

John 8:48–59 takes place during Jesus' confrontation with the Jewish religious leaders in the Second Temple during the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7–8). Throughout the chapter, Jesus challenges superficial faith and exposes spiritual blindness. The leaders increasingly reject His claims, responding with insults and accusations rather than repentance. In this section, the tension reaches its climax as Jesus declares that whoever keeps His word will never see death and finally identifies Himself with the divine name "I AM," echoing God's revelation in Exodus 3:14. The crowd understands this as a claim to deity and attempts to stone Him for blasphemy.

Have you ever been misunderstood or rejected for saying something you believed was true? How did you respond?

Read John 8:48-59

1. Why do the religious leaders respond to Jesus with insults instead of honest reflection?
2. What do their accusations reveal about the human heart when confronted by uncomfortable truth?
3. Why is calling Jesus a Samaritan and demon possessed significant in this context? (See John 4:9; John 7:20).
4. How does Jesus respond to their insults and accusations? What does this reveal about His character?
5. How do you respond to things that go against who you are? What can our response reveal about our emotional and spiritual health? Read Luke 6:28

6. What does Jesus mean by "keep my word"? John 14:21; James 1:22.
7. What evidences in our life demonstrate that we are truly "keeping" Christ's word?
8. In what sense will believers "never see death"? John 11:25–26; Hebrews 2:14–15.
9. How does Jesus expose the contradiction in the Jews' claim to know God? John 8:19; Titus 1:16
10. The religious leaders trusted in their heritage and religion. What things do people today rely on instead of Christ for identity or security?
11. How can good things — family, morality, success, ministry, tradition — become saviour-like to people?
12. What does Jesus mean when He says Abraham "rejoiced to see My day"?
13. What is the significance of Jesus saying, "Before Abraham was, I AM"? Exodus 3:14; John 1:1; John 17:5.
14. V59 Jesus was rejected and threatened here. How does that help Christians face rejection today? Hebrews 4:14–16; 1 Peter 4:12–14

Prayer Points

Pray for those who are taking their exams. Pray for the school staff members, and those who are involved in all aspects of our education. Pray for more Alpha courses to run in schools across the country.

Pray for Christians in Afghanistan who still endure after almost five years of Taliban rule. As we celebrate Pentecost, ask the Lord to fill Afghan believers 'with all joy and peace [...] so that [they] may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit' (Romans 15:13)

Sermon Notes

The D _____ of Jesus

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If you would like to join a Connect Group, please contact the church office 01424 730001



BIBLE STUDY

May 24th 2026

I AM!

John 8:48-59

In the Gospel of John, Jesus progressively reveals His divine identity while confronting deep unbelief. He is presented as the light who exposes spiritual darkness, showing that true blindness is not physical but a refusal to recognise truth. As the Good Shepherd, He embodies sacrificial love, intimate care, and secure belonging for His people. This part of the gospel also emphasises faith as trust in His person rather than mere signs. These passages highlight themes of revelation, belief versus rejection, abundant life, and the growing tension between divine truth and human resistance.