INTRODUCTION

This weekend, we finish the grand dialogue between Jesus and the crowd at the Temple during the Feast of Booths. Throughout this chapter, we have seen how the crowd of religious Jews are blinded to the spiritual light Jesus shines on them. Now, in the final section He responds to their personal insults and turns their conversation back to the priority of His mission: the salvation of sinners! Everything centers in on His command to “keep My word.” This had grave implications, not only for unbelievers, but also for all who, like Jesus’ original audience, are tempted to become complacent in their pursuit of God.

Picking up the story ...

The Crowd’s Explanation and Jesus’ Correction: vv. 48-51

The Crowd’s Argument and Jesus’ Rebuttal: vv. 52-56

The Crowd’s Exasperation and Jesus’ Declaration: vv. 57,58

The Crowd’s Verdict: v. 59

So ... How does the Word here fall on our hearts?

“Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word, He will never see death.” John 8:51
REFLECT | John 8:48-59
Do you ever find yourself challenging Jesus on who He is and what He has called you to? Do you ever struggle to respond rightly to the clear truth that Jesus is God and as such He should be submitted to? What does Jesus mean when He says, ‘If anyone keeps My word, he will never taste death’? What does it mean to seek His word? What are some commands Jesus gave us to keep? What does it mean that you will not taste death?

MEMORIZE | Hebrews 1:1-3
“Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high…”

STUDY | Hebrews 9:11-14
Why is it significant for us to understand that Jesus is better than anything in this world and that He is the better fulfillment of the Old Testament sacrificial system? How would you respond to an unbeliever who asks, “How can the blood of a man who lived 2,000 years ago help you?” What is the result of responding to the better sacrifice of Christ? Why is this good news? Is conscience always right or can it be shaped by our environment? If it can be shaped, how can we shape our conscience so that it is “cultivated” correctly? What is the purpose of having a clean conscience? Do you ever ignore your conscience? What do you think will happen if you keep ignoring it?

SHARE
Start a conversation with someone this week about their conscience. Ask them how they cultivate it. What sort of information do they allow to inform their hearts? How do they allow the Word of God to inform their conscience?

PRAY
Take some time and go to prayer for some of the needs in our congregation. Go to gracebaptist.org/prayer to see the requests. Feel free to submit a prayer request of your own as well.

If you have any questions or need additional resources, email Pastor David: david.hegg@gracebaptist.org