

The Three Eternal Destinies #182 *Blameless Sons of the Father*

Mt 5:43-48 speaks of the Three Eternal Destinies of Man — the good, the bad, and the holy. The “you” in verses 43-48 speaks to the Holy Ones, His disciples, those who follow Him. And these verses also speak of the bad people and the good people of this world in which the Holy live, *in every place* (Mal 1:11; 1 Tim 2:8).

1 Pet 2:9-10 — Verse 10 says, “Once you were not a people...” The corporate *you* is to be the light and salt of the whole earth (verses 11-17). The Holy Ones are to live exemplary lives before all (Mt 5:48). They must be blameless in all their ways (Gen 17:1 as Gal 3:29 — as those who belong to Messiah). Mt 5:48 — “So you, my followers, ought to be perfect as your heavenly Father is.” “Your” sets the followers of Messiah apart from the world. We are in the world but not of it — a corporate witness of a people living together as a light (Isa 49:6).

Only the Holy can call “God” our Father in Heaven (Mt 6:9). The good people of the world in Mt 5:45 cannot address Him as “our Father” since they have not been reconciled to Him. Although they live by their conscience, they have not known Him as Father (Rom 8:14-16). Neither have they known Him as 2 Cor 5:15,17,21 — they cannot be His ambassadors, making others friends with Him as only the Holy do.

Mt 5:48 — Therefore “you” — the corporate disciples or followers, the holy — must be perfect, blameless in these things, as your Father is. Since you represent Him, your Father, as sons to the world around you (verse 45), sons of your Father, you are set apart from the good and the bad (Gen 18:23-25).

“So, you, My followers, as I follow My Father and your Father, you also shall follow Him.” Heb 2:10-13 — *Then any sons* are like the first-born Son (Rom 8:29). Heb 3:6,14 — They maintain their *outspokenness*, showing that they are His house, holding fast their *confidence* (#5287) firm until the end. This is the same word as in Heb 11:1 — “Faith is the substance (#5287) of things hoped for...” Faith in the *confidence* to act. Faith (#4102) is the persuasion (#3982), which is the substance of the confidence we have been given to do our Father’s will by the grace and gifts we have (Eph 2:8-10).

Grace is to know without doubt (Jn 7:17), and faith is the persuasion to do what He then commands us to do, and the confidence to stand to the end — the real substance of our life in Messiah (Heb 11:6; Rom 14:23).