



## International Bible Lesson

International Bible Study Commentary

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### **A True Disciple of Jesus John 8:31-38**

*Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (John 8:31-32—KJV).*

*So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free” (John 8:31-32—NASB).*

*Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free” (John 8:31-32—NRSV).*

Jesus offers freedom from bondage to harmful habits, freedom from slavery to sin, freedom from always succumbing to the temptations of the world, the flesh, the devil. Jesus frees believers to love, serve, and please God. The freedom Jesus offers everyone begins with believing in Him and leads to obeying Him. True belief in Jesus, the Word of God, leads to continuing in or abiding in His words. Notice, Jesus put the focus on His word without equivocation. Jesus repeatedly taught that He knew the Father, kept the word of the Father, and only taught what the Father wanted Him to say. Jesus' words were God's words. From the Psalms, we learn what it means to continue in Jesus' words. Psalms 119:9, reads, “How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word.” True disciples of Jesus say with the Psalmist in Psalms 119:11, “I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you.” In John 8:12,

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life, and Psalms 119:130, reads, “The unfolding of your words gives light.” Disciples of Jesus can say in the words of Psalms 119:105, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” When believers study the Bible and obey Jesus, the Word of God made flesh, then Jesus will teach them the truth and free them from fear, sin, and death.

### **Thinking Further**

1. What is a disciple? How did Jesus describe a true disciple of His?
2. If you are a true disciple of Jesus, what will be the result?
3. How is Jesus teaching in these verses often misunderstood?
4. What kind of slavery was Jesus talking about? How does a person become that type of slave?
5. Who can free us from the slavery Jesus talked about and how did Jesus describe that freedom?

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