

New Testament Church
The Book of John #15 – John 8:1-29 – Authority, Justice and Mercy
May 3, 2026 - Pastor Paul Jehle

- I The Gospel of John - Why expository preaching and why the Book of John at this time?
- A. Expository preaching brings depth, continuity and helps a congregation study together
 - 1. John reveals Christ as God – (eagle) - “behold your God” (Is. 40:9)
 - 2. The gospels reveal the “four faces” of Christ – king, servant, man, eagle
 - B. John, author of John, 1st, 2nd, 3rd John and Revelation was a disciple of John the Baptist
 - 1. One of the sons of Zebedee (Salome his mother), a fisherman with Simon & Andrew
 - 2. ***John began as a critic but learned the balance of truth, grace and love...***
 - C. One of the themes in John are the various ***signs*** that indicate critical aspects of Christ
 - 1. The **first SIGN** was water into wine (John 2) – there is New Life in Christ
 - 2. The **second SIGN** was healing the Nobleman’s son (John 4) – faith in Christ’s Word
 - 3. The **third SIGN** was healing the cripple (John 5) – Christ’s undeserving Grace
 - 4. The **fourth SIGN** feeding the 5,000 (John 6) – Christ is the bread of life
 - 5. The **fifth SIGN** of walking on water (John 6) – Transcendence of Bread
 - D. Another theme are the various **I AM** statements by Jesus – 1st – I am the Bread of Life
- II John 8:1-29 – Authority, Justice and Mercy – ***the law of God is not tyrannical, but the law of man is...***
- A. The Woman caught in Adultery – v. 1-11 (see also Joshua 6:23 - Rahab; Mt. 21:31-32)
 - 1. Some early manuscripts, and others, contest this passage – **the Law brings the Fear of God!**
 - 2. The religious leaders bring a woman caught in adultery – “in the very act” (v. 4)
 - a. If Jesus forgave the woman, He would set aside God’s Law (death penalty – Lev. 20:10)
 - b. If He demanded justice, it would defy the Roman Law and the popular opinion of the day
 - 3. Where was the man? Male leaders wanted to protect their sin while accusing the woman
 - a. The Law’s purpose was to protect the family (marriage of the man *and* woman)
 - b. It was a double standard to arrest the woman and not the man (both are liable)
 - 4. “He that is without (this) sin, let him first cast a stone at her” (victim casts first stone)
 - 5. They all left, “beginning with the eldest” (courtsey) – because they were all *guilty* of adultery
 - 6. The mercy of God’s Law – “where are your accusers” – no case, “go and sin no more”
 - B. “By what Authority do you do these things?” (Mt. 21:23) – do you have permission? (v. 12-20)
 - 1. ***Everyone is under delegated authority – but it is not for the lust of tyranny or control***
 - 2. **The 2nd I AM – “I am the light of the World”** – at the Feast of Tabernacles
 - 3. Like the pillar of fire that lit the way in the wilderness, so Jesus is that light (Ex. 13:21)
 - 4. Law required two witnesses (Dt. 17:6) – religious leaders wanted to disqualify Him, not debate
 - a. “I bear witness of Myself, and my Father bears witness of me” – where is your Father?
 - b. They were to examine his works and words, they wanted to ask for his “papers” (permission)
 - 5. *Those who wish to control abandon true authority, justice and mercy.* Do you have permission?
 - C. “Who are you?” (v. 25) – An evasive tactic to avoid the obvious truth – v. 21-29
 - 1. v. 24 - “If you believe not that **I AM**” you will die in sin (see Ex. 3:14 ‘I AM THAT I AM’)
 - 2. “You shall die in your sins” – (Ez. 3:18; 18:18) – you refuse to repent of control, no forgiveness
 - 3. Jesus made it clear, all tyrants of control in church and state are from beneath (of this world)
 - a. The inspiration for tyranny, control, domination is from hell – evil
 - b. They believed that God’s purpose was to confirm their control, not confront it!
 - c. ***All refusals of the I AM, the Sovereignty of God, makes man the sovereign***
 - 4. The religious leaders did not understand who the Father was that Jesus referred to... (v. 26-29)
 - a. “He that sent me is true” – Jesus had many things to say – exposing their false motives
 - b. Jesus only spoke what the Father said, for “he that sent me is with me” (v. 29)
 - c. Man’s control always seeks who they can control – desiring God to affirm them!