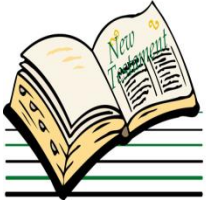


Sermon Notes



Title: "What Jesus Said When Accused of Being in League with the Devil" Part 5

Text: Matthew 12:46-50

Theme: There are really only two families that count – the family of man led by the father of lies and the family of God led by Christ Jesus, the truth incarnate. Ultimate family loyalty is at stake, and Jesus makes it clear that His family comprises those who believe and obey Him.

I. *There's an Eternal Sin of Blaspheming the Holy Spirit (22-32)*

II. *Words Are Just as Culpable as Deeds (33-37)*

III. *Those Who Demand a Sign from God Beyond What He Has Already Given Will Not Be Granted Their Wish (38-42)*

IV. *Jesus' Generation Will Be in a Worse Condition if They Do Not Follow Him (43-45)*

V. **Who Jesus' _____ Truly Is (46-50)**

A. An Urgent _____ (46-[47])

B. Jesus' Shocking _____ (48)

C. Jesus' _____ (49-50)

VI. Applications

A. The _____ of _____ brings you into the family of God.

B. The family really _____ as one belongs to _____.

C. The family needs to be _____ by the _____.

Next Week Read: Matthew 13:1-23

Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group:

1. Who came to see Jesus while He was speaking to the crowd (v. 46)?
2. Who was Jesus' mother?
3. Who were Jesus' brothers (see Matthew 13:55)?
4. Where was Jesus' family when they requested to see Him (v. 46b)?
5. Did Jesus welcome His family into the house?
6. What was Jesus' reply to the man who informed Him of those who came to talk with Him (v. 48)?
7. To whom did Jesus point as His family (v. 49)?
8. What was Jesus' explanation as to who belonged to His family (v. 50)?
9. What is different in the text of the ESV from that of the *New King James* or *New American Standard Bible* versions?
10. Does the difference change the meaning of the text? If so, in what way?
11. Does Jesus' response to the request of His family surprise you? If so, why?
12. What information does Mark supply that gives more context to Jesus' reply to the request to speak with His family (see Mark 3:20-21)?
13. Does Jesus teach salvation by works when He says that those who are His family are those who "do the will of My Father Who is in heaven"? How should we understand this statement that Jesus makes?
14. What is an example of an "ideal" family in Scripture? What is your view of an "ideal" family and church?
15. How do you imagine natural family relationships will be expressed in heaven? Are there any Scripture passages that shed light on what this might look like?
16. How should you respond when your commitment to your earthly family conflicts with your commitment to your spiritual family?
17. Is it possible to sinfully idolize the family? If so, how?
18. How is your family being redeemed and changed by the Gospel?
19. What level of family commitment should Christians have toward each other?
20. How can your church family improve its sense of "family"?