

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

Hello everyone, it is November 1<sup>st</sup> of 2023 and the title of today's message; no, it's not Son of God, thirteen; it's Our Father and Our God. Before getting into the body of today's study, I'd like to share with you an observation, based upon the previous Son of God series.

0:00:24

The more one looks at a topic, the more clarity seems to come. I'm reminded of a quote from a PHD and geological engineer I had the pleasure I had working with over the years. He said, "If you can't take something complex and explain it so a five-year-old can understand it, you don't understand it yourself."

0:00:45

That always resonated with me from the first time I heard it. What seemed so clear to me after doing the Son of God series, and I can state it this way as simply as I can and am sharing it for your consideration.

Number 1.

The teaching of the Trinity or the Binity, which is a derivative of the Trinity, it's really the Trinity minus one, requires that Christ not be a created being. It is foundational to the concept of either.

Number 2.

If one has to come to understand that the Father and Christ are separate and distinct Beings, and always have been, it requires that Christ be a created Being to harmonize with the scriptural record.

0:01:46

The Father then, is the Creator of all, and you know, the foundational scriptures of Revelation 3:14 and Colossians 1:15 basically tell us that. I'll just read them again, because they are foundational. It says:

*<sup>14</sup> ... 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, (And that's what Christ is)*

0:02:11

And Christ describes Himself as:

*the Beginning of the creation of God:*

And we see exactly the same thing is Colossians 1:15

*<sup>15</sup>He (Christ) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.*

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

0:02:31

The debate in this has been going on for millennia and I'm certain that my deliberations aren't going to change that. But the two reference points, that I've just articulated, do make sense to me given where I'm at in my own journey of understanding.

0:02:45

It does not have to be yours. Now that I think that I understand the Son much better than previously, it would naturally follow that the time has come to understand the Father in a better way. We are told that both of them, the Father and the Son, live in us, making their home actually in us, as it says in John 14, verses 23 and 24. John 14, we'll read that. Verse 23 and 24.

*<sup>23</sup>Christ answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.*

0:03:43

Christ was as, or did as, the Father told Him to say and to speak. We know of that from John 12; John 12, verse 49 and 50, where Christ said:

*<sup>49</sup>For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. <sup>50</sup>And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak."*

0:04:21

It would make sense to me then, if we go back to John 14:23, that if we love Christ and we keep His word, because He tells us to, then it naturally follows when He does tell us something, we actually believe Him. Neither He or the Father lie, so why wouldn't we believe them?

0:04:46

Yet it is obvious when one looks about at the Christian world, very few actually believe what the Son of God says. That has to reflect on just how much the biblical Christ is loved, and by extension, the Father Himself. I doubt it could be argued that the Being that team dark hates the most, would be our Father, our God.

0:05:18

And the first commandment we have put in place, that Christ repeatedly talked about, is loving the Father. It's a fair bet that a lot of effort would have gone into hiding Him from those who are supposed to love Him above all else. The Being we are to be in covenant with, is the Father.

0:05:48

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

And Christ made that abundantly clear in John 20, verse 17, where I got the title of this study is pulled from. John 20, verse 17 says:

*17... "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren*

Christ recognized he was a brother.

*and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'"*

0:06:21

Logistically there is a process of just how this works, revealed in the Bible. If we believe actually, what we are told. You can see in that passage, John 20, verse 17, that the Father and the God, are one in the same.

0:06:41

So, how does this actually stitch together? How does this all come about? Well, if we go to Galatians, and we pick it up in verse 4, Galatians 4 and we are going to read verses 4 – 6. So, it says:

*4But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. 6And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"*

0:07:27

Well, if we accept the fact that God and our Father are one in the same, we can read this a bit differently to personalize it in some way. I'll give you an example of that.

*4But when the fullness of the time had come, (Our Father) sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. 6And because you are sons, (Our Father) has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"*

0:08:07

God's Son has a presence in us, and it is the Father that does so. We are also told in I John 3; I John 3 and verse 24 that the Father has a presence in us. And we will read that, it says:

*24Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us,*

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

Makes His home in us.

*by the Spirit whom He has given us.*

0:08:38

The Father places His presence in us by giving us His Spirit, alongside the Spirit of His Son, so that both dwell in the ecclesia. We get further confirmation of that; these are all that we would be very familiar with. It says:

*<sup>16</sup>Do you not know*

In I Corinthians 3, verses 16 and 17.

*that you (The ecclesia) are the temple of God...*

God resides in us; He has a presence in us. This isn't anything new, it's been going on for a very, very long time.

0:09:21

If we go to I Peter, chapter 1 and verses 10 and 11. This isn't anything new to us, both of Them, as they live in us, lived in the prophets as well. I Peter 1:10-11 says:

*<sup>10</sup>Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, <sup>11</sup>searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ*

As we read about in Galatians 4.

*who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.*

0:10:02

So, the Spirit of Christ and the Spirit of God, the Father, were in the prophets exactly as they are in us. They both have the Spirit of Christ and the Spirit of God, just like the ecclesia of today.

0:10:22

We are given yet more information on the logistics of how this works, revealed to us in Matthew 11; Matthew 11, and verse 27. Christ is explaining to us actually how this process goes down. Matthew 11:27 says:

*<sup>27</sup>All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father.*

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

That is why the Father reveals the Son.

*Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son,*

0:10:56

The Son knows the Father and notice this.

*and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.*

So, it is the Son's responsibility, the Son's job actually, to reveal the Father. And He does so by choice, and He exerts His will to decide who He is going to reveal the Father to, and who He does not.

0:11:23

We'll see the same thing repeated in Luke 10, verses 21 and 22.

*<sup>21</sup>In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, "I thank You, Father, God of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight.*

0:11:47

So, the Father also chooses who He will reveal the Son to, and who He does not. Going on.

*<sup>22</sup>All things have been delivered to Me (Christ) by My Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father,*

That's why the Father reveals Him.

*and who the Father is except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him."*

0:12:12

So, Christ understood the process; His role really quite well. It was the Father that does the revealing; He reaches into our spirit and teaches us. And there is an example of that's really quite outstanding. In Matthew 16:16, Simon Peter, in response to Christ asking him, who am I?

*<sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."*

*<sup>17</sup>Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.*

0:12:57

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

So, we can see, that if the Father wants to reveal something to us directly, that He just simply does it. He can communicate with our spirit and give it understanding, as He so chooses. And so, Christ understood that He was to reveal the Father to those He chose to.

0:13:16

Well, does that then mean that there are some whom Christ would choose not to reveal the Father to? And it begs the question, why wouldn't He reveal the Father to some and to others? Another time, another message perhaps.

0:13:36

If we choose to believe what Christ says here, then it is Christ dwelling in us that reveals the Father to us. That is His job, that's a reason, not necessarily the reason, but certainly a reason, why the Father sends the Spirit of His Son into us. It is His Son that makes the call.

0:14:04

And as we look into the Christian world, generally, including the COG (Church of God), how many, would you say, understand the Father? Now that we know how that works, answering that question might be a bit easier. And it's also important to add another dimension to the process by considering a few more scriptures.

0:14:27

In the book of Romans; Romans 8 and let's look at verse 7, it says:

*<sup>7</sup>Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.*

So, naturally, under the influences of Satan, where we walk under, or to the tune of the Prince of the Power of the Air, we are not disposed to being God friendly at all.

0:14:55

And if we just personalize this a little bit more, Romans 8:7 would read:

*<sup>7</sup>Because the carnal mind is enmity against (Our Father); for it is not subject to the law of (Our Father), nor indeed can be.*

0:15:15

We see something similar in the transition process in Romans 12 and verse 2.

*<sup>2</sup>And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of (Our Father).*

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

0:15:37

You can see how we can begin to substitute that rather seamlessly and really personalize our relationship with God.

0:15:48

How much can we love someone when we are hostile to them? Or, would we obey someone that we are hostile to? The same kind of a question. Christ recognized this in John 8, when He instantly recognized who the father of the Pharisees and Sadducees actually was.

0:16:17

Well, if you are hostile or if a person is hostile to the Father; that's a problem. Because they will not obey and they certainly will not love the Father, and Christ commented on that actually in John 8. Let's read verses 42 – 47.

*<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, "If (My Father) were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from (My Father) nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. <sup>43</sup>Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. <sup>44</sup>You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father*

0:17:11

He was contrasting His Father and their father.

*you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. <sup>45</sup>But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. <sup>46</sup>Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? <sup>47</sup>He who is of (My Father) hears (My Father's) words; therefore, you do not hear, because you are not of (My Father)."*

0:17:45

If we use the passage in John 20, I think it's rather seamless, you read it that way; see what you think. But there's nothing lost in the meaning and that certainly makes it more clear. So, how do we go from a situation where we're hostile to God, like the Pharisees and the Sadducees and the Scribes were, to a condition where we would love the Father? And that's where it really gets quite interesting.

0:18:23

We're actually told of the dynamics of that and how it works in Romans 5. In Romans 5, and let's just read that. We'll read that and then we'll reread it, substituting as we have done here, just to see if it makes sense.

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

0:18:45

It says in Romans 5:5

*<sup>5</sup>Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*

So, carnally and naturally, we are hostile to God, we wouldn't love Him for sure and we certainly wouldn't obey Him. So, God must miraculously intervene and flip the switch in our hearts, so that we would be predisposed to loving Him, which leads to obedience.

*<sup>6</sup>For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. <sup>10</sup>For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. <sup>11</sup>And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.*

0:19:56

Well, let's read that and let's substitute our Father or my Father in those things. Verse 5

*<sup>5</sup>Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of (Our Father) has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*

God has to flip the switch and change our attitude from not liking Him to loving Him. That starts the process.

*<sup>6</sup>For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But (Our Father),*

0:20:40

*our Father and Christ's Father, are one in the same.*

*demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. <sup>10</sup>For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to (Our Father) through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. <sup>11</sup>And not only that, but we also rejoice in (Our Father) through our Lord Jesus, (Christ)*



Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

0:21:15

Whom the Father sent.

*through whom we have now received the reconciliation.*

We are reconciled back to God the Father.

0:21:27

We can do the same kind of a thing, just switching that out, in Romans 5:1, 2 and see if that makes sense; adds to or detracts, it's your decision.

*<sup>1</sup> Therefore, having been justified by faith,*

Romans 5:1

*we have peace with (Our Father) through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of (Our Father).*

0:21:55

Do we see the difference in accent or beginning to see a separation of the two, when we do this? God the Father and Christ have never been a Binity. They are separate and distinct beings. The Christ has a God, our Father; the Father does not.

0:22:26

We could see of that if we go back into the Old Testament, and let's just read Isaiah 45, verses 5 – 7; Isaiah 45 and verses 5 – 7. This is specific and we'll do this in another broader way here shortly. It says in verse 5:

*<sup>5</sup>I am Yehovah, and there is no other; there is no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me, <sup>6</sup>that they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting that there is none besides Me. I am Yehovah, and there is no other; <sup>7</sup>I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, Yehovah, do all these things.'*

0:23:21

Even in His glorified state, when Christ was returned to the glory He had with His Father, He is still God's son. We read those passages in Matthew 11:27 and Luke 10, verse 21 and 22, where the Father reveals the Son and the Son reveals the Father. If they are both the same, it doesn't matter. How is that even possible? It makes no sense if there is no real difference between the two.

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

0:23:48

What would either have to reveal? It all starts with the, as Christ called His Father and God, the one true God. We know that passage quite well in John 17:3. The Father is the Creator. I'd like to read all of Isaiah 45. And in Isaiah 45 we have the Father speaking, it is His Being.

<sup>1</sup> *“Thus says*

And this is curious, He's talking about Cyrus; Cyrus hasn't even been born yet. So, we need to keep that in mind.

0:24:31

Isaiah was active in the 740BC to maybe 680BC, long before Cyrus's time.

<sup>1</sup> *“Thus says Yehovah to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have held—to subdue nations before him and loose the armor of kings, to open before him the double doors, so that the gates will not be shut: <sup>2</sup>I will go before you and make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze and cut the bars of iron.*

0:25:11

This is the Father speaking about what He is going to do.

<sup>3</sup> *I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places, that you may know that I, Yehovah, who call you by your name,*

Wasn't even born yet.

*am the God of Israel. <sup>4</sup>For Jacob My servant's sake, and Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me. <sup>5</sup>I am Yehovah, and there is no other; there is no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me, <sup>6</sup>that they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting that there is none besides Me. I am Yehovah, and there is no other; <sup>7</sup>I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, Yehovah, do all these things. <sup>8</sup>“Rain down, you heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness; let the earth open, let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together. I, Yehovah, have created it. <sup>9</sup>“Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth! Shall the clay say to him who forms it, ‘What are you making?’ Or shall your handiwork say, ‘He has no hands?’ <sup>10</sup>Woe to him who says to his father, ‘What are you begetting?’ Or to the woman, ‘What have you brought forth?’” <sup>11</sup>Thus says Yehovah, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker:*

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

0:26:47

Israel's maker is the Father.

*"Ask Me of things to come concerning My sons; and concerning the work of My hands, you command Me. <sup>12</sup>I have made the earth, and created man on it. I—My hands—stretched out the heavens, and all their host I have commanded. <sup>13</sup>I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways; he shall build My city and let My exiles go free, not for price nor reward," Says Yehovah of hosts. Yehovah, the Only Savior <sup>14</sup>Thus says Yehovah: "The labor of Egypt and merchandise of Cush and of the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over to you, and they shall be yours; they shall walk behind you, they shall come over in chains; and they shall bow down to you. They will make supplication to you, saying, 'Surely Yehovah is in you, and there is no other; there is no other God.'" <sup>15</sup>Truly You are Yehovah, who hide Yourself, O Yehovah of Israel, the Savior! <sup>16</sup>They shall be ashamed and also disgraced, all of them; they shall go in confusion together, who are makers of idols. <sup>17</sup>But Israel shall be saved by Yehovah with an everlasting salvation; you shall not be ashamed or disgraced forever and ever. <sup>18</sup>For thus says Yehovah, who created the heavens, who is God, who formed the earth and made it, who has established it, who did not create it in vain, who formed it to be inhabited: "I am Yehovah, and there is no other. <sup>19</sup>I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth; I did not say to the seed of Jacob, 'Seek Me in vain'; I, Yehovah, speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.*

0:28:32

That's where people get very uncomfortable; God the Father speaks righteousness.

*<sup>20</sup>"Assemble yourselves and come; draw near together, you who have escaped from the nations. They have no knowledge, who carry the wood of their carved image, and pray to a god that cannot save. <sup>21</sup>Tell and bring forth your case; yes, let them take counsel together. Who has declared this from ancient time? Who has told it from that time? Have not I, Yehovah? And there is no other God besides Me, a just God and a Savior; there is none besides Me.*

0:29:07

And we have to square all of that with our understanding of God.

*<sup>22</sup>"Look to Me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth! For I am Yehovah, and there is no other.*

How many times does He have to repeat that until we actually get it?

*<sup>23</sup>I have sworn by Myself; the word has gone out of My mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, that to Me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall take an oath. <sup>24</sup>He shall say, 'Surely in Yehovah I have righteousness and strength. To*

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

*Him men shall come, and all shall be ashamed who are incensed against Him.  
<sup>25</sup>In Yehovah all the descendants of Israel shall be justified, and shall glory.”*

0:29:50

It is of this Being, who we're hearing, the way He thinks, the way He understands, what He is all about, that Christ said the following in John 4, verses 23 and 24. John 4, verses 23 and 24, the Being that we read and listened to what He had to say in Isaiah 45. If we go to John 4, and verse 23 and 24, it says:

*<sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father*

0:30:31

Not Me.

*the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. <sup>24</sup>God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”*

As we read in Romans 5 it's our Father to whom we have been reconciled, such that we can, in the end, become His Sons. We are brothers to Christ; Christ is a Son. Our Father is our God.

0:30:58

There was a time in the last few years that I went through the entire New Testament to see how many times the word God, or translated God in the English, was used, and how many times it was referring to Christ. If memory serves, four, four out of approximately 1400; there are pages of it in the concordance, were directly referring to Christ. The Greek word is G2316 and it is Theos. And that is the supreme deity.

0:31:35

All the rest, referred to our Father. We should not be surprised by this. When the Son of God, rather than God Himself is referenced, it says so, singling Him out in the scriptures. And you might want to do the same as an exercise for your own study.

0:32:00

And I would like to show you a few examples of that. This is all preparatory to trying to understand our God and our Father, because there's been so much confusion, I think, with the Binitarian concept.

0:32:18

Rick Railstrom, years ago, gave an excellent message called "The Homogenization of God" where in the Trinity, it's all blended into one, so we can't see Holy Spirit from Son

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

from Father. And in the Binity, the Father and the Son are blended together so we can't see either one. And that's, in fact, the entire purpose for that.

0:32:45

As we've come to see in the Son of God series, the Son is appreciably different from the Father, and we will get into that in some future messages. But I'd just like to go through some examples in I John as we get into the end of this message. We're going to read it, I John 1, 1-7.

*<sup>1</sup> That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life—*

0:33:19

Christ, the Son of God.

*<sup>2</sup> the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us—*

So, they are separate and distinct Beings.

*<sup>3</sup> that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> And these things we write to you that your joy may be full. <sup>5</sup> This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say that we have fellowship with Him,*

0:34:04

The Father.

*and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.*

0:34:18

So, we can see back there in verse 5 that God is referencing our Father. And we can read it that way, and to me it seems very seamless.

*<sup>5</sup> This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that (Our Father) is light and in Him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, (The Father is in the light) we have*

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

*fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.*

0:34:59

If we go on to I John 2, let's read verses 15 – 17.

*<sup>15</sup>Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father*

Here we have it expressed as “the Father”

*is not in him. <sup>16</sup>For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. <sup>17</sup>And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God*

The will of our Father.

*abides forever.*

So, we can see a rather seamless substitution there that, I think, really brings that out.

0:35:44

If we go to I John 3, let's take a look at verses 1 and 2.

*<sup>1</sup>Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore, the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, (The Father is revealed) we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.*

0:36:15

Let's do that substitution there and see if it makes sense.

*<sup>1</sup>Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of (Our Father. It's seamless)! Therefore, the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, now we are children of (Our Father);*

0:36:39

When we were younger, I can only speak for myself, I had another father.

*and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He (The Father) is revealed,*

And we know He's coming back.

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

*we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.*

0:37:00

Speaking to a future state of existence as immortal, incorruptible Beings, just like the Father, our Father.

0:37:10

Let's go to verses 8 – 10.

*<sup>8</sup>He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose, the Son of God*

The Son of our Father.

*was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. <sup>9</sup>Whoever has been born of (Our Father) does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of (Our Father).*

0:37:40

Let's take a look at verses 17 – 24.

*<sup>17</sup>But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of (The Father) abide in him? <sup>18</sup>My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. <sup>19</sup>And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. <sup>20</sup>For if our heart condemns us, (Our Father) is greater than our heart, and knows all things. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward (Our Father). <sup>22</sup>And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments*

0:38:26

We need to love our Father and if we do that, then we will keep His commandments.

*and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. <sup>23</sup>And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ*

So, there is no mistaking this, that God, referenced there, is the Father, and when it's talking about His Son, it clearly states that.

0:38:54

And it's very helpful, when you are walking through things, to look at it, and when you see both of them referenced, ah, pay attention to that, because it does help in the clarification of things.

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

... <sup>24</sup>Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

0:39:17

Well, let's go on and look in I John 4, and we'll read verses 1 – 16. As we go through this and we come across the word, let's do some of that interchangeability again.

<sup>1</sup> Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of (Our Father);

0:39:40

Isn't that what Christ did, He tested the spirits of the religious leaders of the day, to see who their father really was?

*because many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of (Our Father): Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of (Our Father), <sup>3</sup>and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of (Our Father). And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.*

0:40:18

So, He's pointing out here that there is a Spirit of God, the Spirit our Father, and there is also the spirit of another father. And Christ talked about that, quite a bit actually, in His confrontations with the religious leaders of the day.

<sup>4</sup>You are of (Your Father), little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are of the world. Therefore, they speak as of the world, and the world hears them. <sup>6</sup>We are of (Our Father). He who knows (Our Father) hears us; he who is not of (Our Father) does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error. <sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of (Our Father); and everyone who loves is born of (Our Father) and knows (Our Father).

0:41:16

When you look at the world, do they love the Father? Do they know the Father? Or are they eminently hostile to Him?

<sup>8</sup>He who does not love does not know (Our Father), for (Our Father) is love. <sup>9</sup>In this, the love of (Our Father) was manifested toward us, that (Our Father) has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved (Our Father), but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.



Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

0:41:57

So, we can see this confirmation over and over again, that God, when it's referenced in the scriptures, is our Father.

*<sup>11</sup>Beloved, if (Our Father) so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has seen (Our Father) at any time.*

And we have read that we will see Him face to face.

*If we love one another, (Our Father) abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.*

0:42:30

Is that not something He's also doing?

*<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.*

Our Father has a presence in us by His putting His Spirit into us.

*<sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify*

Again, it just simply says the Father.

*that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of (Our Father), the Son of (Our Father) abides in him, and he in (Our Father).*

0:43:10

To me, it fits absolutely seamlessly if we choose to believe, and that's what it is, what we are told in John 20, verse 17, which we will read at the close of this message.

*<sup>16</sup>And we have known and believed the love that (Our Father) has for us. (Our Father) is love, and he who abides in love abides in (Our Father), and (Our Father) in him.*

Can you see, or can we see the intimacy of the relationship that's actually there and how our Father operates?

0:43:45

Let's go to I John 5 and we will read verses 1 – 5.

*<sup>1</sup>Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.*

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

And of course, Christ is begotten of the Father.

*<sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. <sup>3</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup>For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?*

0:44:29

Same thing; when the Son is specifically referenced it is made obvious by what we are talking about. And again, let's read that and do that exchange.

*<sup>1</sup>Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of (The Father), and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of (Our Father), when we love (Our Father) and keep His commandments. <sup>3</sup>For this is the love of (Our Father), that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.*

0:45:12

So, if we refuse to keep God's commandments, are we showing love to our Father? Of course not!

*<sup>4</sup>For whatever is born of (Our Father) overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of (Our Father)?*

Because Christ's Father and our Father are one in the same.

0:45:34

Let's go down to verse 9.

*<sup>9</sup>If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God (Our Father) is greater; for this is the witness of (Our Father) which He has testified of His Son.*

Again, they are separate and distinct beings.

*<sup>10</sup>He who believes in the Son of God (The Son of our Father) has the witness in himself; he who does not believe (Our Father) has made Him a liar,*

0:46:09

So, when God or Christ tells us something in scripture, if we don't believe what they tell us; that's a problem. Is that loving our Father? Hardly! I'll just reread verse 10.

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

*<sup>10</sup>He who believes in the Son of (Our Father) has the witness in himself; he who does not believe (Our Father) has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony*

0:46:41

The Father testified

*that (He'd) given of His Son. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: that (Our Father) has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. <sup>12</sup>He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of (Our Father) does not have life. <sup>13</sup>These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of (Our Father), that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of (Our Father).*

0:47:11

Let's go down to verses 18 – 20 as we close.

*<sup>18</sup>We know that whoever is born of (Our Father) does not sin; but he who has been born of (Our Father) keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him. <sup>19</sup>We know that we are of (Our Father), and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.*

0:47:36

Again, pointing to the difference of fathers in the world. We can see that, as Christ did, very easily, if we are willing to look.

*<sup>20</sup>And we know that the Son of (Our Father)*

Jesus Christ is His firstborn.

*has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true;*

0:48:01

And Christ referred to the Father as the one true God.

*and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true (Father) and eternal life.*

Do we now understand that our Father and Christ's Father and are one and the same? We should, if we believe Christ's statement in John 20, verse 17. And we'll just read that again, because it's so profound.

0:48:34

Our Father and Our God  
By Boyd Yahn

And, you know, I would encourage you, go ahead, look up all those references. Get a concordance out. I mean, I'm a little slow, I only had to read maybe read four or five hundred references to God before the light came on. And I thought, okay, I get it, I get it. So, John 20, verse 17

*<sup>17</sup>Jesus said to (Mary), "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren*

0:49:05

Ascended to My Father is a reference that He is His Son.

*but go to My brethren*

So, people are brothers and sisters to Christ.

*and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'"*

0:49:24

So, when you are doing your study, you might want to do that, and when you read God in the New Testament, to get rid of some of the confusion of the whole Binity thing that we've been buried in for years, if we want to substitute our Father it's perfectly acceptable to do so. And I think you are going to see some additional clarity and additional understanding and a very personal thing as we begin to come to begin to understand in a better way, our God and our Father.