

I. POINTLESS DENIALS

A. Abraham's Seed

1. In response to Jesus saying they needed the Truth to be FREE (vs. 23)
 - a. The Bible know that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life
 - b. But these Jews refused to follow the Way
 - c. They rejected the Truth
 - d. So, they wouldn't see LIFE
2. Their pride answers for them (vs. 34)
 - a. Abraham's seed
 - i. Jesus readily admits their ancestry (vs. 37)
 - ii. He has been speaking of spiritual things this whole time
 - iii. And they consistently refuse to see anything but physical
 - iv. Jesus even comments on it (vs. 23)
 - b. Ancestry does not take people to Heaven
 - c. Matthew 3:9 – “And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.”
3. Servant here meaning slave. A slave to sin!
 - a. They became outraged at the idea of being slaves! (vs. 33)
 - i. Proverbs 22:7 – “The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.”
 - ii. And that holds with what the Bible says about sin – DEBT!
 - iii. Romans 6:23 – “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
 - iv. Look at vs. 34 – sin (singular) and IS present tense!
 - b. But for the SAVED it is different – He made a CHANGE
 - c. Romans 6:16-18 – “ Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? (17) But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. (18) Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.”

B. No Bondage?

1. Never in bondage to any man (vs. 33)
 - a. Proverbs 17:28 – “Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding.”
 - b. Or as Mark Twain put it: “Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt.”

- c. Or maybe it was Abraham Lincoln (apparently no one knows)
 - 2. The idea that the children of Abraham had never been in bondage!
 - a. Didn't they also love to talk of Moses?
 - b. Didn't God use Moses to lead them out of Egyptian bondage? (a type of the world)
 - c. Was Nehemiah just commuting for work?
 - d. Was Daniel simply spending a summer abroad?
 - e. Weren't they EVEN THEN under Roman rule?
 - 3. If they were not in bondage to Rome
 - a. Then why were they looking for the Messiah to be a king?
 - b. Or a political leader and warlord?
 - c. Against whom would their idea of a Messiah fight?
 - d. If they were not in bondage? (Sunday School)
 - e. Historically untrue. Currently untrue.
 - 4. It would certainly be true to say that their "pride knew no bonds."
- C. Abraham DID NOT
 - 1. IF ye were ... (vs. 39)
 - a. Abraham did the works of God – He trusted and followed God
 - b. Romans 4:3 – "For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness."
 - c. Galatians 3:6 and James 2:23 say the same thing almost exactly
 - d. Abraham looked forward to the Cross!
 - 2. Abraham looked for a city
 - a. Hebrews 11:8-10 – "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. (9) By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: (10) For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."
 - b. That was a SPIRITUAL work, not a carnal work
 - 3. They Jews were falling prey to family traits

II. PRIDEFUL DISHONOR

- A. Another family trait
 - 1. We saw it with the Woman at the Well
 - a. He said He must NEEDS go through Samaria
 - b. When all the other Jews would go far around to get to Galilee
 - c. But He had a meeting with a precious soul there that day
 - 2. He told of it when telling the story of the Good Samaritan
 - a. So much so that today people rarely understand the irony
 - b. Billy Graham even started a ministry called the Samaritan's Purse
 - c. To call a Samaritan "good" would be unthinkable

3. And yet the Jews call Jesus a Samaritan (vs. 48)
4. But Jesus ignored it (vs. 49)
 - a. He never mentioned the Samaritans
 - b. Why? Because He came to seek and to save that which was lost
 - c. The Jews needed to be Saved. But so did the Samaritans
 - d. Romans 1:16 – “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”
- B. Art thou GREATER? (vs. 53)
 1. They called Jesus an illegitimate child (again)
 2. In today’s vernacular, they began name calling
 3. That means they no other valid arguments to make (vs. 41)
- C. Jesus HONORS His Father (vs. 49)
 1. But they were pridefully trying to dishonor Him
 2. Dishonoring the Son dishonors the Father
 3. They must have learned that from THEIR father

III. PERSONAL DEVIL

- A. Many would have us to believe that there is NO personal devil
 1. That Satan is simply a name for all the bad intentions of the world
 - a. Some mystical force for ill, formless and impersonal
 - b. But the Bible says Satan exists and Jesus preached about Him
 - c. The Bible doesn’t tell us much about Angels
 - d. But we plan to study that Doctrine tonight (Lord Willing)
- B. Look at the personal traits Jesus affirms about Satan (vs. 44)
 1. He is their father (unwilling and absentee)
 - a. It isn’t that the devil hates mankind any more than a bully hates a common house fly
 - b. But he knows that God LOVES man, therefore the devil does whatever he can to destroy anything God builds
 2. He is a murderer
 - a. A crime of personal animus and activity
 - i. An impersonal force could never be accused of murder
 - ii. Murder requires intent
 - b. This is the reason Jesus brings up the intent of the Jews (vs. 40)
 - c. His influence lead to man’s first murder on earth
 3. He is a liar
 - a. Lying requires some concept misleading for personal gain
 - i. Many in the media seem to think every error is a lie
 - ii. Not that politicians always tell the truth...
 - b. To lie requires the devil to exist as a being with personality
 - c. His lying led to man’s first sin on earth
- C. Isaiah 14:12-14 (Important to turn there and see it in God’s Word)

1. Five "I Wills" – spoken in pride
2. But God has already judged Satan – (Isa. 14:15)
3. The King James Version tells us Satan's previous name
4. Most modern versions don't

D. Resist

1. 1 Peter 5:8-9 – "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: (9) Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world."
2. We are not told to fight the devil
 - a. Jude 1:9 – "Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee."
 - b. How do I resist?
 - c. With the WORD OF GOD!

IV. PROCLAIMING DEITY

A. Sinless perfection

1. See John 8:46 – He asks a question no one else ever dare ask
 - a. No mere mortal might ask such a question
 - b. No one who ever lived!
 - c. We all have mothers and fathers who know our problems
 - d. We have spouses that have seen us fail
 - e. We have children who know we are only human
 - f. We may NEVER ask such a question
2. But JESUS can!
 - a. He is not simply capable to keep from sinning
 - b. He is simply not CAPABLE of sinning!
 - c. God cannot disobey Himself!

B. Jesus taught His disciples to pray

1. In the model prayer, He taught them to pray after this fashion:
 - a. Forgive us our debts
 - b. Lead us not into temptation
2. But HE never prayed that way! He never needed forgiveness!
 - a. We need HIS forgiveness!
3. Search through the Gospels
 - a. Even in the garden of Gethsemane
 - b. He told his disciples to watch that they enter not into temptation
 - c. And then removed Himself a little to pray
4. 2 Corinthians 5:21 – "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

C. I AM (vs. 58)

1. That name that only God calls Himself

- a. When Moses asked whom had sent him, God told him this name
 - b. Exodus 3:14 – “And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.”
2. We could never do the name of God justice in a few minutes
3. Two things:
- a. He did not say that He was merely preexistent to Abraham
 - i. He said before Abraham WAS
 - ii. I AM – present tense the whole time (not I was)
 - b. Abraham looked forward to Jesus (vs. 56)
 - i. Just like I did when I got saved
 - ii. I rejoiced to see His day. I saw it. And I still am Glad!

V. PLEASE DON'T

- A. Please don't leave without Him
- B. If you have never received Jesus Christ as your Savior
- C. He wants to adopt you OUT of the devil's family and into His own
- D. He is the great I AM
- E. Be Saved today!