

“Signs of the Falsely Assured”

John 8:31-47

July 5, 2026

- I. There are _____ religious looking people who think they are saved but they are _____.

““We are not illegitimate children,” they protested. “The only Father we have is God himself... Jesus said, “you belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires.”

John 8:41b,44a (NIV)

“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”

Matthew 7:13-14 (NIV)

“Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’”

Matthew 7:22-23 (NIV)

- II. Jesus makes it clear that there are only 2 categories of people that really matter: the _____ and the _____.

“You are doing the works of your own father.” We are not illegitimate children,” they protested. “The only Father we have is God himself. You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires...”

Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.”

John 8:41, 44a, 47 (NIV)

“Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God —”

John 1:12 (NIV)

“This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God’s child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister.”

1 John 3:10 (NIV)

“All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath”

Ephesians 2:3 (NIV)

- III. Speaking the truth about salvation and lostness is not _____ or _____ but it is a great act of love and concern for the lost.

“you belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires.”

John 8:44a (NIV)

“Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.”

Proverbs 27:5-6 (NIV)

“Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free... Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me!”

John 8:32, 45 (NIV)

“Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others... For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.”

2 Corinthians 5:11a,14 (NIV)

IV. There are at least 5 signs of the falsely assured.

1. They have a superficial understanding of the gospel and a _____ faith.

“To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.”

John 8:31 (NIV)

“At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.”

John 8:59 (NIV)

“You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.”

James 2:19 (NIV)

“What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?”

James 2:14 (NIV)

2. They don’t truly _____ to the word of God.

“To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples... I know that you are Abraham’s descendants. Yet you are looking for a way to kill me, because you have no room for my word... Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say... Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.”

John 8:31,37,43,47 (NIV)

“Then Jesus said, “Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear” ... so that, “they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!”

Mark 4:9,12 (NIV)

3. They cling to their spiritual _____ and _____ rather than to Jesus.

““Abraham is our father,” they answered. “If you were Abraham’s children,” said Jesus, “then you would do what Abraham did.”

John 8:39 (NIV)

4. They do not truly _____ Jesus.

“Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I have come here from God.”

John 8:42a (NIV)

5. They focus on what they have _____ to deserve salvation rather than _____ in Jesus.

“To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

Luke 18:9-12 (NIV)

“Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’”

Matthew 7:22-23 (NIV)

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.”

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)