

“How to witness to a Jew”

All Scripture is KJV: Acts 8:25-40

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY

One of the most difficult people to witness to is a Jewish person.

The reason for this is because from birth they are told that Jesus is not God, and that he was a mere prophet and a trouble maker who only sought to elevate his own title.

- This in fact is what the Jewish Talmud (collection of rabbinical writing) says about Jesus.
- The Talmud says that this man “Jesus” was a trouble maker, who barely lived out half his life and was killed.
- They even say in the Talmud that Jesus was “put to death” and justly so.

✚ And it was and still is “taboo” for a Jew to even to think about Jesus being the messiah.

✚ They even say that it was Jesus and his followers that corrupted the “Jewish Scriptures”.

1. A Jew does not believe for one second in the NT.
2. A Jew sees the NT was a chance of plagiarism by the Apostles who were the followers at that time of Jesus.

✚ The Talmudic stories make fun of Jesus' birth from a virgin, fervently contesting his claim to be the Messiah and Son of God, and maintain that he was rightfully executed as a blasphemer and idolater.

✚ They subvert the Christian idea of Jesus' resurrection and insist he got the punishment he deserved in hell--and that a similar fate awaits his followers.

However.....

1. Jesus knew what they were saying about him all through his earthly ministry.
2. Remember how Jesus told them to their faces in the scriptures that they were of their Father the Devil.
3. He told them that they were of the synagogue of Satan.

- ✓ Why do you suppose he said those harsh words to them?
- ✓ Here's why.....

John 8:36-59 – there father is the devil

³⁶ If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

³⁷ I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, **because my word hath no place in you.**

³⁸ **I speak that which I have seen with my Father:** and **ye do that which ye have seen with your father.**

- ✓ **Clearly –** the father of Judaism of the Jews is not God the Father of Jesus Christ whom we worship?
- ✓ **That means –** As Jesus said “You have not the father”. – 1 John 2:23
- ✓ **1 John 2:23** **Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.**

³⁹ **They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father.** Jesus saith unto them, **If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.**

⁴⁰ But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham.

⁴¹ **Ye do the deeds of your father.** Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; **we have one Father, even God.**

⁴² **Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father,** ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

⁴³ **Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.**

⁴⁴ **Ye are of your father the devil,** and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

⁴⁵ **And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.**

⁴⁶ Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

⁴⁷ **He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.**

⁴⁸ Then answered the Jews, and said unto him, **Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil?**

⁴⁹ **Jesus answered, I have not a devil; but I honour my Father, and ye do dishonour me.**

⁵⁰ And I seek not mine own glory: there is one that seeketh and judgeth.

⁵¹ Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.

52 Then said the Jews unto him, Now we know that thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and thou sayest, If a man keep my saying, he shall never taste of death.

53 Art thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead? and the prophets are dead: whom makest thou thyself?

54 Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God:

55 Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him, and keep his saying.

56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.

57 Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham?

58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

59 Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

- ✓ The point is they could not make out for themselves the scriptures.
- ✓ Even today they still stumble on the scriptures, because they do not believe Jesus or his word.

- ❖ Jesus again Mark 3 tells them why they cannot be forgiven. That reason is stated in Mark 3:30.
- ❖ Lets see....

Mark 3:28-30 King James Version (KJV)

28 Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme:

29 But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation.

30 Because they said, He hath an unclean spirit.

1. Now that we can understand why they don't believe, it gives us an opportunity to now show them from the OT that Jesus was there all this time.
2. You see as Jesus said in Matthew 13, that when he came he taught them in their own synagogue, and they were astonished at his wisdom.
3. The Rabbi's don't want to believe any history concerning Jesus.

4. But what about the wisdom he taught them with?

See Matthew 13:54-55.

Matthew 13:54-55 King James Version (KJV)

⁵⁴ And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works?

⁵⁵ Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?

- ❖ With further regards to what Jesus said we can read in Revelation 2:9 and Revelation 3:9.
- ❖ No words were withheld by our Lord concerning the Jews and their unbelief.

Revelation 2:9

I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the **synagogue of Satan**.

Revelation 3:9

Behold, I will make them of the **synagogue of Satan**, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

- ✓ With that in mind please turn to the Book of Acts Chapter 8 and verse 25.
 1. It is here that we will begin to see how to start that witness.
 2. It is also here we will see that it took a NT person to preach the OT to a Jew.
 3. Because the Jews cannot interpret the OT correctly through the lens and eyes of Jesus and the Holy spirit.
 4. They don't have a guide and a teacher which is the Holy Spirit. In acts 8 we see that it took Philip by the Holy Spirit to expound the scriptures correctly.....

Acts 8:25-40 King James Version (KJV)

²⁵ And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, **and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.**

²⁶ And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.

²⁷ And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship,

28 Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.

²⁹ Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.

30 And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?

³¹ And he said, **How can I, except some man should guide me?** And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

1. He needed a guide.
2. He needed a teacher.
3. And that is what it takes friends. It takes someone to come and sit with them to show them and guide them.
4. Even though they have the scriptures in front of them they cannot see.

32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:

1. For a Jew trying to interpret this chapter of Isaiah 53 it is hopeless for them.
2. They cannot see that it is Jesus the Messiah that was to come and that he did come.
3. For the normal Jew reading this, to them this suffering servant was "Israel"
4. They look at it as "Israel that is suffering because of other nations sins".
5. Even the Ethiopian Eunuch could not understand until Phillip should guide and should reason with him that it was Jesus.

33 In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.

34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?

³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and **began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.**

1. You see friends. It is possible to preach Jesus from the OT. Phillip did.
2. This is in fact what we should do when we are trying to show a Jew. Because they don't believe the NT.

³⁶ And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

³⁷ And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

³⁹ And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

⁴⁰ But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities, till he came to Caesarea.

- ❖ The problem with the Jew is that they are steeped in the rabbinical teachings of the rabbi's for over the last 2700years and more.
- ❖ They do not believe the NT.
- ❖ They do not believe in Jesus.
- ❖ You have to witness from the OT.

CLOSE IN PRAYER.....