

# The Father of Lights

This morning's message is "The Father of Lights." Imagine this: **Selwyn Hughes "The Forgotten Father"**, "I am ascending to My Father & your Father – to My God and your God." Jn 20:17 HCSB

"The theme in this verse – My Father and your Father – is one that I view as among the greatest I have ever tackled, & I approach it with the earnest prayer that as the Father revealed Himself through the "Word made flesh" (God's most perfect self-revelation) so He might reveal Himself also through the words that are being written about Him here.

"It has been said that the Christian faith is essentially a Father movement. Yet theologian Tom Smal suggested that in today's church the Father is forgotten in precisely the same way that the Spirit was forgotten before the growth of the Pentecostal and charismatic movements. Can this be true? Are we in danger of focusing so much on the work of the Holy Spirit that we forget the Father? I think that in some sections of the church there are evidences that this is the case. We hear much about the Son and much about the Spirit, but how much do we hear about the Father? When our Lord Jesus Christ live on this earth, He fulfilled many roles – Savior, Shepherd, Deliverer, Healer, Prophet, Life-giver – but the overall purpose of His being here was to restore us to relation-ship with the Father. Some of the greatest words He ever uttered are the words of our text for today: "*I am ascending to My Father and your Father.*" Your Father.

"Let those words sing their way into your consciousness. Through our Lord's redemptive work on the cross, God is not just the Father of Jesus. He is our Father too." **See John 3:17-21 TPT**

**James 1:17-18 TPT** "*Every gift God freely gives us is good and perfect, streaming down from **the Father of lights**, who shines*

*from the heavens with no hidden shadow or darkness and is never subject to change.*” **TPT note:** “Jesus calls us **the light of the world** (Matt. 5:14-16) and Paul describes believers as “**shining lights**” in this world (Phil. 2:15). God is our Father. He created angels but He brought us into new birth. The Greek word *anothen* (“from above”) is used by Jesus in describing to Nicodemus that we are born from above. We are lights born from above.” **TPT note:** “The Aramaic word for “*light*” (*noohra*) is often used as a metaphor for teachings that bring enlightenment and revelation into the hearts of men. Light can also represent the presence of God (“*the light of His countenance*”). Jesus is the light of God within us.”

**18.** *God was delighted to give us birth (or “God having decided gave us birth”) by the truth of His infallible Word so that we would fulfill His chosen destiny for us and become the favorite ones out of all His creation!”* Whereas death is the “birthchild” of sin, God gives us birth from His pure desires to bring Him glory. Therefore, as new creations

**(2 Cor. 5:17)**, we are capable of fulfilling Father God’s chosen destiny for our lives! And He is pleased to give us the Spirit of His Son, Jesus, so that we could be fully alive – Spirit-filled & Spirit-led.

### **The Heart-searching Father**

**Rom. 8:27-32 TPT** “*God, the searcher of the heart, knows fully our longings, yet He also understands the desires of the Spirit because the Holy Spirit passionately pleads before God for us, His holy ones, in perfect harmony with God’s plan and our destiny.*” Each one of us who are born again from above have a deep & true inner heart desire to fully belong completely to God. Thus, Father doesn’t just search our hearts to uncover wrong patterns of thinking. He also administers grace that triumphs over judgment!

**V. 28 TPT** *“So we are convinced that every detail of our lives is continually woven together for good (Aramaic: “harmony”), for we are **His**lovers who have been called to fulfill **His** designed purpose.*

**V. 29 TPT** *“For **He** knew all about us before we were born and **He** **destined us** (Aramaic: or “**sealed us**” [with God’s mark upon us]) from the beginning to share the likeness of **His Son**. This means the Son is the oldest among a vast family of brothers and sisters who will become just like **Him**.” In foreign countries, wealthy people would often send a servant to purchase goods from the market for personal or business use. After finding the desired goods, the servant would pay & then put the seal of the owner on the items. Therefore, whoever delivered them would know who the owner was & where they were to go. We’ve been “sealed” by Father God to become just like His Son, for we belong to Him now in Christ!*

**V. 30 TPT** *“Having determined our destiny ahead of time [Christ-likeness!], **He** called us to Himself and transferred **His** perfect righteousness to everyone **He** called. And those who possess **His** perfect righteousness he co-glorified with **His Son!**” **TPT note:** “Notice that all the verbs are past tense [determined, called, transferred, & co-glorified]. The same faith that justifies us is the faith that glorifies us. This verse gives us 4 golden links in the chain of our salvation: (1) predestination, (2) vocation, (3) justification, & (4) glorification.”*

### **“The Triumph of God’s Love”**

**V. 31 TPT** *“So, what does all this mean? If God has determined to stand with us, tell me, who then could ever stand against us? **32.** For God has proved His love by giving us His greatest treasure, the gift of His Son. And since God freely offered Him up as the sacrifice for us all, He certainly won’t withhold from us anything else He has to give.” The last part of this verse intentionally echoes the historical account of Abraham’s son being*

spared from death by the very God Who called for his sacrifice. God offered His Son for Abraham's son, and He won't withhold anything that we need as well!

**John 15:13 TPT** *"For the greatest love of all is a love that sacrifices all. And this great love is demonstrated when a person sacrifices when a person sacrifices his life for his friends (or "willingly lays down his soul for his friends")."* Faith sacrifices, for **Gal. 5:6 TPT** says that we have a faith that works by love: *"When you're joined to the Anointed One (Christ), circumcision and religious obligations can benefit you nothing. **All that matters now is living in the faith that works and expresses itself through love.**"*

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**Paul Prays for the Generosity of Father's Love to Overflow**  
**Eph. 3:14 TPT** *"So I kneel humbly in awe before the Father of our Lord Jesus, the Messiah, **15.** the perfect Father of every father and child (or "the perfect Father of every people group") in heaven and on the earth. **16.** And I pray that He would unveil within you the unlimited riches of His glory and favor until supernatural strength floods you innermost being with His divine might and explosive power." **17.** Then by constantly using your faith, the life of Christ will be released deep inside you, and the resting place of His love will become the very source and root of your life."*

God is more willing to give than we are to receive! Open up your heart to more of Father God's love for you. Let's His Word become revelation and release to your life! His Word tells us how much He loves us & His Word went to a Cross to prove it. So let's meditate upon these truths and become more like the image of our Lord & Savior!