"Truth verses Deception”Re-discovering Jesus in the Gospel of John

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## John 8:30-47

**30** As he was saying these things, many believed in him.  
  
**31**So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, **32**and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” **33**They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”  
  
**34** Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin.**35** The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever.**36**So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. **37** I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. **38** I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father.”  
  
**39** They answered him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, **40** but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. **41** You are doing the works your father did.” They said to him, “We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God.” **42** Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. **43** Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word.**44** You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. **45** But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. **46**Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? **47** Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.”

**1.    We can deceive ourselves about our spiritual slavery (v.33)**  
  
**Romans 6:16:**  
Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?  
  
**2 Peter 2:19:**  
They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved.   
  
**2.    We can deceive ourselves about our spiritual heritage (v. 30, 41)**  
  
**John 1:12-13**  
But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.  
  
**Philippians 3:3-8**  
For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh--**4**though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: **5** circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; **6** as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. **7** But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. **8** Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ  
  
**3.    We can be set free by the TRUTH  (v. 32, 45)**  
  
**John 14:6-7**  
**6** Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. **7** If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”  
  
**John 8:36**  
**36**So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. 

**Read ahead as we continue our study through the Gospel of John 8:48-59 next week**