

John 8:48 – 9:12

48 Jesus was telling them that they were of their father the devil because they acted like their father. The response is to turn the blame back on Jesus. It is man's natural tendency to accuse others of the thing they are guilty of. Calling Jesus a Samaritan may have been a reference to His birth. See 9:34; 1Peter 2:23 Jesus said their actions showed their relations and in verse 46 invited them to convict him of inappropriate actions.

49 -50 Again Jesus says He just lives to honor the Father, and they are attempting to dishonor Him. Jesus isn't seeking glory for Himself, but His Father is seeking to glorify Him and He is the One that is the Judge. He may be referring back to what He said in 7:18.

51 Another hard saying for them to receive. From 6 – we must eat His flesh and drink His blood. 7- Declared Himself to be the source of Living Water. From 8 – the Light of the world and now "If you keep my words you will never die." He didn't make it easy. On the other hand, those who were seeking heard. Those who were rejecting the work of God in their hearts would have these unforgettable expressions like barbs in their hearts.

52 – 53 Another of the many examples of Jesus speaking on a spiritual plane while the listeners are hearing on a physical plane. Remember Adam and Eve died the day they ate the forbidden fruit but their physical lives went on.

54 – 55 Jesus justification for His statements is that He is not seeking His own glory. False leaders and false prophets have that identifying characteristic. They seek glory for themselves as we saw in 7:18. Proverbs 25:27; 2 Corinthians 10:18 Jesus said that they thought God was their Father but the reality was that they did not know Him.

56 – 57 I think Jesus is referring to this time of His ministry though the next verse may point to Abraham's meeting with Jehovah. I think it is Abraham's vision of faith that saw the day the Messiah would come. Hebrews 11:13; 1Peter 1:10-12

58 I AM! This was God's name declared to Moses. JHWH Though Jesus was saying this in Aramaic, it meant the same. John was very aware of the many times Jesus said this and makes a point of bringing the expression out. In this conversation Jesus was saying He is not bound by time. He is and was and is to come. He was there in Abraham's day.

59 This will happen again in chapter 10. This is one indication that they understood exactly what His claim was! Leviticus 24:16 Those who say Jesus never said He was God ignore these clear references.

9:1 –2 The Jews had the mind set that all illness and affliction was a result of the sins of the person or the parents. Since the man was born blind, they wanted to hear Jesus say it was the result of the parent's sin, but Jesus gives them a surprise answer.

3 It was not the result of sin. We live in a fallen world where the whole creation is under the curse. He may have been born with a genetic defect or vitamin deficiency that prevented the development of his eyes, but Jesus was saying that the reason that God allowed it is for the work of God to be displayed.

4-5 While He is physically present His actions and words are a light to mankind, a revelation of the heart of God. Soon they would no longer have his physical presence and would have to wait until Pentecost to have that guidance again. 5:36; 12:35-36 He is about to bring light to blind eyes, that he might see the work of God.

6 His technique is never the same. This one is baffling! It had to be the direction of the Holy Spirit. Copying the procedure will not bring the same results. Mark 7:33; 8:23 other uses of spit.

7 The man had to exercise his faith and do his part. Psalms 146:8 The 10 lepers were healed as they went. Jesus sometimes called on the ones in need to express their faith in His words. "Rise up and walk!" The lame had to make an effort and God met them in that expression of faith.

8 –9 I imagine he did look different with eyes that see and moving about with vision. Personal testimony is undeniable. I'm the one. We can claim with this man that we were born blind, but now we see!

10 –12 How is it possible? Jesus! Your personal testimony attracts people to Jesus. They may come because of the positive affects in your life, but the spiritually hungry will come because they are seeking the light of the world. John 3:19-21