

Tell Us, Jesus, Why Do you Offend?

John 8:31-59

September 11, 2022

30 As He said these things, many came to believe in Him.

31 So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly My disciples; 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 33 They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been enslaved to anyone; how is it that You say, 'You will become free'?"

34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin. 35 "Now the slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever. 36 "So if the Son sets you free, you really will be free. 37 "I know that you are Abraham's descendants; yet you are seeking to kill Me, because My word has no place in you.

38 "I speak of the things which I have seen with My Father; therefore you also do the things which you heard from your father." 39 They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you are Abraham's children, do the deeds of Abraham. 40 "But as it is, you are seeking to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth, which I heard from God; this Abraham did not do. 41 "You are doing the deeds of your father."

They said to Him, "We were not born as a result of sexual immorality; we have one Father: God." 42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I came forth from God and am here; for I have not even come on My own, but He sent Me. 43 "Why do you not understand what I am saying? It is because you cannot listen to My word.

44 "You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he tells a lie, he speaks from his own nature, because he is a liar and the father of lies.

45 "But because I say the truth, you do not believe Me. 46 "Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me? 47 "The one who is of God hears the words of God; for this reason you do not hear them, because you are not of God." 48 The Jews answered and said

to Him, "Do we not rightly say that You are a Samaritan, and You have a demon?" 49 Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon; on the contrary, I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me.

50 "But I am not seeking My glory; there is One who seeks it, and judges.

51 "Truly, truly I say to you, if anyone follows My word, he will never see death." 52 The Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon.

Abraham died, and the prophets as well; and yet You say, 'If anyone follows My word, he will never taste of death.' 53 "You are not greater than our father Abraham, who died, are You? The prophets died too. Whom do You make Yourself out to be?"

54 Jesus answered, "If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say, 'He is our God'; 55 and you have not come to know Him, but I know Him. And if I say that I do not know Him, I will be a liar like you; but I do know Him, and I follow His word. 56 "Your father Abraham was overjoyed that he would see My day, and he saw it and rejoiced."

57 So the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and You have seen Abraham?" 58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am." 59 Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and left the temple grounds.

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1. Because it matters!

1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
Because the LORD anointed me To bring good news to the humble;
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
To proclaim release to captives
And freedom to prisoners;
2 To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD
And the day of vengeance of our God;
To comfort all who mourn,
3 To grant those who mourn [in] Zion,
Giving them a garland instead of ashes,
The oil of gladness instead of mourning,
The cloak of praise instead of a disheartened spirit.
So they will be called oaks of righteousness,
The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.
Isaiah 61:1-3

"She will give birth to a Son; and you shall name Him Jesus, for He will
save His people from their sins."
Matthew 1:21

15 It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ
Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost.
1 Timothy 1:15

5 You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there
is no sin. 6 No one who remains in Him sins [continually;] no one who sins
[continually] has seen Him or knows Him. 7 Little children, make sure no
one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just
as He is righteous; 8 the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil
has been sinning from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this
purpose, to destroy the works of the devil...
1 John 3:1-8

2. Because He didn't want them (or us) to be deceived.

True salvation leads to sanctification.

"If you continue in my word then...you shall know the truth and be set free"

But false prophets also appeared among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. 2 Many will follow their indecent behavior, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; 3 and in their greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.

2 Peter 2:1-3

18 "Listen then to the parable of the sower. 19 "When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand [it,] the evil [one] comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one sown [with seed] beside the road. 20 "The one sown [with seed] on the rocky places, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet he has no [firm] root in himself, but is [only] temporary, and when affliction or persecution occurs because of the word, immediately he falls away. 22 "And the one sown [with seed] among the thorns, this is the one who hears the word, and the anxiety of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. 23 "But the one sown [with seed] on the good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces, some a hundred, some sixty, and some thirty [times as much.]"

Matthew 13:18-23

*21 And although you were previously alienated and hostile in attitude, engaged in evil deeds, 22 yet He has now reconciled you in His body of flesh through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach-- 23 **if indeed you continue in the faith** firmly established and steadfast, and not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister.*

Colossians 1:21-23

*So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;
Philippians 2:12*

*Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; & the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.
1 John 3:7-8*