

Greater Than Abraham

John 8:48-59

John 8:48-59, “The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" ⁴⁹ Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰ Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. ⁵¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." ⁵² The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.' ⁵³ Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who 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 But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." ⁵⁷ So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." ⁵⁹ So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.” (ESV)

The Jews attempt to elevate themselves by their...

- ...dishonor of the character of Jesus. (v. 48)
- ...disregard for the words of Jesus. (v. 52-53)
- ...distrust of the knowledge of Jesus. (v. 57)
- ...desire to murder Jesus. (v. 59)

Jesus patiently and lovingly responds to the Jews by...

- ...honoring His Father. (v. 49)
- ...offering eternal life. (v. 51)
- ...seeking the glory of God the Father. (v. 50, 54)
- ...responding in the knowledge and obedience of the will of the Father. (v. 55)
- ...explaining the joy of His coming. (v. 56)
- ...revealing his eternity. (v. 58)
- ...hiding himself from them. (v. 59)