OUR PERFECT FATHER JUNE 18, 2022

MT. 5:48

Jesus came to make visible the invisible God and reveal Him as a loving, caring Heavenly Father. Throughout the Gospels, He referred to God as "My Father", "Our Father" and "Your Father". The Jews had no concept of God as a father. They knew Him as Jehovah. What they needed determined the name they used to call on him: Jehovah – Shalom, Shammah, Jireh, Rapha, etc. When Jesus called Him Father, it was a new concept that angered many of them. In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus revealed the Father heart of God and painted for us a clear picture of what fatherhood is all about. My message is about God being the perfect Father to all of us.

Our Perfect Father

- 1.) He made provision for all of us (MT. 6:26). Before Adam's arrival, God made provisions for Him. We may put a room together for our child, but God put together a universe and created a perfect environment for Adam's coming.
- 2.) He loves with perfect love (MT. 5:44-47). God's love is based on decision and principle, not feeling and emotion.
 - **A.) ROM. 5:8 AMPC** God's love is unconditional and based on the performance of Christ, and His loving heart.
 - **B.)** 1 JOHN 4:19 We respond to His love for us.
- 3.) He forgives and shows mercy (EPH. 4:32). Mercy is not giving us what we deserve. He instructs us to do the same.
 - **A.) LAM. 3:22-24 ESV** Just as we live with the certainty that the sun will rise every morning, we know for certain that God's unchanging love and unfailing mercy will do likewise.
 - **B.)** Being raised in a perfect environment by a perfect father doesn't always prevent rebellion (MT. 10:34-39 NLT). The sword is God's Word. Rejecting it will cause division even in one's own house.
- **4.)** Makes Himself available **(HEB. 4:16).** No matter what time of day or night, He's an ever-present help in time of need.
 - **A.)** We don't have the resources God has, but we can make ourselves available to do what we can.
- 5.) He rewards the obedience of His children (**DEUT. 28:1-2**). To God, obedience is better than a sacrifice. Obedience opens the door to blessings and eating the good of the land.
- 6.) Corrects His children (HEB. 12:6-7 MSG). God doesn't send cancer, tornadoes, or tsunamis to correct His children. He corrects with words. God never told Jesus not to heal someone because He was teaching him something. Earthly fathers correct us in the flesh, but our heavenly Father uses spiritual tools (2 TIM. 3:16-17 AMPC).
 - **A.)** God's last resort is to turn one over to Satan if he continues to rebel.
- 7.) He gives perfect gifts to His children (JAMES 1:17 NIV). Just as the sun can only give light, even so, the Father only gives good, perfect, and appropriate gifts to His children.
 - **A.)** MT. 7:7-11 Ask, Seek, Knock! How much more?
 - **B.)** 2 COR. 9:15 If He gave us Jesus, how can He not give us all things?

Conclusion: We all have a heavenly Father who provides for us, loves us, forgives us, is available for us, rewards us, corrects us, and gives us perfect and appropriate gifts.