

Who's Your Daddy

John 8:37-48

37 "I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. 38 I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father."

39 They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father."

Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. 40 But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. 41 You do the deeds of your father."

Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father — God."

42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. 43 Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. 44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. 45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. 46 Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? 47 He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God." NKJV

Before the day of DNA testing there was no way of telling for real who were who's children. People look at that new born baby and start to see who in the family has similar characteristics. Well Jesus in our passage today tells these religious people that they have the characteristics of their father all right but it is God.

Now some people tell us that we are all the children of God, but Jesus referred to these in particular as not being the children of God. Everyone in this life has one of two fathers, either God or the devil.

The word devil means slanderer or accuser. Now there are a number of people in most churches that would fit that description. It has become know as another name for Satan, an angel created by God who fell from the holy estate to which God had created and appointed him. Through the fall of man into Satan's rebellion, he has become the father of all those who have thrown in their lot with him.

What is surprising in all this is that Jesus is addressing the most pious group of His day. As a matter of fact, everyone supposed that these Pharisees and priests would without doubt be considered the children of God. What a shocker to think that you stood in God's favor all our life only to discover that your father is the great deceiver, Satan.

Let us look at this passage and see how it develops.

- I. "I know that you are Abraham's descendants
 - A. And surely they were according to the flesh.
 - B. Paul will later show that Abraham is not only the father of the descendants of Jacob

but also the father of all those who have faith.

1. And in the real sense that is his primary designation, the father of the faithful.

II. But you seek to kill Me

A. Several times in this passage as well as others, Jesus discloses their true purpose, to put Him to death.

B. It is not a matter of a misunderstanding.

C. Jesus showed them their sin, their deceit and they could not bear to have their sin so plainly displayed, so they must get rid of Him.

III. Because My word has no place in you.

A. Now He tells them the real problem.

1. His word has not place in them.

2. They cannot receive His teaching.

3. His teaching is true and they are masters of falsehood.

4. His is a message of light and they love darkness.

5. His is a message of righteousness but they live lives controlled by sin.

B. I think we would miss an important part of this if we did not see a correlation to our day.

1. Many today, even in the churches, do not have the word of Christ in them.

2. They cannot accept it.

3. They deny it, and regulate it to an unenlightened age.

4. They have become wiser than Him.

5. They pick certain passages and shout them out but others that clearly display their evil hearts they have forgotten.

6. They look to the so called scholars who like themselves are in the blackest darkness, for aid in justifying what they do to the word of God.

7. They slander the word while they say they believe in the God that the word describes.

8. Really they worship a god of their own making, a god that they are the authority over and tell him what he can and cannot stand for.

C. Then is it any wonder that there is becoming an even greater divide between these religious people and the true children of God.

1. Do not be deceived, those who reject the word of Christ are not God's

children but belong to another spiritual father, as they desire

- IV. I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father."
 - A. Jesus claimed that He was doing and saying what He had seen and heard from His Father, while the Jews were doing what they had seen from your father.
 - 1. He could not help following His Heavenly Father.
 - 2. They could not help but follow their spiritual father, Satan.
- V. They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father."
 - A. They object to the accusation and remind Jesus that they were the children of Abraham.
 - 1. And this was true in the physical sense but not in the spiritual.
 - 2. They were children of Abraham according to the flesh.
 - 3. But they were children according to the devil.
 - B. Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. You do the deeds of your father."
 - 1. Jesus disagrees with them and give them the evidence.
 - 2. You see it is not just a matter of what we claim, there is evidence of who's children we are.
 - 3. They did not do the works of Abraham.
 - 4. They were trying to find a reason and a way to kill Jesus.
 - 5. They despised the truth and found comfort in lies, therefore the one who brings the truth must die.
 - 6. Abraham would not have done these things.
 - 7. That is why their father cannot be Abraham, or even God, but the devil.
- VI. Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father — God."
 - A. Now they strike back.
 - B. Maybe they have heard the rumors of Jesus miraculous birth and as an unbeliever would describe it, a scandalous birth.
- VII. Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word."
 - A. Now Jesus enumerates the things they do not have in common with the children of

God.

1. God is love and His children are characterized by love.
2. They love Jesus.
3. They listen to and understand the things that Jesus teaches.

VIII. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. 45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.

A. Now He describes how they are like their father the devil.

1. They desire the same things that the devil desires.
2. He is a murderer, hence they are trying to kill Him.
3. He does not stand in the truth.
4. There is no truth in him for he is a liar and the father of lies.

IX. 46 Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? 47 He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God."

A. Jesus gives them a challenge.

1. Which of them can show Him His sin?
2. And since He is telling them only the truth, why do they refuse to believe Him?
3. Simply put, He says, "He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God."

B. What an indictment upon those who were consider as the righteous of their nation.

C. Yet they were filled with sin.

D. The problem is that their fate would be that of their spiritual father.

1. Now we know that many of these same men were converted and abandoned their old lives and then believed in Jesus.
2. What about you, have you abandoned your past life of sin and deceit to embrace the true God in Jesus Christ.

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