



# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

## JOHN 8:12-20; 12:44-46

### LESSON: THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

— April 30, 2023

#### INTRODUCTION:

**CHAPTER 8:1-11** Jesus went to the Mount of Olives which is a mile long ridge of hills east of Jerusalem. And early in the morning He went again into the temple again, and a great multitude followed Him, and He sat down and taught them. Well, the scribes and Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and they sat her in the midst before Him. They called Him "Master" which means "Teacher", explaining that this woman had been caught in the very act of adultery. So, they now explain the Law to the One that gave the Law. They say Moses commanded them to stone such, but *"what do you say?"* This was to tempt Jesus, so they could trump up a charge against Him; accuse Him; trap Him. But Jesus stooped down on the ground, and began to write something with His finger, as if He hadn't heard them. They continued asking Him. And He raised Himself up and said to them; *"He that is without sin among you, let him first cast the stone at her."* Then He stooped down and wrote on the ground again. Those that heard Him were convicted in their own conscience, and went out one by one, beginning with the eldest, even unto the last. And Jesus was left alone with the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had raised Himself up, and saw none but the woman, He told her, *"Woman, where are those that accused you? Has no man condemned you?"* She said, *"No man, Lord."* And Jesus said unto her, *"Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more."*

#### LESSON: I. THE OFFER OF LIGHT JOHN 8:12-16

**8:12** Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.** Who is Jesus speaking to after those who wanted to stone the woman has left? Well, according to 8:13 He's talking to the Pharisees, and according to 8:27, He's also talking to some Jewish leaders because in 8:20 Jesus is in the treasury of the temple teaching. So, right now Jesus makes a great claim and promise.

1. The great claim is: I am the light of the world. It was not just for the Jews.
2. The great promise is twofold: he that followeth Me. That meant anyone.
  - Shall not walk in darkness.
  - Shall have the light of life.

First of all, Jesus is I Am—He is the Light who has entered the world that John the Baptist had spoken of. We've talked about Him being *"The Bread of Life"* earlier in (6:35). So, this is the second *"I Am"* statement. Man is in darkness even though he can see, he still needs the Light of Jesus. A man is in darkness until he begins to accept, trust, and follow Jesus to be saved.

1. The *"darkness"* is the world of the natural man who does not know Jesus Christ.
2. The *"darkness"* is the time when evil occurs, so you're unprepared and not watching.
3. The *"darkness"* is loved by men. Sinful men do their evil deeds under the cover of darkness.
4. The *"darkness"* is hostile to light; don't want the truth shining through.

So, Jesus claimed to be that Light for the entire world. And if they follow Him, they won't walk in darkness, but they will have the light of life. The reason He says I again say this is because in Jh.1:4-5 He says *"In him was life and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness and the darkness comprehended it not."* *"John came to witness of that light that all men through Him might believe"* (Jh.1:7). Man has to be delivered from the power of darkness (Colos.1:13a). *God calls us out of darkness into His marvelous light* (1

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# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

Pt.2:9b). He's translated (transferred) us into the kingdom of His dear Son (Colos.1:13b). This Light can't be seen apart from Christ. It is Christ who reveals that light. Following Jesus reveals who you are. Darkness is not shadowing you, but it is the light of life. There is a change in our appearance; in our attitude; in our behavior. I don't walk like I used to walk. I don't talk like I used to talk; I don't live like I used to live because there is a light that lights my life, living in me to diffuse darkness as I stay close to Him! We reflect His light, just as the moon reflects the sun's light!!

**8:13 The Pharisees therefore said unto him, Thou bearest record of thyself; thy record is not true.** Oh oh, the Pharisees reject what Jesus has said. They challenge that He's the Light. They're saying He's talking about Himself, meaning bearing witness of Himself, and they say His record is not true. They are remembering what was said in John 5:31 *"If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true."* But, they didn't finish all of what Jesus had said because the next verse (5:32) says *"There is another that beareth witness of me; and I know that the witness which he witnesseth of me is true."* In John 5 Jesus had all kinds of witnesses of who He is:

- The witness of the Spirit (5:32).
  - The witness of John the Baptist (5:33-35).
  - The witness of His miraculous works (5:36).
  - The witness of God Himself (5:37-38).
  - The witness of the Scriptures (5:39).
- But in (5:31) and the next verse (8:14) is He Himself as witness.

**8:14 Jesus answered and said unto them, Though I bear record of myself, yet my record is true: for I know whence I came, and whither I go; but ye cannot tell whence I come, and whither I go.** Isn't it bad when others try to tell you who they think you are, better than you can tell it? Well, that's what the Pharisees are trying to do. Don't worry, Jesus knows what they're up to, and He tells them how He knows Himself better than they do. He tells them that His record is true. He knows where He came from, and where He's going, but they have no idea where He came from or where He's going. Why? For a very simple reason, unbelievers cannot penetrate nor see the spiritual world. What Jesus is saying is that He had come from heaven; from the spiritual dimension, and He had been an eyewitness of heaven. He had been in the very presence of God Himself, and God had sent Him from heaven into this world to declare the glorious message of salvation—*"I Am the Light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life"* (8:12). The Word that is declared unto us is to be declared by us to others.

**8:15 Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man.** Christ shows us that the Pharisees are judging from an external outward perspective, for Jesus says I judge no man. He came not to judge in this earthly ministry at this time, but He came to save mankind. Men judge after the flesh, that is, by appearance. Men judge by what they see and don't know. However, if men are to judge Jesus' claim, they cannot do it on the basis of physical evidence. Why? - Because Jesus is not of this world.

**8:16 And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me.** He didn't judge after the flesh, but if He did judge, Jesus' judgment would be true, for it would be by God's judgment. Therefore, He was not alone. The Father was with Him; the Father sent Him, so what He claimed and did was of the Father. Here Jesus calls God *"Father."* He had a Father/Son relationship with God. He knew God in a very personal and intimate way as Father. Therefore, He alone could know all the truths: where He came from, and who was sent Him.

## II. THE OFFER OF WITNESSES JOHN 8:17-20

**8:17 It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true.** Jesus now appeals to the law of man. The law required two witnesses to validate a claim. Deut.19:15b says, *"One witness shall not rise up against a man...at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established."*



# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

**8:18** I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me beareth witness of me. Jesus says

He has His two witnesses: I and the Father.

1. I am one that bear witness of myself.
2. the Father that sent me beareth witness of me

So, are you going to go against that testimony?

**8:19** Then said they unto him, Where is thy Father? Jesus answered, Ye neither know me, nor my Father: If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also. They are really not taking Jesus' Word for this. The Pharisees wanted the Father to appear. They are asking Jesus to present Him; present your Father. They wanted physical evidence. They wanted Him there so they could see Him witness. Now, if their forefathers had never seen God, what made them think they would! Jesus already knew that they judged by sight and appearance. As I heard someone say, *"They don't want that smoke."* They couldn't even stand the smoke or His voice on Mt Sinai when God spoke to them. No, they don't want what they're asking for. Jesus lets them know that they themselves don't know who Jesus or the Father is, because if they knew who Jesus was, they would know the Father too.

1. The unbeliever does not know Jesus.
2. The unbeliever does not know the Father.

The Light of the world had come into the world, but they knew Him not. He even spoke their law to them, but they were blinded by their own ideas about God.

**8:20** These words spake Jesus in the treasury, as he taught in the temple: and no man laid hands on him; for his hour was not yet come. This great tragedy was spoken in the treasury as Jesus taught. It is the same in our churches today. This *"treasury"* was where the 13 chests stood where people put their voluntary contributions for the sacrifices and offerings for the temple. The religionists wanted nothing to do with Him. But, Jesus lets us know that His hour had not yet come to suffer and die. That meant God protected Him. No man could lay hands on Him. How many times we've been in an accident and came out unscathed? - Because God protected us!

## SUMMARY:

**12** Jesus is speaking to the Pharisees and some Jewish leaders in the treasury teaching. He has made a great claim and promise. First of all, Jesus is I Am—and has claimed that He is the Light of the World. When you follow Me you shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. Apart from Christ man is lost. **13** The Pharisees rejected what Jesus has said. They're saying that His record is not true. **14** Jesus tells them that He knows Himself better than they do, and His record is true, for He knows where He came from, and where He's going. **15** Jesus says, *"I judge no man."* But they are judging after the flesh. **16** But if Jesus did judge, His judgment would be true, for it would be by God's judgment; therefore, Jesus was not alone. The Father was with Him, and the Father sent Him, so what He claimed and did was of the Father (**8:12-16**).

**17** Jesus now appeals to the law of man; of the testimony of two men. The law required two witnesses to validate a claim (Deut.19:15b). **18** Jesus has His two witnesses: Himself and the Father. *"I am one that bear witness of myself, and the Father that sent me.* They are really not taking Jesus' Word for this. **19** The Pharisees want the Father to appear. They are asking Jesus to present Him; present your Father. Jesus lets them know that they themselves don't know who Jesus is, or the Father is because if they knew who Jesus was, they would know the Father too. **20** This great tragedy was spoken in the treasury as Jesus taught. His hour had not yet come to suffer and die, and therefore, no man could lay hands upon Him. (**8:17-20**).



# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

## INTRODUCTION:

**OUTLINE:** a picture of Jesus being rejected and accepted as King.

1. The unbelievers (vv37-41). They act logically: reject miracles; reject revelation and reject the arm of the Lord.
2. The silent believers (vv42-43). They fail to confess Jesus Christ, for they fear loss, but they love the praise of men more than the praise of God..
3. The true believer (vv.44-46). They believe on God; sees God only through seeing Jesus Christ; and are delivered from darkness through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world

## III. THE OFFER OF ESCAPE FROM DARKNESS JOHN 12:44-46

**12:44 Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but upon him that sent me.** Jesus the mediator represents God before men and men, before God. He is the bridge-builder.

- Through believing on Jesus Christ, the Mediator, a man believes on God, and his faith is placed on God.

**12:45 And he that seeth me, seeth him that sent me.**

- Through seeing Jesus Christ, the Mediator, a man sees God.

**12:46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.** We recognize Jesus as being the Light of the world. Jesus came to be the light of the world to bring light and salvation to man. Jesus came as light into the world so that men would not have to live in a state of darkness. The man who believes on Christ is given light, the light to see and learn the truth of God and of himself, of the world and of others, of the future and of eternity.

## SUMMARY:

Jesus' declaration of who He is are in these verses.

1. The Offer of Light is that Jesus' claim and promise was rejected saying it was not true.
2. The Offer of the Witnesses is that Jesus gives them two witnesses according to their law: Himself and the One who sent Him.
3. The Offer of Escape from Darkness is that if you believe on Jesus, then you will believe on the One who sent Him. And if you see Jesus, you will see the One who sent Him. Jesus is the Light who has come into the world, and whosoever believeth on Jesus should not abide in darkness,