

ENCOUNTER #16: John 8:31-36 JESUS HAS THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE YOU FREE

A 21st century Jewish Rabbi made this statement about the power of words: "Words are singularly the most powerful force available to humanity." General yells charge – doctor says it's a girl – pastor says I pronounce you man and wife – JESUS NDIC

MP: No one has power in their words like Jesus does and His words are powerful because they are His. intrspwr He upholds the universe by the word of His power.

Unmasking false professions of faith before they flood the ranks of the messianic comm.

THESE PPL: ppl fickle faith slaves sin (v. 34), indifferent to Jesus' word (v. 37), children of the devil (v. 44), liars (v. 55), and guilty of mob tactics, inc attempted murder (v. 59).

- **PWRFUL STMENT TRUTH: HIS WORDS CHANGE LIVES**

Disciple: a student or apprentice of Jesus. One who believes in Him, follows His way by emulating his teachings and lifestyle, and leads others to do the same.

1. TRUTH IN OUR SOCIETY

Society Spiritual Warzone – Boston: stop using needles - passing free crack pipes

CULTURE IN CHAOS: Celebrates and encourages thinking and behavior opposite God.

TK: Abandoning Truth/The Sacred Order – meaning transcendent spiritual world, the moral standards connected to it – LEFT WITH THINGS LIKE SM SHAPE BELIEFS

2.5 hours day 12th grader 4 hours a day on SOCIAL MEDIA

Forms our beliefs oriented more around the way we see ourselves instead of truth.

- Evidence of Culture Sliding into decay are all around us.

2. TRUTH CAN BE KNOWN – one of the biggest lies is that truth is unknowable

Truth isn't just the winning side in an argument it's a person Who is knowable.

JESUS IS TRUTH – God didn't make an argument He sent His Son. SINK IN...

John 14:6 I am the way, the truth and the life. LOCATE THE WORD

Pilate cynicism What is truth? Didn't realize truth was in front of him – **how many tday**

- TRUTH IS MEANT TO BE EXPERIENCED – *ginosko* not just information/data

o Knowing truth means in JESUS by His Spirit living His teachings

Matthew 28:18 Make disciples teaching them to obey all things I commanded you.

If Jesus is truth, then everything He said is true.

3. POWER OF CHRIST'S TRUTH MAKES YOU FREE

Deeply offensive to this privileged religious society – to be called enslaved

SLAVES? Jews talking about spiritual, inward freedom privilege. **JC MAKE IT CLEAR**

Underscores that ultimate bondage, is not to a political or economic system, but vicious slavery to moral failure, to rebellion against God and who He intends us to be. And that freedom doesn't come through ethnic privilege or standing.

PRACTICE SIN: living a lifestyle of sin with no conviction, repentance, victory – **practice law, practice medicine – practice sin - WAY OF THINKING (illustrate)**

- Person who lives in bondage to sin gives evidence not YET A TRUE CHILD

- **SOCIETY DENIES THIS: individualism, rights, freedom whatever choose good**
Moral Standard this: you can choose, do freedom, doesn't mean its good.

- Every person is born a slave to sin – IT IS OUR NATURAL STATE

Romans 6:17 But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, ¹⁸and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.

JESUS MAKES YOU FREE TO BE WHO GOD INTENDED YOU TO BE..

- **FREE FROM:** lies, misconceptions, impotence to overcome sin
- **FREE TO:** exp beauty of God's purpose, heaven's life, resurrection, hope, satisfaction disconnected from circumstances, forgiveness, transformational relationships, strength in face of death, the real reason behind the beauty life
 - **Receive Christ and His truth in faith**

James 1:21 Receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

4. THE CHILD OF GOD IS FREE INDEED

- **NEW REALITY:** total life transformation – **JESUS HAS DONE IT**

Galatians 5:1 For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

- **NEW STANDING:** Belong to God – no longer estranged from him

Eph 2:13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ

- **NEW POWER:** all the tools for your best life now are at your disposal

1 Peter 2:16 Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.

LIVE TO THAT – stop speaking the devil's lies over your life

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue¹

BC THE WORLD SEES JESUS THROUGH THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 3:15 church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

¹ The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Pr 18:21). (2016). Crossway Bibles.