence and assurance of your salvation.

But I really believe Vs 32 is for those who are believers. Those who have already been saved.

And here is the message. Listen, believer, do you want to be faithful in your life, do you want to have freedom in all of your days? Then, listen, the only way is by abiding in God's Word. It is the only way. Let the Word abide in you.

And I close with John 15:7 where Jesus said, "if you abide in me, and my words abide in you, then you may ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you."

Is that wonderful? That is power. Tremendous power...

Let us ~~say~~ pray