

Paternity Test

I. Slide1 Announce:

- A. Slide2-5 Tony: Office closed. [Movin on Up](#). Fresh Hope. [Peru Mission](#).
- B. Slide6 Every Mind Matters: [This](#) Wed Night. Kay Warren sharing on *Mental Health Awareness*.
- C. Slide7 Israel 2020: Full waiting list. *No info mtg next Sun*. Come talk to me.
- D. Slide8,9 On this Memorial Day, we remember & honor our brave military heroes who put *the lives of others* before their own. To protect & defend our lives & liberty. This is our prayer
- E. Slide10-13 Nepal Podcast & trip update: [CalvaryMurrieta](#) @ podomatic, itunes & spotify.
- F. Thank you to **Dan** for cleaning up John 8 for me. **And Mark Ritter** for Wed Night.

II. Slide14 Intro: Paternity Test

- A. In Ch.8 *Christ in Conflict* is a series of 4 debates, or 4 important contrasts: (2 weeks ago we looked at 3) *Light & Darkness. Heaven & Earth. Freedom & Slavery*. [*today* we look at the 4th) *Child of God & Child of Satan*.
 - 1. The *attitude* of the Pharisees **escalates** in just this 1 chapter from **contradiction** (13), to **insinuation** (19), to **denial** (33), to **insult** (48), to **sarcasm** (53), and finally & climactically to **violence**/attempted murder (59).
- B. Here we have the most offensive chapter in John.
 - 1. These verses gave rise to the *anti-Semitic language & imagery* from the late Middle Ages in christian Europe. (of course misunderstood)
- C. Most people think they are **automatically** born into God's family, & only if they are *really really bad* then they might be removed.
 - 1. But actually the opposite is true. No one is born into God's family automatically, you must be born a 2nd time. **Entering His family is a choice**.
- D. People reject Jesus because they confuse the **physical** and the **spiritual**...
 - 1. **Jesus spoke to Nicodemus** about a **spiritual** birth, but he had asked about a **physical** birth.

2. Jesus spoke to the woman at the well & offered her **eternal life** (*living water*), **but** she talked about **literal physical water**.
3. **Salvation** is a **spiritual** experience, **and** **human birth** has nothing to do with it.

E. Discovering your ancestry has become big \$ *Ancestry.com* [Tag Line: *Discover your story in history*] (my whole life I said, *I'm Italian, Irish & German*)

1. For \$99, small saliva sample, 6-8weeks, voila. I got my results 2016.
 - a) I was intrigued that I had **10%** from the Caucasus region (Georgia). **3%** European Jew. **7%** from the Iberian Peninsula (Spain).
2. What I found out last night is that **it can change**. **That seems wrong**. Yep, 13,000 more samples **so** an *updated estimate* came.
 - a) I don't like the commercial where the guy figures out he was wrong all along, & now he's buying *lederhosen*. [or Kelly singing *Cherokee People*, & she wasn't!]
3. **Slide15,16** Now it all changed? (see 2 slides) **Who am I?** What family of people do I belong to?

F. DNA paternity testing is the use of DNA profiling (aka genetic fingerprinting) to determine *whether two individuals are biologically parent and child*.

1. Who are the **religious leaders** father? Who is **Jesus' Father**?

III. Slide17a **THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS PATERNITY TEST (37-47)**

A. **Slide17b** (37) Remember the Sunday School song, *Father Abraham had many descendants/sons?*

1. Jesus makes a distinction between Abraham's **fleshly seed** (37) & Abraham's **spiritual children** (39).
2. This section is concerned with **the real meaning of parentage**.

B. **Slide17c** (37) My Word has **no place** in you - (NIV) *you have no room for my word*. (NLT) *there's no room in your hearts for my message*. (msg) *my message hasn't yet penetrated your thick skulls*.

1. Does His word **have a place** in you? **Have residence** in you?

a) Big difference between a temp shelter & permanent residence.

C. Slide18 (44) The Bible speaks of *4 different kinds of spiritual children...*

1. We are born by nature *children of wrath* (Eph. 2:3).
2. When we reach the age of accountability and deliberately sin, we become *children of disobedience* (Eph. 2:2).
3. When we put faith in Christ, we become the *children of God* (John 1:12).
4. When the person who finally rejects the Savior and prefers self-righteousness (eg. *the devil's substitute*) becomes a *child of the devil*.

D. (44) You are of your father the devil - An intentionally offensive counterclaim.

1. Slide19a If **Satan** becomes your father, **hell** will be your home.
2. The Jewish officials could trace their *physical lineage* back to **Abraham**, but their *spiritual lineage* goes all the way back to **the Devil himself**.
 - a) The serpent of old had enticed them away from the true God with the seductive *apple of religiosity*.
 - b) But under *the Devil's clerical garb*, he is both a murderer & a liar. And, *like father, like son*. They twisted the truth about Jesus & were plotting to kill Him (40).
 - c) Slide19b So it's not about **bloodline**, but **behavior**. It's not about being a **seed**, but being a **child**.
3. See this wasn't against **all Jews**, but the *self-righteous Jews*, and **any** who are self-righteous.
 - a) Slide19c See...it's *not* a **Jewish** problem, it's a **human** problem. All **unbelieving Jews & all unbelieving gentiles**.

IV. Slide20a **JESUS' PATERNITY TEST (48-59)**

- A. Slide20b (51) Never see death - what did He mean? (i.e. *never know the experience of that death, which is God's judgment on sin*). Read 5:24.
- B. (55) **Liar** - you guys are a chip off the ol' block (44).

- C. **Slide20c** (56) **How did Abraham see Jesus' day?** - Abraham in faith saw ahead to the day of Christ's incarnation & anticipated His saving work.
1. **Or** maybe the *christophanies* in Abrahams day? (Gen.18 3 visitors/the Lord)
- D. (58) Jesus gives one of the most important **answers** to any question posed to Him in the gospel of John. (from vs.53b *Who do You make Yourself out to be?*)
- E. **Slide20d** **Before Abraham was, I am** - **Abraham** came into being; **but** when he was born, **Jesus** was already existing. *I Am* is a title of Deity.
- F. **I Am** - the divine name once again. [the *I AM* from Ex.3]
1. Perhaps Moses knew of God as the **distant Sovereign**, **but** not as the **immanent God who cares for & loves His chosen ones**.
 2. This is God's self-identification, what He named Himself. The announcement of a **present** God. [YHWH/*Tetragrammaton*, Jehovah/Yahweh]
 - a) It was held by the later Jews to be so sacred that it was *never pronounced* except by the high priest on the great Day of Atonement.
 - b) Whenever this name occurred they pronounced it, as they still do, **Adonai** (*Lord*), thus using another word in its stead. **Or** *haShem*/the Name.
 3. **It is God's personality.** (ἐγώ εἰμι)
 - a) Over the veiled statue of the **Egyptian Isis** was the famous inscription, "***I am the thing that is, & was, & shall be.***" **But** to Israel, God was *a living personality*, *distinct from* all other beings & things & transcendent *above* them. **Not an it, but He**
 - b) When He says, *I AM*, He is the ***always-present* God**.
 4. When you trace your finger across the pages of the OT, you'll find **the names of God** are **intimately connected** with the **various needs** of those whom He was in relation with. **Slide21**
 - a) **Jehovah-jireh** - **the Lord will provide**. Given by **Abraham** ram caught in thicket.
 - b) **Jehovah-nissi** - **the Lord my banner**. Given by **Moses** after defeat Amalekites, lifted arms.
 - c) **Jehovah-shalom** - **the Lord send peace**. Given by **Gideon** at altar where Angel appeared.
 - d) **Jehovah-shammah** - **the Lord is there**. Given by **Ezek** for Jerusalem.

e) **Jehovah-tsidkenu** - the Lord our righteousness. Given by **Jeremiah** name for Messiah.

(1) All of these gracious titles were unfolded to *meet the needs of His people*.

5. If we want **life**, Christ says, *I AM the life*. If we want **righteousness**, *He is the Lord our Righteousness*. If we want **peace**, *He is our Peace*. If we want **wisdom, sanctification, & redemption**, He is made all these unto us.

6. Every believer can rejoice in these words falling from Jesus lips...

a) **Slide22 I AM the Bread of Life** (to satisfy your deep spiritual needs).

I AM the Light of the world (so you don't have to walk in darkness).

I AM the Door (to those seeking entrance).

I AM the Good Shepherd (to all sheep who have lost their way).

I AM the Res & the Life (to those desiring true life, before & after death).

I AM the Way, Truth, Life (to those who desire direction, wisdom & the abundant life)

I AM the True Vine (to those branches that will remain attached).

Then in the Revelation...

I AM the Alpha & Omega (& everything in between).

I AM the Bright & Morning Star (to those that need a beginning of a bright new day)

G. **Jesus made it clear: His origin** was **divine** (42). **His mission** was **God planned** (40). **His purpose** was **God willed** (55). **His claim** was **God Himself** (58).

H. (59) The Jews did not respond with **words** this time, **but** picked up **stones** to kill Him for blasphemy. (That's how blasphemy was dealt with)

1. But it was not up to *the crowd* to determine the timing of Jesus' death.

I. **Slide23 Have you taken a Paternity Test? An AncestryDNA Test? Which family are you in?**

1. 1 Jn.3:10 *In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.* [don't think **works**, think **results**]

a) We normally think of devil children as, *Rosemary's baby, Damien in The Omen, or Linda Blair in The Exorcist*. **But** the bible places all **unbelievers** in that category.

- b) **Children of the devil* don't represent grossly immoral people, they represent self-righteous religious people, who are deluded into an *outward form of godliness* that lacks power of the gospel.
 - c) John already established *we are born into God's family as one of His children not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God* (1:13). Not by *pedigree, proximity, or credentials*.
 - d) So, Who's your Father?
- J. To take a Paternity Test this morning. Simply submit yourself to DNA testing.
1. Your 2 choices: cast stones at Christ or cast yourself at the feet of Jesus.