

Adult Sunday School

June 21, 2009

“HEAVENLY FATHER, I APPRECIATE YOU”

Deut. 32:1-18; Matthew 23:9

INTRODUCTION

In the noise of the battles of life, we too often *displace* God. We fail to maintain the highest praise in our hearts for God. God wants to be for us and do for what no other can be or do. For this to be possible, we must become HIS people. Not in name only, but thoroughly HIS.

Ex. 4:22 *Israel is my son...*

Deut. 14:1 *Ye are the children of the Lord your God...*

2 Sam. 7:14 *I will be his father, and he shall be my son...*

Heb. 8:10 *I will be to them a God, & they shall be to me a people:*

I. Ways We Displace our Heavenly Father (Matt. 23)

displace: v. to move or put out of the usual or proper place.

Deut. 32:18—Of the Rock that begat thee thou art **unmindful**, and hast **forgotten God** that formed thee.

A. The Glorification of Man

We usurp honor and position that is God's alone.

B. Pleasure Seeking

We seek out that which satisfies the flesh, instead of fellowship with God.

C. Materialism, Carnality

We put more confidence in what we can see, hear, feel than in God's Word. Too mindful of this life and not mindful enough of God.

D. Out of Order Priorities

We make God our last resort and final stop.

II. Having a Right Estimation of our Heavenly Father

- “Superlatives” are reserved for God for HE IS KING!
- No one can do for us what God can.
- In the face of **EVERY NEED** we must cause ourselves to be **MINDFUL** of our Heavenly Father.

A. FATHER – Our beginning is in Him.

Ps 100:3—*Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

B. DEFENDER/PROTECTOR

Ps 62:2—*He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved.*

C. GUIDE/TEACHER/ANCHOR/COUNSELOR/EXAMPLE

Isa 43:19—... *I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.*

D. ENCOURAGER/COMFORTER

Mt. 23:37—... *how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!*

E. DISCIPLINE/CORRECTOR

Rev. 3:19—*As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten...*

F. LOVE/COMPASSION/MERCY

Jer 31:3 ... *Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love...*

G. PROVIDER—Whatever you need, God is!

Mal 3:10 ... *and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. [healing, strength, daily bread]*

H. HELPER

Heb 4:1—*Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*