

Morning Sermon December 16, 2018

“Everlasting Father” Isaiah 9:6-7; Revelation 1:10-20

Scripture teaches that the father is head of a household. He is responsible for the welfare (including salvation) and discipline of his household. This is how Christ is our Father – Psalm 103:13-14

I. Here Christ is presented at Patriarch of His people, and as an eternal Father –

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, **Everlasting Father**, ... (Isaiah 9:6 NKJ)

1. Father Abraham, had many sons –

Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: ⁴ "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. ⁵ "No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. (Genesis 17:3-5 NKJ)

2. However, our Lord Jesus is before Abraham –

Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." (John 8:58 NKJ)

3. The idea of eternity is expressed here in Isaiah 9:6, as it is in John 1:1-3; and Romans 9:5

4. Christ's and Abraham's children by Faith, are the same –
²⁹ And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. (Galatians 3:29 NKJ)

II. What roles does Christ fulfil as Everlasting Father?

1. Christ is our federal head –

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned-- (Romans 5:12 NKJ)

For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. (Romans 5:19 NKJ)

Christianity is not patriarchy; not as modern feminists would portray it. However, it is patriarchal. Adam is our father and Christ is the Spiritual, Moral, Legal Father of believers.

A. As federal head Christ is our replacement, our substitute to Adam, who was our original federal head / father –

Question 16: Did all mankind fall in Adam's first transgression.?

Answer: The covenant being made with Adam, not only for himself, but for his posterity; all mankind, descending from him by ordinary generation, sinned in him, and fell with him, in his first transgression.

We are not condemned, born in sin because of Eve's sin, she was not our federal head, but because of Adam's! We are his posterity, his children, his guilt is imputed to us!

B. Christ as a man never married and did not have biological children. Grace and faith which come with regeneration connect us to Christ as our Federal Head, this connection puts us in God's family –

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, (Ephesians 3:14-15 NKJ)

2. Jesus as our Father is our eternal High priest / Savior –

I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, ¹¹ saying, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last," and, "What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea." ¹² Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. ¹⁴ His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, ... (Revelation 1:10-14 NKJ)

A. John, being in the Spirit, meant he could see spiritual things.

B. Here John saw Jesus, the Alpha and Omega / First and last

C. He saw Jesus in the midst of the churches, seven listed, representing – all!

... and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. (Matthew 28:20 NKJ)

D. The lampstands are churches, as lights in this world –

E. *The garment Jesus is wearing is that of a High Priest*

F. *His hair being white (2) is symbolic of His everlasting age*

We need such an eternal High Priest –

But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood.

²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

²⁶ For such a High Priest was fitting for us, *who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens;* ²⁷ *who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. (Hebrew 7:24-27 NKJ)*

- *Provides salvation even in the 21st Century*
- *His mercy endures forever – Psalm 136*

G. *Jesus sees and knows all, enabling perfect judgment, He is ours and the world's Judge –*

His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; (Revelation 1:14 NKJ)

He looks (uses perfect perception) to be strong on behalf of His own -

⁹ "For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of *those whose heart is loyal to Him.* (2 Chronicles 16:9 NKJ)

¹⁵ The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry. (Psalm 34:15 NKJ)

H. *Fire is both for purification and for judgment / discipline, which starts with the church –*

"And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, `These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass:¹⁹ "I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and as for your works, the last are more than the first."²⁰ "Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols."²¹ "And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent."²² "Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds."²³ "I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works. (Revelation 2:18-23 NKJ)

Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the

Father of spirits and live?¹⁰ For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed *best* to them, but He for *our* profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. (Hebrew 12:9-10 NKJ)

- *Feet like fine brass, capable of stamping out sin –*

His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, ...(Revelation 1:15 NKJ)

- *The picture puts a healthy "fear of God" in true believers –*

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do *His commandments*. His praise endures forever. (Psalm 111:10 NKJ)

"But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him! (Luke 12:5 NKJ)

1. *The fearful thing about Hell is not only is Christ eternal to SAVE but the same Lamb Who died for our sins is eternal to punish sin –*

"he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb."¹¹ "And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." (Revelation 14:10-11 NKJ)

3. *Christ / God as our Father provides for us –*

But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. (1 Timothy 5:8 NKJ)

"Therefore do not worry, saying, `What shall we eat?' or `What shall we drink?' or `What shall we wear?'"³² "For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things."³³ "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. (Matthew 6:31-33 NKJ)

Our Father answers prayer, in Christ name - ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" (Galatian 4:6 NKJ)

He is our Father: Trust Him, Pray, Obey - ³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? (Romans 8:32 NKJ)

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