

# WE ARE ABRAHAM'S CHILDREN

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## INTRODUCTION

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A. TEXT: *"Jesus therefore said to those Jews that had believed him, If ye abide in my word, then are ye truly my disciples; and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. They answered unto him, We are Abraham's seed, and have never yet been in bondage to any man; how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?.....They answered and said unto him Our father is Abraham. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham."* (vs. 31,32, 39.)

1. What it meant to be Abraham's children.
2. What the Jews thought and taught.
3. Their claim was physical, not spiritual.
4. Thought the physical automatically deserved the spiritual.

B. SETTING:

1. Jesus was in Jerusalem - teaching and working miracles.
2. The Jews were challenging every thing He said.
3. He spoke of their need (to be saved).
4. Their response (we are saved, Don't need), because we are Abraham's seed.

C. IS THERE A CONNECTION BETWEEN....

1. Those (the Jews) who claim to be Abraham children
  2. And many who claim to be the children of God today?
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## WHY THIS CLAIM?

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A. WHY DID THEY MAKE THIS CLAIM?

1. Physically they could show that they were descendants of Abraham.
2. They were God's Chosen People.

B. JESUS WAS OFFERING THEM THE "TRUTH" THAT WOULD MAKE THEM FREE.

1. "We have never been in bondage to any man"
2. Physical this was not true (give examples).

C. "HOW SAYEST THOU, YE SHALL BE MADE FREE?"

1. *"Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Every one that committeth sin is the bondservant of sin."* (v. 35).
  2. The truth that Jesus offered would make them free from bondage of sin.
  3. Their claim of "Abraham's children" did not give them this freedom.
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## WHY THIS CLAIM

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- A. IT GAVE THEM a special relationship with God.
    - 1. God's chosen people.
    - 2. Thought God loved them....not anyone else.
    - 3. This view of the world.
      - a. Jews - God's People - special - better, etc.
      - b. Gentiles - sinners - no people= lost - outside of the love and law of God.
  - B. IT GAVE THEM special protection.
    - 1. Had expected it in a physical way (Jeremiah's 'Temple Sermon').
    - 2. Abraham sat at the gate of 'hell' and would not let a Jew be lost.
  - C. IT GAVE THEM Freedom from Sin and Condemnation.
    - 1. All they wanted now was freedom from Rome.
    - 2. Since they considered themselves safe, they did not need words of Jesus.
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## BENEFIT OF THE CLAIM

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- A. WHEN IS THE CLAIM OF NO VALUE?
    - 1. Is it possible to make the claim of special relationship with God and it not be true?
    - 2. Could there be a wrong assumption.
  - B. WHEN THE JEWS CAME TO JOHN THE BAPTIST.
    - 1. *"Bring forth therefore fruit worthy of repentance: and think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham."* (Matt. 3:8).
    - 2. You are what you do and how you live....not what you claim.
    - 3. To claim special relationship with God is of no value if we **do not live the life!!**
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## I AM A CHRISTIAN!

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### A. WHY MEN MAKE THIS CLAIM.

1. This is what all want to be.
2. We want it because of the benefits that go with it.
3. NOW....Does making the claim make it so.

### B. BASIS FOR MAKING THIS CLAIM.

1. I am a Christian.... as opposed to being an atheist.
2. I am a Christian, because I believe in God.
3. People think of themselves as being Christian, without considering what a Christian really is!

### C. JESUS SAID:

1. *"The good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth that which is evil; for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh."* (Luke 6:44,45).
2. *"By their fruits ye shall know them."* (Matt. 7:16) (Also Matt. 12:33).
3. James points out, where is the profit if we say...but don't live. *"What doth it profit, my brethren, if a man say he hath faith, but have not works? Can that faith save him?"* (James 2:14).

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## CONCLUSION

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### A. WHO IS A CHILD OF GOD?

1. *"He that is of God heareth the words of God: for this cause ye hear them not, because ye are not of God."* (John 8:47)
2. The test: *"Jesus therefore said to those Jews that had believed him, If ye abide in my word, then are ye truly my disciples; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."* (John 8:31,32).

### B. WE ARE CHILDREN OF GOD WHEN:

1. We obey Him.
  2. Live the life....can't be a follower and not follow.
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