

THE GOSPEL *of* JOHN

CHAPTER 8:21-30

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Where Are You Going?”

THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

John 1:12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Heaven, Hell, Salvation, Jesus is the only way

INTRODUCTION

to the text

John 8:21-30

Recently, while I was on my way back to the east coast, I heard an interesting announcement. As we were landing, the stewardess said on the PA, ***“ladies and gentlemen, this is the terminating flight for Delta 465.”***

...and I thought “terminating, “terminating, “terminating,”

Listen, I’m glad she waited to say that after we had landed – because the word termination, terminal, sounds pretty final! – Because it is!!!

Have you ever thought about where you're going?

I don't mean this afternoon or this evening – everybody is of course coming to the coffeehouse for fellowship tonight!

*I don't mean where you're going on winter vacation...
- that's not what I'm talking about*

Where Are **You** Going?

- When your life has run its course

I'm talking about the big trip, the grand journey, the end of the road, the here-after, kicking the bucket, being dead, death !!!

Job 14:14

If a man die, shall he live again?

John 11:25-26

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.

Jesus had been teaching all along that He was in fact the savior, the messiah the bread of life...

I am the Light of the World

Your understanding of this determines your eternal destination -- So the question is...

Where are you going?

Wherever it is – we're getting there mighty fast

John 8:21-30

Permanent Destinations Matter

Where you're Going

A.) *Depends upon where you're from*

vv. 21-24

1.) *Not everyone goes to heaven*

v.21-22

Then Jesus said to them again, "**I am going away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin. Where I go you cannot come.**" ." 22 So the Jews said, "Will He kill Himself, because He says, 'Where I go you cannot come'?"

The Narrowness of Heavens Gate

Matthew 7:13-14

13 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Not everyone goes to heaven

Matthew 7:21

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

The Lord Knows Who Goes

Romans 8:29

For whom He foreknew, (prior to creation, in his eternal mind) He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son...

... **Romans 8:30**

30 Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

It's Based Upon His Foreknowledge

Romans 9:21-22

21 Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor? 22 What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,

**But Everyone and Anyone Who Calls Upon The Name
of the Lord Shall be Saved**

Romans 10:8-11

8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame (eternal shame)."

Acts 22:16

wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'

Jeremiah 29:13-14

And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me
with all your heart.

will die in your sin - singular

*

Sin grk NT:264 hamartano (ham-ar-tan'-o)

To miss the target. To miss the goal. To fail at perfection

**There is a target that you cannot
afford to miss in this life**

It is the unpardonable sin of

UNBELIEF

Regarding the claims of Jesus Christ

you will die in your sin(s) - plural

*

Sins grk NT:266 hamartia (ham-ar-tee'-ah)

Because you rejected the messiah, you life's deeds and motives, and sins will be judge against the law of God

Galatians 2:21

do not set aside **the grace** (the gift) of God; for if righteousness comes through **the law**, (the performance) then Christ died in vain."

Galatians 5:3-4

4 You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by **law**; (the performance) you have fallen from **grace** (the gift).

Ephesians 2:7-9

8 For by **grace** (the gift) you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

He Had Earlier Informed Them of His Destination

John 7:33-35

34 You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come." 35 Then the Jews said among themselves, "Where does He intend to go that we shall not find Him?"

Verse 22

Where I go (heaven) you cannot come." . 22 So the Jews said, "Will He kill Himself, because He says, **Where I go you cannot come'?**"

"Will He kill Himself, because He says,
'Where I go you cannot come'?"

We, The Leaders of the Jewish People – Can't Go to Hell – that's impossible

This is a blasphemous jab at Jesus. They're accusing Jesus of planning His own suicide

The Jewish Rulers Taught

That suicide was a sin that could never be forgiven of and that the person having committed suicide descends to the deepest hell. If that weren't enough, they taught that the family members of deceased were condemned as well...

This Was Their Doctrine;

"Where you're going is hell, and we Jews don't go there, so you're right Jesus, we will not go with you, because you're going to hell"

Isaiah 5:20-21

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Matthew 15:6-9

you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition. 7 Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: 8'These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. 9 And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' "

Concerning Suicide

Romans 8:38-39

38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Where you're Going

2.) *Not everyone is of God*

v.23

**"You are from beneath; I am from above.
You are of this world; I am not of this world.**

John 8:14

I Know, You Don't Know

...for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know

John 8:15

I Judge No One, You Judge

You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one.

John 8:23a

I am from Above, You are from Beneath

"You are from beneath; I am from above.

John 8:23b

I am not of/from these parts, You Are

You are of this world; I am not of this world.

You are from beneath !

the underworld, the pit of hell, the
abode of demons

- Light and Darkness Cannot be Mixed
- Like Oil and Water Cannot be Mixed
- Like Good and Evil Cannot be Mixed

2 Corinthians 6:13-16

14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever?

John 8:44

You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do.

Philippians 3:18-20

18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame--who set their mind on earthly things. 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

Where you're Going

3.) *Not everyone receives forgiveness*

v.24

Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I AM, you will die in your sins."

1 John 2:2

And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

The Non Believer Dies in Their Sins

if you do not believe that I AM,

(the one was, who is, who is to come - God)

Where you're Going

B.) *Depends on what you understand*

vv. 25-28

1.) *They didn't understand who He was*

v.25

Then they said to Him, "Who are You?"

And Jesus said to them, "**Just what I have been saying to you from the beginning.**"

"Who are You?"

that is a great question only if you are looking for an answer

Mark 8:27

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

"Who is He?"

Do You Really Understand Who Jesus Is, - Really ?

How Do You Know ?

John 9:35-37

...and Jesus said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? 36 He answered and said, **Who is he**, Lord, that I might believe on him? 37 And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and **it is he that talks with thee.**

John 20:30-31

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written **that you might believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and **that believing you may have life in His name.**

1 Corinthians 2:13-14

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Where you're Going

2.) They didn't understand His message

v.26-27

I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him." 27 They did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father.

**I have many things to say and to judge concerning you
I have much to say in judgment of you**

THE JUDGEMENT

was the neglecting and rejecting the opportunity to receive Him

Matthew 15:6-9

Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition. 7 Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: 8'These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. 9 And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' "

Isaiah 29:13-14

Therefore the LORD said: "Inasmuch as these people draw near with their mouths
And honor Me with their lips, But have removed their hearts far from Me, And their fear
toward Me is taught by the commandment of men, 14 Therefore, behold, I will again
do a marvelous work Among this people, A marvelous work and a wonder; For the
wisdom of their wise men shall perish,

This Revelation of Being Judge
Rocked Them to the Core.

- *Every jew understood what He was saying (~~understanding~~)*

John 8:43-44

Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word.

Where you're Going

3.) They didn't understand his mission

v.28

Then Jesus said to them, "**When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know
that I am He,**

Why Did Jesus Come
And why is it all about Him anyway?

Because He was Lifted Up for Us All
When you lift up the Son of Man
Here Jesus, Authoritatively, Announces His Crucifixion !

Please Stop and Consider This

Jesus Predicts Here His Own Manner of Death

**It's The Cross of Jesus Christ
That Points the Way to Heaven**

I am Reminded that it was the Northern Cross that Directed Mariners at Sea to their safe harbor.

I've Been to London England and in London there is a place called Charing Cross and it is said that from Charing Cross you can find your way home

*
lift up grk
to be crucified. Lifted up from off the earth. To be suspended on a tree / crux

But There's Even a Greater Announcement Here

*
lift up grk
also means to exalted, honored and worshipped.
To adore and to love. To become the begotten, or glorified one.

I Will Be Crucified on a Tree, a Crux, a Cross
And I Will Be Honored, Worshipped and Exalted

Psalm 22:16

For dogs (gentiles) have surrounded Me;
The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me.
They pierced My hands and My feet;

John 3:14-15

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 12:32-33

If I be lifted up from the earth, Then will I draw all peoples to Myself."
33 This He said, indicating by what death He would die.

Luke 24:38-40

38 And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." 40 When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet.

How Can You Recognize Jesus Today? – *by the holes in His hands and feet*

Zechariah 12:10

"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they have pierced; they will mourn for Me as one mourns for his only son,

#1

Where you're Going

Depends upon where you're from

#2

Where you're Going

Depends upon what you understand

#3

Where you're Going

C.) *Depends upon what you choose*

vv. 28-30

God Honors Your Choices

He may disagree with them, they may be the wrong choices, they might cost you dearly, you may have to live with those choices...

But God Honors Your Choices

Where you're Going

Depends upon what you choose

1.) *Choosing to Do what God says*

v.28

...and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone,

He Wants Us, a **Blessed** People (*Glad and Fulfilled, Complete*)

Are You Choosing to Do what God says to do...

The Answer is NO

Luke 6:46

"But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,'
and do not do the things which I say?"

James 1:22-23

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror;

Where you're Going
Depends upon what you choose
Are You Choosing to Do what God says

2.) *Choosing to have the right motives*

v.29

for I always do those things that please Him

Luke 6:12-13

12 Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain **to pray, and continued all night in prayer** to God. 13 And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them **He chose** twelve whom He also named apostles:

Father, Not My Will be Done...
Desires, Plans, Dreams

Colossians 3:1-3

seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is **hidden** with Christ in God.

I was Blessed to hear this week in the news that a reporter accused **George Bush** of “**Hiding behind Jesus Christ** ever since his religious encounter with God twelve years ago”

Philippians 2:5-11

5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. 9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Psalm 19:14

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

MOTIVE

Where you're Going
Depends upon what you choose

3.) Choosing to make the right decision

v.30

As He spoke these words, many believed in Him.

many believed in Him

that is the destination that God desires for you today

**Making The Right
Decision**

You Will Arrive
Where Your Heart's Treasures Are

Matthew 6:19-21

19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Does The "E" in E-Commerce mean Earthly
Wealth Or Eternal Riches?

We've All Been Investing and Preparing for
Eternity
Some of you just haven't realized it until
today

John 14:1-4

14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. 4 **And where I go you know, and the way you know.**"

Will You Make
Your Way to Him Today