

- **Call NO Man Father?**

- **Intro Song:** "I want More" by Dave Regitz

- **Intro Prayer:**

- For Pope B-XVI - May he serve Christ by feeding His flock!
- For all Bishop's, Priest's and Deacons - may God grant them the grace, courage, and fortitude they need to shepherd the Church, protect it, and minister to it!
- For peace among all mankind and a conversion of sinners, unification of all believers into the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.
- Hail Mary....

- **Call No Man Father?**

- Matthew 23: [9] And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven...
 - Did Jesus really mean we can NOT call any man Father?
 - Don't we call our Priest's Father? Is this Unbiblical?
 - What about our own Fathers?
 - About about Rabbis / Teachers? Are we NOT to call any body teachers either?
 - Didn't he also say in Luke 18:

- [18] And a ruler asked him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" [19] And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone.
 - Notice he didn't rebuke him for the "teacher" bit?
 - Are we NOT to call anyone "good" though?
- So what did he mean? & Why do we call our Priest's Father?
 - For starters... Did Jesus FORBIT calling anyone "Father" other than God the Father?
 - NO!
 - What about:
 - **Jesus calling Abraham Father?** John 8: [56] Your father Abraham rejoiced that he was to see my day; he saw it and was glad."
 - **St. Stephan Also called the Pharisees & Patriarch's Father:** Acts 7:2] And Stephen said: "Brethren and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopota'mia, before he lived in Haran,
 - **St. Paul Calls himself a Father of Timothy:** Philippians 2:[22] But Timothy's worth you know, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel.

- **Also of Onesimus:** Philemon [10] I appeal to you for my child, Ones'imus, whose father I have become in my imprisonment.
- **St. John also referees to the "elders" as Father's:** 1 John 2:[13] I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, children, because you know the Father. [14] I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.
- **What About St. Peter? He referred to Mark as his son:** 1 Peter 5:13

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■ **Now... let's dive deeper!**

- The role of Priest as Father!
 - Dr. Scott Hahn from "Many Are Called"
 - Adam was - Priest, & Father of the Human Race!
 - Pg. 44 - "After Adam's failure..."
 - Pg. 46 - "Never the less, in the book of Judges..."
- In the NEW Covenant we have a NEW Priesthood
 - 12 NEW Princes set up with the "Blood of the Covenant" to offer sacrifices for the people! - **Ex**

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- Washing their feet like Moses was commanded to do for Aaron & his SONS - **Lev. 8**
- BUT... What about St. Peter? A NEW Chief Steward?
 - we see his roll as the NEW Prime Minister of the Kingdom, Matthew 16, through the lens of the OLD Prim Minister...
 - Isaiah 22:
 - [15] Thus says the Lord GOD of hosts, "Come, go to this steward, to Shebna, who is over the household, and say to him:
 - [16] What have you to do here and whom have you here, that you have hewn here a tomb for yourself, you who hew a tomb on the height, and carve a habitation for yourself in the rock?
 - [17] Behold, the LORD will hurl you away violently, O you strong man. He will seize firm hold on you,
 - [18] and whirl you round and round, and throw you like a ball into a wide land; there you shall die, and there shall be your splendid chariots, you shame of your master's house.
 - [19] **I will thrust you from your office, and you will be cast down from your station.**

- [20] In that day I will call my servant Eli'akim the son of Hilki'ah,
 - [21] **and I will clothe him with your robe, and will bind your girdle on him, and will commit your authority to his hand; and he shall be a *father* to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah.**
 - [22] **And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David; he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.**
 - [23] And I will fasten him like a peg in a sure place, and he will become a throne of honor to his father's house.
 - [24] And they will hang on him the whole weight of his father's house, the offspring and issue, every small vessel, from the cups to all the flagons.
 - [25] In that day, says the LORD of hosts, the peg that was fastened in a sure place will give way; and it will be cut down and fall, and the burden that was upon it will be cut off, for the LORD has spoken."
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- So... did Jesus not understand what HE himself meant in Matthew 23? Or what about HIS disciples?

- OR....
- Maybe he was NOT speaking LITERALLY but, rather figuratively?
 - Trying to communicate to us that God is the REAL deal... everything down here is a mere shadow of the reality!
 - IF we, as FATHER's are NOT leading our CHILDREN to the TRUE Father... then we are certainly NOT Father's but, rather... stumbling blocks!
 - Like Adam, who is created to be both Priest & Father... leading his offspring to God...
 - So are the Priests, of the Church of the Lamb... called to sacrifice & lead the spiritual offspring to God!