

Who Can Be In Jesus' Family?

Matthew 12:22-50

Key Verse: 12:50

“For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”

1. Read verses 22-24. Why did the astonished people ask, “Could this (Jesus) be the Son of David?” What opposite opinion did the Pharisees have of Jesus? Why? (Compare 9:27-34; Isa 35:5)
2. How did Jesus answer the Pharisees? Read verses 25-28. Why was it unreasonable to say that Jesus cast out demons by the power of Satan? What if they are wrong and Jesus indeed drives out demons by the Spirit of God?
3. Read verse 29. Who is the strong man whose house is robbed? Who is the robber and what must he do to rob him? What does this show about Jesus’ power?
4. Read verses 30-32. What is the sin that will not be forgiven? What is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit? (See verse 24) Why must we stand with Jesus and gather with him? Read verses 33-37. What reveals the inner condition of a person’s heart?
5. Read verses 38-42. What request did some Pharisees make of Jesus? Why? How did Jesus answer? (39) What is the sign of Jonah that would be given? (40) What right do the people of Nineveh (Jn 1:17; 3:5) and the Queen of the South (2 Ch 9:1, 2) have to condemn the Pharisees? [notice the greatness of Jesus: 12:6, 41, 42].
6. Read verses 43-45. Why is it necessary that the heart made empty by repentance be filled? How can it be filled so that more evil spirits don’t come in?
7. Read verses 46-50. Why were his mother and brothers waiting outside? Did they seem to be supporting his ministry? Who are Jesus’ true family? What does it mean to do the will of our Father in heaven?