

Our Father God

Isa 63:15,16

Intro:

- Old Testament Names of God...
- We move to a transitional Name... Father
- Hard for Jews to see, hard for us also...
- Some verses speak of “son-ship” and “birthing”
- Others focus on the Father relationship
- What matters is that we see and experience it!
- What does it mean to have God as Father?
- What changes are needed in our hearts?

I. The God who is Father

- God's claim on us from Creation
- All others creatures erupt in creations power
- Man is "made in Our image" (Ge 1:26)
- Adam is "formed" *yatsar* – squeezed, shaped, pot
- "breathed" *naphach*, blown by God (2:7)
- Eve is "fashioned" (2:22) *banah* – build, establish
- Life-Giver, Source, Definer, Provider, Protector...
- All these, God is from the beginning of our race
- Intimate desire and Need for the is our lives...

II. Israel's Father God

- Ex 4:22 – from the call of Moses, He declares it
- Often used to rebuke them for NOT remembering
 - Dt 32:6,18; Isa 1:2; 63:16; Jer 31:9; Mal 2:10
- Connected with great promises in Him
 - Ps 68:5 – Father of Fatherless...
 - Isa 9:6 – Eternal, Everlasting Father (Jesus)
 - Isa 63:16 – Father/Redeemer of Old
 - Isa 64:8 – Father/Potter, works of His Hand
 - Jer 3:4,5 – Father/Friend of youth, merciful
 - Jer 3:19 – in prophecy of what shall be (31:9)

III. Jesus and OUR Father

- Jesus uses this for God, distinguishes the Trinity
- Prayers are focused on Father (Mt 11; 26; Jn 17)
- Jesus encourages OUR participation in this (Mt 5ff)
 - Intimate and caring God of every moment
 - The HEAVENLY Father... not like earthly
 - In prayer, in hope, in need, in sin, in revelation
 - The Son knows/reveals the Father (Mt 11:27)
 - Through Jesus we become this (Jn 1:12)
 - This radically changes every idea of God...

Actions:

- If God is Father/Abba:
 - What privileges do you have in Jesus?
 - What has to change since He is Father?
 - What is the world looking for in you?
 - What have you put into this relationship?
 - What will it be like when we “grow up”?
- 1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.