

# John 8 – Blindness?

These are the leaders notes from the Kielder Bible Study Group for the meeting that was held on 20th November 2012

## Recap

Some key points from chapter 7 :-

- Jesus goes to the Feast of Tabernacles
- Jesus Teaches at the Feast - Jesus, half way through the feast, teaching at the Temple
- The crowd ask Is Jesus the Messiah?
- Unbelief of Jewish Leaders
- Jesus challenging the Jews on their failure to keep the Law
- Half-hearted attempts to arrest Jesus coming to nothing
- On the last day Jesus proclaiming himself as a source of living water
- Further speculation as to who he is
- The temple guards refusing to arrest him
- The anger of the Pharisees

## John 8

1-8

9-11 Q What lesson does this have for us today?

Note – it is suggested that this may not have originally been present in the Gospel, but it is recorded in Luke Ch 21 so is probably authentic

### Validity of Jesus' Testimony

Isaiah Ch60 v1-3 & 19-20

Notes on this chapter describe the temple scene in the evening time. There would have

been four very large lamps (lights) in the Women's Court. The lamps were so big that it is recorded that the wicks were made from the discarded robes of the priests, and the light and glow from the lamps could be seen all over the city.

Bearing this in mind the story continues v 12-13 Q What do we think about Jesus's claim?

14-18 Q Why does Jesus say his Testimony is Valid?

19-21 Q Who do the Jews pick up on and ask about – why the confusion?

22-24 Q What was Jesus saying in here? A “of this world” refers to Satan's dominion.

25-30 Q Who do we think Jesus talking about in v26? A Judgement of unbelievers

Q What happened to people who were listening to this exchange? A They became believers

Note this is the end of the first exchange with the Jewish Leaders

### **Children of Abraham**

31-33 Q Who exactly was Jesus talking to? A Not the Jewish Authorities

34-38 Q When have they been in Slavery and what sort of slavery was Jesus talking about? A The Jews were slaves in Egyptians, & Babylon as well as slaves to sin.

39-41 Q Why are they meaning by Saying Abraham is our Father? A They thought their place in heaven was guaranteed.

### **Children of the Devil**

42-47 Q What was Jesus saying in v43? A They were highly religious but could not recognise what Jesus was saying.

Q What is Jesus saying in v44? A The Jewish authorities were in league with Satan

### **The Claims of Jesus about Himself**

48-51 Q How do these comments tie in with the 10 Commandments? A They were breaking the ninth commandment – bearing false witness.

Q What does Jesus say will happen to people who keep his word? Q What do we think this means?

52-53 Q How does Jesus try to prove to the Jews that they were wrong?

Jesus has just called them liars and sons of Satan and the Jews, somewhat understandably, are upset. They accuse him of being demon possessed which was, from a natural point of view, completely unlikely because he had just been denigrating Satan and Satan wouldn't be against himself

54-56 Q Why does Jesus say he is talking about his Father? The Jews were claiming Him as their God.

57-59 Q Can we think of another occasion where something similar was said. A Moses and the burning bush Exodus 3:13-14

Q What happened to people who were listening to this exchange? A They tried to stone him

## Recap

Some key points from chapter 8 :-

Jesus dealing with the woman caught in adultery

then a progression of interchange:

Jesus making various claims about himself

- to be the light of the world v.12
- to be from above v.23
- to be the “I am” v.58

Jesus making various claims about the Jews

- that they would die in their sins v.24
- that they were trying to kill him v.37
- that they proved their real father was Satan v.44