

John Chapter 8:37-59 “Who’s Your Daddy?”

I. You are Either a Son of God or a Son of Satan (Verses 37-47)

1. Satan’s children will be hostile toward Jesus and His followers (37, 40, 42)

- a) This is true throughout history. Followers of Jesus and the truth are persecuted by those who don’t love Jesus.
- b) Satan’s children don’t love Jesus but God’s true children will love Jesus. (42)
 - ◆ Jesus is the center of all truth and relationship with God. Your father depends upon you acceptance of Him in truth.

2. Satan’s children can not receive the word—they have no place for it (37, 43, 47)

- a) There is no place for the true word of God in these people. They are too full with everything else, including religious works and outward deeds.
 - ✎ John 8:31 “Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, ‘If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.’”
- b) There is no true understanding of the word either. This is spiritual blindness.
 - ◆ This is an important reality: without the help of the Holy Spirit the word will not be accepted.
 - ✎ 1 Corinthians 2:13-16 “These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 15 But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. 16 For “who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.”
 - ✎ Matthew 13:14-17 “And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: ‘Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, And seeing you will see and not perceive; 15 For the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.’ But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear; 17 for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.”
 - ◆ The Holy Spirit will not help someone who doesn’t see that they need help.
 - ✎ John 9:39-41 “And Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind.” 40 Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, “Are we blind also?” 41 Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, ‘We see.’ Therefore your sin remains.”
 - ✎ Acts 7:51 “You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.”
 - ◆ These were the blind leading the blind
 - (i) An elderly woman stood on a busy street corner, hesitant to cross because there was no traffic signal. As she waited, a gentleman came up beside her and asked, “May I cross over with you?” Relieved, she thanked him and took his arm. The path they took was anything but safe. The man seemed to be confused as they dodged traffic and walked in a zig-zag pattern across the street. “You almost got us killed!” the woman exclaimed in anger when they finally reached the curb. “You walk like you’re blind!” “I am,” he replied. “That’s why I asked if I could cross with you.”

3. Satan’s children do the works of Satan (38, 41, 44)

- a) This is an unavoidable fact. All who are not truly of Jesus will do the works of the Devil.
 - ◆ You will know them by their fruit

✎ *Matthew 7:15-20* “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.”

◆ This includes the lust of the flesh

✎ *Galatians 5:19-21* “Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

◆ Satan is the father of lies. Lying is one of the greatest proofs that your father is Satan. (44)

(i) A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17". The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Almost every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."

b) Yet those who are of God will live a life of Godliness

✎ *Galatians 5:22-24* “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.”

4. Satan’s children trust in outward religion and position—they think they are from God (39, 41)

a) They thought they were from God because they were part of the Jewish nation. Their hearts and lives, however, demonstrated that they were not from God, regardless of their Jewish roots.

(i) The words of an engraving from the cathedral of Lubeck, Germany, reflect our Lord's teaching: Thus speaketh Christ our Lord to us, You call Me master and obey Me not, You call Me light and see Me not, You call Me the way and walk Me not, You call Me the life and live Me not, You call Me wise and follow Me not, You call Me fair and love Me not, You call Me rich and ask Me not, You call Me eternal and see Me not, If I condemn thee, blame Me not.

5. Satan’s children will not accept the truth (45-46)

a) Even when the facts are right there in front of them.

II. Jesus Is Able to Bring you to the Father God (Verses 48-59)

1. He lived to Glorify the Father (48-50)

a) Remember, someone who seeks their own glory can not be trusted!

✎ *John 7:18* “He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him.”

2. He can save us from death! (51-53)

a) This is speaking of the resurrection from the dead that Jesus followers will experience.

✎ *John 11:25-26* “Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

✎ *John 5:24* ““Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.”

- ✎ *1 Corinthians 15:21-22* “For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.”
- ✎ *1 Corinthians 15:50-57* “Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed — 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” 55 “O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?” 56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

3. He is the “I AM” (54-59)

- a) Answering the question “who do you make yourself out to be?”
- b) He has authority because He came from God
- c) He has authority because He is God
 - ◆ Abraham rejoiced because of Jesus
 - ✎ *Hebrews 11:13* “These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.”
 - ◆ “I AM” is a declaration by Jesus of His deity and eternal power.
 - ✎ *Exodus 3:13-14* “Then Moses said to God, “Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they say to me, ‘What is His name?’ what shall I say to them?” 14 And God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”
 - ◆ The Jews understood what He was saying perfectly. They picked up stones to kill Him for blasphemy, saying that He was God.