Sermon Notes Handout: Before Abraham Was, I AM

Scripture: John 8:48–59

Introduction

• Context: Jesus is teaching in the temple _____ during the Feast of Tabernacles.
• The crowd has questioned His _____, His _____ standing and they reject His _____.
• Core Truth: The reason they do not listen to what God says is because they have ____ _____ with God. (v. 47).

I. The Accusation and Response (John 8:48–50)

• Unable to challenge Jesus's message, the religious elite resort to verbal _____.
• They accuse Jesus of two specific labels:
  1. Being a _____ (a cultural and religious outsider status).
  2. Having a _____ (accusing Him of spiritual madness).
• Jesus models perfect behavior by not retaliating. Instead, He remains focused exclusively on bringing _____ to His Father.

II. The Declaration and Response (John 8:51–53)

• Jesus makes a dramatic statement: "If anyone _____ my word, he will never see death."
• In the original text, to "keep" means to protect, guard, and actively _____.
• The crowd mistakenly focuses on _____ death, but Jesus is promising deliverance from _____ death.
• The Central Question: The crowd demands to know: "Are you greater than our father _____?" (v. 53).
• Core Truth: Your personal response to Jesus's true identity determines your eternal _____.

III. The Eternal Christ (John 8:54–58)

• Jesus declares that the patriarch _____ looked forward in faith to see His day and rejoiced.
• In verse 58, Jesus delivers the ultimate claim to deity: "Before Abraham was, _____."
• By using the precise words "I AM," Jesus explicitly identifies Himself with the divine covenant name revealed to Moses at the _____ in Exodus 3:14.
• This statement highlights that Jesus is the uncreated, self-existent _____.

IV. Their Reaction (John 8:59)

• The audience understood His claim perfectly. Because they viewed this as blasphemy, they picked up _____ to execute Him immediately.
• When human hearts permanently harden against truth, Jesus will ultimately _____ away.

The New Testament Plan of Salvation

1. _____ the Gospel message (Romans 10:17)
2. _____ that Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)
3. _____ of your past sins (Acts 17:30)
4. _____ His divine name before men (Romans 10:9–10)
5. Be _____ for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38)