

I. The Father has Committed all Judgment to the Son

A. Oftentimes believers perceive Jesus as being tender and welcoming, while they perceive the Father as being critical and severe. Many times interactions with earthly Fathers who have been critical or judgmental have helped create this lens. The truth the Scripture offers is in direct opposition to this mentality.

John 5:22 "For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,

1. He is not critical nor judgmental
2. His love is not based upon your performance.

Jeremiah 31:3 The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; **Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.**

3. It's the tender affection in the heart of God that has drawn you into sonship. The Father draws you with lovingkindness (Hebrew word: Chesed – strong, loyal love, tenderness in loving acts of kindness).

4. He loves you with an everlasting love, its never ending.

5. Through the love of the Father drawing you, He betrothes, introduces and promises, you to His Son, as His eternal partner for the ages.

6. How does it affect your approach to the Father, when you consider that the Father is never judgmental, critical, moody or demanding? He never insists that you perform in order to receive His favor?

B. Believers also regularly mistake the Father's role in judgment, because they do not understand that Jesus Christ, Himself, is the judge of the nations.

John 5:22-23, 27 "For the Father ... has committed all judgment to the Son, 23 "that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. 27 "and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man.

1. *“That all should honor the Son as they honor the Father”* - All will declare, willingly or unwillingly, that Jesus Christ is God to the glory of the Father. The fact that judgment is committed to Him is an incredible testimony of His Deity.

2. *“Because Jesus is the Son of man”* - None will be able to say that God’s standard is unjust or unfair in judgment, because Jesus Christ is all God and all man. All humanity will be judged by one of our peers.

Act 17:31 For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice **by the man he has appointed**. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."

Act 10:42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that **he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead**.

Rom 2:16 This will take place on the day when **God will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ**, as my gospel declares.

Rev 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and **him who was seated on it**. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.

II. In Christ we have received the Spirit of Adoption

Rom 8:15-16 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage(slavery) again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

A. We have been specifically chosen by God. What does it mean to be picked by God to be adopted by Him? Consider all of the possible options God had in creating human life, all the manifold possibilities to weave together human DNA, yet He chose to weave together your DNA in such a specific way in order for you to be made as you are. He chose you.

B. He wants us to relate to Him as “Abba”

1. Abba is an Aramaic word, found in Mar 14:36, Rom 8:15 and Gal 4:6. It is understood that slaves were forbidden to address the head of the family by this title. It was the same as a personal name, in contrast to "pater" the more formal term for the leader of a family or home. (Taken from Vines Dictionary of NT Words)

2. Abba is the word framed by the lips of infants, and speaks of unreasoning trust; "father" expresses an intelligent apprehension of the relationship. The two together express the love and intelligent confidence of the child. (Taken from Vines Dictionary of NT Words)

C. This was a pre-existent desire in the heart of God. His desire for you was a reality in Him before the world existed, before time began. He never wanted slaves, He always wanted to relate to us as an affectionate, tender Father.

Eph 1:4 - 5 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

III. The Inheritance, Being an Heir of God

Rom 8:15-17 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and **if children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ**, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

Gal 4:6-7 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and **if a son, then an heir of God through Christ**.

A. The Father put the Holy Spirit within us for more than just power.

1. It was strategic because He understands the brokenness of the human frame and our inability to continuously retain things of the Spirit. He released the Holy Spirit to live within us in order to continually affirm to our heart that we are His children.

2. He sent the Spirit of God within us to draw us into the endearing and intimate relationship with Him as Father. It is the Holy Spirit within us that is instructing our Spirit to embrace the cry of Abba from our heart.

B. The reality is that the Father made us heirs of His kingdom. He doesn't simply consider us ones who are sort of freeloading upon His goodness or "leeching" off of Him. He made us heirs because it is what brought the greatest amount of pleasure to His heart.

Rom 8:29, 32 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren... 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?**

Luke 12:32 "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your **Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.**

C. The Father does not consider us slaves, He sees us as heirs of His Kingdom. An heir is an inheritor or beneficiary. It is the same as His own Child who will inherit His possessions and kingdom. He see us the same as Jesus.

IV. The Necessity of Understanding the Father Heart of God

A. You cannot fully understand and embrace the heart of the Son who is a burning, jealous, loving bridegroom if you do not understand and embrace the heart of a Father who loves you unconditionally, without judgment, or criticism.

B. The understanding of the Father Heart of God and the Bridal Paradigm are two sides of the Love of God. In other words you can't separate the Father's Love from the Son's Love. They are one and the same.

C. It was always the Father's desire to draw you into relationship with His Son.

John 6:44 "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day

1. No one can come to Jesus unless the Father who sent Jesus draws him.
2. *"I will raise him up at the last day"* – as a child of the king in the Kingdom of God, sharing the inheritance of the Kingdom, as a comparable bride ruling and reigning with Jesus.

V. The Eternal Father's Delight and Desire for you

A. It is essential to understand how much the Father loves Jesus, in order to understand the Eternal Father's affections for you.

B. Consider the Father's affections for Jesus before the world began

Pro 8:30 Then I was beside Him as a master craftsman; And I was daily His delight, Rejoicing always before Him,

John 17:24 ... You loved me before the foundation of the world.

C. Consider the Father's affections for Jesus as declared through Isaiah.

Isa 42:1 "Behold! My Servant **whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him**; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles.

Isa 42:6 "I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And **will hold Your hand**; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the Gentiles,

1. The One He upholds
2. The One who is elect
3. The One in whom His soul delights
4. The One He has placed His Seal/Spirit upon
5. The One whose hand the Father holds

D. Consider the Father's affections for Jesus during Jesus' earthly ministry.

1. Three times in the Bible the Eternal Father broke in and thundered audibly from heaven to declare His love and affection for Jesus. (Mat 3:17, 17:5, John 12:28).

2. Peter bore witness to this and the powerful affect it had upon his perception of God (2Peter 1:17).

E. The truth of the Father's love for Jesus has a powerful impact upon us because the Eternal Father loves us in **the very same way that He loves Jesus**.

John 17:20, 23 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;... 23 "I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and **have loved them as You have loved Me.**

1. The same measure or amount of love that He feels for Jesus is the same amount of love He feels for you. The amount is infinite, because all the attributes of God are infinite. **He loves you with limitless love.**
2. The same intensity and zeal He has for Jesus is the same intensity and zeal He feels for you. **He is infinitely zealous for you.**
3. The same delight and pleasure that Jesus brings to the Father's heart is the same delight and pleasure that you bring to His heart. It is shocking to consider that the heart of the Eternal Father is actually moved with delight by our movements of love toward Him. **He is infinitely pleased with you.**

Psa 16:3 As for the saints who are in the earth, They are the majestic ones in whom is all my delight.

F. In view of this we finally get a glimpse of understanding what John was talking about in chapter 3.

Joh 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

1. God traded Jesus for You
2. It was the Father's good pleasure to crush His Son so that the Father could have you as His own Child.

Isa 53:10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him ...

3. It was Jesus' joy to endure the cross to reconcile you to God.

Heb 12:2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross...

VI. The New Order, God the Eternal Father

Rev 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for **the old order of things has passed away.**"(NIV)

A. There will be a completely new order of life in eternity. After the Millennium, The Eternal Father, Himself, will forever join Himself in intimacy and in habitation to humanity. He will live with us.

B. Everything changes at this point. The mode of interaction with the Father from the previous ages is no longer a part of the new order of existence. There will be a complete disclosure of the person of God to us. The full expression of Deity, the uncreated God; Father, Spirit, Son, will live with humanity.

C. While the mission statement of the Son is found in revelation 19:7, "... the Bride has made herself ready." The mission statement for all the ages of the eternal Father is found in Rev 21:7.

Rev 21:7 "He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.