



Doctrine—God the Father
From sermon 9.1.19

Read *John 8:42-44*

Questions, Answers, and Review from Sunday's sermon: There is a common misconception that God is everyone's Father, in the same way—and—in a universal brotherhood of man—equal under God. Jesus (and the entirety of Scripture) makes it clear that God is NOT the Father of all. Anyone not in God's family is under fatherhood of the devil. Additionally, no one is born into God's family.

Read *Genesis 2:7 & Luke 3:38*. Rather than the universal Fatherhood of God, what was mentioned as a better, more accurate term for all of Adam's descendents? A Universal Creator-hood of God. We are all created in the image of God, but He is only Father of the spiritually redeemed.

Discuss

Why does the world, and the liberal church, want so badly to make God out to be equally everyone's father? Various answers. So that He loves and approves of everyone—their choices and lifestyles. They want to remake God to their own liking—absent of absolutes, holiness, wrath, & judgment.

Note: even Bible-believing Arminians subscribe to this. It also makes man sovereign (my choice—I chose God) in salvation, rather than God. (also Billy Graham, Bill Bright, Rick Warren and others. How many have heard: "God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life.?"?)

God is also the Father of only one nation/people. Which? Israel

Note: but, even this is exclusive. The Bible says He is the Father of Abraham, but not his two brothers. He is the Father of Isaac, but not Ishmael. The Father of Jacob, but not Esau. In the opening verse, Jesus said God is not the Father of every Jew. Explain. This just further validates a doctrine of election. God chooses, calls, and adopts whom He chooses by His own Sovereign will and purpose. None of those adopted were any more worthy than those who were not. God is still their unique, spiritual father and has a future plan and purpose for them (a remnant)

Read *John 1:14*. How is God the Father to Jesus far different than God the Father to Adam? Again...Creatorhood vs. Fatherhood. Adam was created. Jesus was not. He has always been. Jesus, although co-equal to the Father and the same in essence, submitted to the will of the Father and came to earth to redeem the elect. Jesus had no earthly father.

Read *Ephesians 1:3-5*

How is anyone brought into the family of God? By predestined election, granting faith in Jesus Christ alone.

When did God the Father choose His family? Before the foundation of the world

Besides salvation (freedom from judgment/hell), what else did the passage say we gain in this adoption? Every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ

See also *Galatians 4:4-6 & Romans 8:14-17*

Discuss Jesus being the first to call God "Father" and His instructions for us to do the same.

Describe your relationship with God as your Father? _____