

## CHAPTER 69

### Their Father—Abraham or the Devil?

(John 8:37-59) I know that you are Abraham's offspring. But you are seeking to kill me, because my word makes no progress among you. 38 I speak the things I have seen while with my Father, but you do the things you have heard from your father." 39 In answer they said to him: "Our father is Abraham." Jesus said to them: "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works of Abraham. 40 But now you are seeking to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. 41 You are doing the works of your father." They said to him: "We were not born from immorality; we have one Father, God." 42 Jesus said to them: "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I have not come of my own initiative, but that One sent me. 43 Why do you not understand what I am saying? Because you cannot listen to my word. 44 You are from your father the Devil, and you wish to do the desires of your father. That one was a murderer when he began, and he did not stand fast in the truth, because truth is not in him. When he speaks the lie, he speaks according to his own disposition, because he is a liar and the father of the lie. 45 Because I, on the other hand, tell you the truth, you do not believe me. 46 Who of you convicts me of sin? If I speak truth, why is it that you do not believe me? 47 The one who is from God listens to the sayings of God. This is why you do not listen, because you are not from God." 48 In answer the Jews said to him: "Are we not right in saying, 'You are a Sa-mar'i-tan and have a demon'?" 49 Jesus answered: "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. 50 But I am not seeking glory for myself; there is One who is seeking and judging. 51 Most truly I say to you, if anyone observes my word, he will never see death at all." 52 The Jews said to him: "Now we do know that you have a demon. Abraham died,

also the prophets, but you say, 'If anyone observes my word, he will never taste death at all.' 53 You are not greater than our father Abraham, who died, are you? The prophets also died. Who do you claim to be?" 54 Jesus answered: "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, the one who you say is your God. 55 Yet you have not known him, but I know him. And if I said I do not know him, I would be like you, a liar. But I do know him and am observing his word. 56 Abraham your father rejoiced greatly at the prospect of seeing my day, and he saw it and rejoiced." 57 Then the Jews said to him: "You are not yet 50 years old, and still you have seen Abraham?" 58 Jesus said to them: "Most truly I say to you, before Abraham came into existence, I have been." 59 So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid and went out of the temple.

#### Paragraph 1 on Page 164

(John 8:33) They replied to him: "We are Abraham's offspring and never have been slaves to anyone. How is it you say, 'You will become free'?"

(John 8:37, 38) I know that you are Abraham's offspring. But you are seeking to kill me, because my word makes no progress among you. 38 I speak the things I have seen while with my Father, but you do the things you have heard from your father."

#### Paragraph 2 on Page 164

(John 8:39) In answer they said to him: "Our father is Abraham." Jesus said to them: "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works of Abraham.

(Isaiah 41:8) "But you, O Israel, are my servant, You, O Jacob, whom I have chosen, The offspring of Abraham my friend,

Paragraph 3 on Page 164

(John 8:39-41) In answer they said to him: “Our father is Abraham.” Jesus said to them: “If you were Abraham’s children, you would be doing the works of Abraham. 40 But now you are seeking to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. 41 You are doing the works of your father.” They said to him: “We were not born from immorality; we have one Father, God.”

Paragraph 4 on Page 164

(John 8:41-43) You are doing the works of your father.” They said to him: “We were not born from immorality; we have one Father, God.” 42 Jesus said to them: “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I have not come of my own initiative, but that One sent me. 43 Why do you not understand what I am saying? Because you cannot listen to my word.

Paragraph 5 on Page 164

(John 8:44) You are from your father the Devil, and you wish to do the desires of your father. That one was a murderer when he began, and he did not stand fast in the truth, because truth is not in him. When he speaks the lie, he speaks according to his own disposition, because he is a liar and the father of the lie.

(John 8:47) The one who is from God listens to the sayings of God. This is why you do not listen, because you are not from God.”

Paragraph 6 on Page 164

(John 8:48-51) In answer the Jews said to him: “Are we not right in saying, ‘You are a Sa-mar’i-tan and have a demon’?” 49 Jesus

answered: “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. 50 But I am not seeking glory for myself; there is One who is seeking and judging. 51 Most truly I say to you, if anyone observes my word, he will never see death at all.”

(Revelation 21:8) But as for the cowards and those without faith and those who are disgusting in their filth and murderers and the sexually immoral and those practicing spiritism and idolaters and all the liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur. This means the second death.”

Paragraph 7 on Page 164

(John 8:52, 53) The Jews said to him: “Now we do know that you have a demon. Abraham died, also the prophets, but you say, ‘If anyone observes my word, he will never taste death at all.’ 53 You are not greater than our father Abraham, who died, are you? The prophets also died. Who do you claim to be?”

Paragraph 8 on Page 164

(John 8:54, 55) Jesus answered: “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, the one who you say is your God. 55 Yet you have not known him, but I know him. And if I said I do not know him, I would be like you, a liar. But I do know him and am observing his word.

Paragraph 1 on Page 165

(John 8:56-58) Abraham your father rejoiced greatly at the prospect of seeing my day, and he saw it and rejoiced.” 57 Then the Jews said to him: “You are not yet 50 years old, and still you have seen Abraham?” 58 Jesus said to them: “Most truly I say to you, before Abraham came into existence, I have been.”

◇How does Jesus show that his Father is different from the father of his enemies?

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◇Why is it unfitting for the Jews to insist that Abraham is their father?

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◇In what way will Jesus' followers “never see death at all”?

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