Knowing God As Father
by Derek Prince

— Study Note Outline —
GF1

Three Tape Series
4090 The Fatherhood Of God
4091 Human Fatherhood – Natural
4092 Human Fatherhood – Spiritual

The Fatherhood Of God
4090

I. Jesus Came
— To reveal the Father
— To bring us to the Father

Matt. 11:27, 28–30—Only the Son can reveal the Father (compare John 10:14–15; Heb. 1:1–2)

A. Jesus reveals the Father (John 5:43; 6:45–46; 8:19; 17:6, 26; Heb. 1–2b; 2:11–12; Ps. 22:22)
   1. In the Bible, “title” and “name” are interchangeable:
      a. Is. 7:14—Immanuel
      b. Is. 9:6—Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace
      c. Jer. 23:6; 33:16—The Lord our righteousness
      d. Ezek. 48:35—The Lord is there
      e. Matt. 28:19—Baptizing in the name of the Father, etc.
      f. Rev. 19:13, 16—The Word of God . . . King of Kings, etc.
   2. Compare also:
      a. Mark 5:9—Legion
      b. Rev. 6:8—Death
   3. Conversely, “names” of God are also “titles”
      a. Ex. 3:14–15—Jehovah
      b. Matt. 1:21—Jesus
   4. In the Old Testament the fatherhood of God is occasionally referred to—but not unfolded. (Deut. 32:6; Is. 63:16; 64:8; Jer. 31:9; Mal. 1:6; 2:10)

B. Jesus brings us to the Father (John 14:5–9; Eph. 2:17–18; 1 Pet. 3:18; 1 John 1:1–3)

II. The Fatherhood Of God Is The “First Cause” Of The Universe (Eph. 3:14–15)
A. Biblically, there is no family without a father.
B. This revelation brings security/purpose.
C. Marks of those who have received this revelation
   2. Contrast Antichrist: John 5:43; 1 John 2:22–23
I. Introduction
   A. Deut. 32:9—God wants a people for Himself (compare Rev. 21:3, 7)—It takes a father to make a people
   B. Gen. 17:4–5; 18:17–19—Example of Abraham (compare Rom. 4:16–17)—From father to family to clan to tribe to nation

II. Three Basic Functions Of A Father: Priest – Prophet – King
   A. As priest, he represents his family to God
      1. Ex. 12:3, 7, 13—Example of Passover
      2. Job 1:1, 4–5—Example of Job
   B. As prophet, he represents God to his family
      1. Gen. 6:7–10; 13–14; 7:1—Example of Noah (compare Heb. 11:7)
      2. Deut. 6:4–7; 11:18–21—Example of Israel (compare Eph. 6:4)
   C. As king, he rules his family on behalf of God
      2. Josh. 24:15—Joshua
      4. 1 Tim. 3:4–5—Qualifications for an elder

III. Results
   A. Results of successful fatherhood: security, maturity
   B. Results of failure: rejection, disorder, rebellion
   C. Satan’s strategy to undermine fatherhood:
      2. Key words: manipulate – dominate
   D. Elijah’s task: Mal. 4:5–6
   E. Remedy for rejection: Jesus on the cross endured our rejection that we might experience acceptance

Read letter of testimony.

Closing prayer.

I. Biblical Examples Of Spiritual Fathers
   A. In the Old Testament
      1. The first great example of both natural and spiritual fatherhood is Abraham.
      2. Gen. 4:20–21—Jabal and Jubal
      3. Gen. 45:8—Joseph to Pharaoh
      4. 2 Kings 2:11–12—Elijah to Elisha (discipleship)
5. Is. 22:20–21—Eliakim to Jerusalem and Judah

B. In the New Testament
1. 1 John 2:12–14—All of us are God’s little children. Within this are three generations (compare 2 Tim. 2:1–2):
   a. Fathers
   b. Young men
   c. Children
2. 1 Cor. 4:14–16—Paul to the Corinthians
3. 1 Thess. 2:11–12—Paul, Silas and Timothy to the Thessalonians
4. 1 Tim. 1:1–2—Paul to Timothy
5. Titus 1:1, 4—Paul to Titus

II. Relationship Between Paul And Timothy
A. Paul chose Timothy by revelation (Acts 16:1–3, 1 Tim. 1:18; 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:6)
B. Timothy worked with and under Paul—result: kindred spirit (Phil. 2:19–23)
C. Timothy sent out to represent Paul (1 Cor. 4:17; 1 Tim. 1:3)
D. Timothy comes of age—released to his own ministry (2 Tim. 1:1–2)
   1. Master/apprentice relationship is temporary
   2. Father/son relationship is permanent
E. Paul continues to intercede for Timothy (2 Tim. 1:3)

III. What Makes A Spiritual Father?
A. A father is a life-source (John 6:57)
B. We impart what we are—deeds, not words (John 5:19)
C. We must know the Father in His eternal nature (1 John 2:12–14; John 17:3)
D. It takes death to release life (2 Cor. 4:10–12)
E. Results of spiritual fatherhood (the same as results of successful natural fatherhood):
   security – maturity

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