

## [#2] WHERE IS YOUR FATHER?

### Part 2

Last week in part 1 of 'Where is your Father', we established that there are only two fathers from which mankind must choose. One being Jehovah and the other being Satan. We scripturally established that those calling on the name of Jehovah, acknowledging Him as their father, will be saved for eternal life. Then we read John 8: 12-59 as the basis, for a spiritual paternity test. Now in part 2 the spiritual paternity test to determine who our father is as an individual begins. Are you ready for this telling paternity test? Then let's begin.

At Jo 8:16-19 we see that Jesus knows who His father is, even when religious leaders called this into question where it says; **16**But even if I do judge, My judgment is true, because I am not alone; I am with the Father who sent Me. **17**Even in your own Law it is written that the testimony of two men is valid. I am One who testifies about Myself, and the Father, who sent Me, also testifies about Me." **19**"Where is Your Father?" they asked Him. "You do not know Me or My Father," Jesus answered. "If you knew Me, you would know My Father as well." **[BSB]** Jesus knows His place with His Father as beautifully expressed at Heb 1:3: **3**The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. **[NIV]** Jesus knows that He is the exact representation of Jehovah's very being, and if I may use the expression, he is Jehovah's right-hand man. That is why he could say to Phillip at Jo 14:9-11: **9**Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? *Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?* **10**Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. **11**Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.**[NIV]** Jesus knew that He was, so to speak, 'the first and only, something that we might liken to a clone', of the very person of Jehovah, and it was through Jesus as the beginning of creation, that all creation came into existence. Please notice that in verses 27-29 of chapter 8 Jesus clearly points out He was not speaking of his own originality and

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that He didn't come to Earth to please himself. He expresses this more pointedly at Jo 7:16-18 where He said, **16**Jesus answered, "My teaching is not my own. It comes from the one who sent me. **17**Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own. **18**Whoever speaks on their own does so to gain personal glory, but he who seeks the glory of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him. [NIV] So, in this context we read vss. 27-29 of John 8 which states; **27**They did not understand that He was telling them about the Father. **28**So Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that *I do nothing on My own, but speak exactly what the Father has taught Me.* **29**He who sent Me is with Me. He has not left Me alone, because I always do what pleases Him." [NIV] Now in vss 37-41 our personal paternity test begins. 37-41; **37**I know you are Abraham's descendants, but you are trying to kill Me because My word has no place within you. **38**I speak of what I have seen in the presence of the Father, and you do what you have heard from your father." [BSB] Uh-ooh. Jesus is saying, 'we ain't all got the same daddy'; and that provoked a speedy response from those of His blood nation and an equally speedy response from Jesus in vss 39-41 which reads:**39**"Abraham is our father," they replied. "If you were children of Abraham," said Jesus, "you would do the works of Abraham. **40**But now you are trying to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham never did such a thing. **41**You are doing the works of your father." "We are not illegitimate children," they declared. "Our only Father is God Himself." [BSB] These vss show us that who YOU think your father is and who your father really is, is not a matter of YOUR opinion. Now it's time for Jesus to establish the parameters of the paternity test in vss 42-47; **42**Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I have come here from God. I have not come on My own, but He sent Me. **43**Why do you not understand what I am saying? It is because you are unable to accept My message. **44**You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out his desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, refusing to uphold the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, because he is a liar and the father of lies. **45**But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me! **46**Which of you can prove Me guilty of sin? If I speak the truth, why do you not believe Me? **47**Whoever belongs to God hears the words of God. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God." Owwww!!! You know that

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stung!!! And it would sting many a churchgoer today. They would get highly upset and offended if you told them that THEY were children of the devil, and yet for centuries, MANY churchgoers have been and still are, and, like the Jews of Jesus day, they have deceived themselves into thinking they are the children of God. Whoa, whoa, whoa. Brother Ed, brother Ed, brother Ed; It sounds like you are judging and with all due respect; Who are you to judge? Many would ask. And the answer is; I wouldn't think, of judging anyone, as to whether they are a child of God or not. As Jesus said, One there is that is judge, and that is Jehovah. However I do accept and appreciate how Holy Scriptures clearly points out who is, and who isn't, at 1Jo 3:8-10 which reads from the Amplified Bible 1Jo3:8-10 **8**The one who practices sin [separating himself from God, and offending Him by acts of disobedience, indifference, or rebellion] is of the devil [and takes his inner character and moral values from him, not God]; for the devil has sinned *and* violated God's law from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. **9**No one who is born of God [deliberately, knowingly, and habitually] practices sin, because God's seed [His principle of life, the essence of His righteous character] remains [permanently] in him [who is born again--who is reborn from above--spiritually transformed, renewed, and set apart for His purpose]; and he [who is born again] cannot *habitually* [live a life characterized by] sin, because he is born of God *and* longs to please Him. **10**By this the children of God and the children of the devil are clearly identified: anyone who does not practice righteousness [who does not seek God's will in thought, action, and purpose] is not of God, nor is the one who does not [unselfishly] love his believing] brother.[AMP] I believe that the afore-read scriptures are extremely clear as to who the children of Jehovah God are, and who the children of Satan the Devil are without any help at all from brother Ed. In addition, the Bible leaves no doubt as to what Jehovah and Jesus view as sinful conduct at 1Cor 6:9-10 which reads: **9**Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who submit to or perform homosexual acts, **10**nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor verbal abusers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. [BSB] Pair with that Rom 1:24-32; **24**So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other's bodies. **25**They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God

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created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen. **26**That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other. **27**And the men, instead of having normal sexual relations with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men, and as a result of this sin, they suffered within themselves the penalty they deserved. **28**Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. **29**Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. **30**They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. **31**They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. **32**They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too. [NLT]

These scriptures sound a lot like what's happening in many churches today, don't they. Now you can get upset if you want to. You can deceive yourself with false reasoning if you want to. I am simply quoting the word of God. I did not write these scriptures. They have been part of the unerring word of God for nearly 2000 years. Now however, let me assure you, Jehovah and Jesus mean exactly what they say in His inspired word, and Jehovah and Jesus leave no doubt as to the future of those who prove to be the children of God, and those who prove to be the children of the devil at Rev 21:7-9 which states:**7**Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children. **8**But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.” [NIV] So, after telling them to their faces that they were children of the devil, and giving them the proof thereof, how did they respond? They responded by calling Jesus, *THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD*, a Samaritan, [which would be the equivalent to the Jewish people of those days, to the 'N' word in modern American society] and also accused him of being demon possessed, because the results of their paternity test *showed* that they were unmistakably children of the devil. Everyone that *PRACTICES* what the bible identifies as sin, does not have

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Jehovah as their father plain and simple. After such a degrading insult, Jesus didn't snap at their disrespectful speech, but instead, said in vss 49-50; **49**"I do not have a demon," Jesus replied, "but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. **50**I do not seek My own glory. There is One who seeks it, and He is the Judge. [BSB] Jesus here, brings to their attention, that they need to fully understand that Jehovah is the judge, not him, or anyone else; and that disrespecting the one that Jehovah sent into the world to save them would have disastrous consequences. His bold response in vss 54&55 positively highlights the results of His paternity test vs theirs where he says: **54**Jesus answered, "If I glorify Myself, My glory means nothing. The One who glorifies Me is My Father, of whom you say 'He is our God.' **55**You, do not know Him, but I know Him. If I said I did not know Him, I would be a liar like you. But I do know Him, and I keep His word. [BSB] Keeping God's word as revealed in the Bible is proof positive that Jehovah is our father too. If we identify ourselves as Christians and yet practice sin, then James 1:22-24 has become true in our case which says: **22**Do not merely listen to the word, ***and so deceive yourselves.*** Do what it says. **23**Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror **24**and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. [NIV] Proof positive that Jehovah is our father is found in vs 25: **25**But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do. [NIV] Eph 5:1, would also be appropriate to consider in this context where it says; **1**Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. [NLT] Being Joint heirs with Jesus Christ as children of Jehovah God is a blessing that simply cannot be expressed in words, and yet some are afraid, or worse, ashamed to use Jehovah's name. Why is that? This will be addressed in part 3 of this series: Where is Your Father. Stay tuned, my brothers and sisters as we go further into the word of God. This brother Ed saying so long for now. I'll see you in part 3. It's gonna be goooooood!!!