

**Leave the Wrong Father
and Believe
John 8:39-47**





J. Northern & Co. Washington

John 8:32 (English Standard Version)

³²and you will know the truth, and the truth
will set you free."

Leave the Wrong Father and Believe

John 8:39-47

- ♦ Why is this text so hard/harsh?
- ♦ Another way God tests our faith is not just trials or difficulties
- ♦ God reveals more of Himself, challenging us to know and accept Him in His greatness

John 8:39-41 (English Standard Version)

³⁹They answered him, "Abraham is our father."

Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, ⁴⁰but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. ⁴¹You are doing the works your father did." They said to him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God."

Leave the Wrong Father and Believe

John 8:39-47

- ♦ The Jews trusted in 2 things:
- ♦ 1) The Law's ability to purify and their ability to keep it
- ♦ 2) Racial and religious heritage
- ♦ The Law doesn't grant freedom unless you can keep it
- ♦ You're not a Jew unless you believe and behave like one (Rom. 4:13-14)
- ♦ So, Jesus says, you're not from Abraham - you have a different father

Leave the Wrong Father and Believe

John 8:39-47

- ♦ "We are of pure religion"
- ♦ It's a useless orthodoxy; sincere error
- ♦ "We know who our father is; you're the one with the questionable father!"
- ♦ As they push back, Jesus drills down harder-why?
- ♦ To reveal sin and confront the sinner; to get to the heart of the rejection

John 8:42-47 (English Standard Version)

⁴²Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. ⁴³ Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. ⁴⁴ You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. ⁴⁵ But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. ⁴⁶ Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? ⁴⁷ Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God."

Leave the Wrong Father and Believe

John 8:39-47

- ♦ God hates sin and deals with it harshly - why?
- ♦ Sin offends God's character
- ♦ Sin's effects on creation
- ♦ Sin's effects in us
- ♦ Sin's consequences for us

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- ♦ In the middle of all this, Jesus talks about love-why?
- ♦ It's what He wants - our deepest desires and affections
- ♦ Love for Christ is one of the marks of true belief
- ♦ Until God makes you love Christ, you can't have soul satisfaction

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John 8:39-47

- ♦ Christ boils Satan's sins down to two: Lies and Murder
- ♦ Natural man acts from his father's character
- ♦ We hate and kill with words, looks and actions
- ♦ We lie to ourselves, about others, in our actions, hearts and beliefs
- ♦ Are you a murderer? Are you truthful?

From Hanging out with Jesus to Belief

John 8:12-30

- ♦ Why don't we leave this father and stop and come to Jesus and believe?
- ♦ Because we want to do the will of our father
- ♦ Good news! We're not dupes of Satan; our wills can be freed to love and desire Christ!

Leave the Wrong Father and Believe

John 8:39-47

- ♦ All of this harsh talk was intentional and it's for them and for us!
- ♦ It's a rejection of empty religion and our reliance on religion for security and self-righteousness
- ♦ It's an attack on those of us with a false faith
- ♦ It's a call to get a new Father
- ♦ Whose deeds are you doing?
- ♦ It's a call to love God and drink and eat and live in light and truth and freedom

From Hanging out with Jesus to Belief

John 8:12-30

- ♦ Believer - Do you love Him?
- ♦ Do you need to know Him?

Sanctus Student Ministry News

- Wednesday, August 17, at Bonbrook Plantation Rec Center
- Movie-Games-Food-Friends-Volleyball-Basketball
- Celebrate the start of another great school year! Bring friends!
- Watch for invites soon!

