



Believe

JOHN

MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

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The Paternity Test

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Jesus Addresses Jews who no Longer Believed in Him (Jn. 8:31a; 6:66)

- A. Jesus is not anti-semitic
- B. Jesus is speaking to those who no longer believed in him
 1. Reverting to their former religious beliefs (apostasy)
 2. Read in the context of the verses that follow

3 Appeals to Paternity by the Jews who no longer believed in Jesus (Jn. 8:33, 39a, 41b)

- A. "We are Abraham's descendants"
- B. "Our father is Abraham"
- C. "We have one Father – God."

3 Rebuttals to Paternity by Jesus (Jn. 8:34-38, 39b-41, 42-47)

- A. "You are trying to kill me...so then, you do what you have heard from **your father**." (vv. 37b, 38b)
- B. "You are trying to kill me...You are doing what **your father** does." (vv. 40a, 41a)
- C. "You are of **your father** the devil, and want to carry out his desires." (v. 44)
 1. People 'become' children of the devil
 2. The devil bends our will to carry out his desires
 3. He was a murderer from the beginning (Gen. 4)
 4. His nature is to tell lies (Gen. 3)

Jesus' Remedy Repeated 3 Times (Jn. 8: 31b-32, 37, 43)

- A. Continue in Jesus' word and be freed from slavery
- B. Give room to Jesus' word within you
- C. Listen to Jesus' word

Jesus Brings us the freedom we Cannot Get Without Him (Jn. 8:32-36)