

## Call No Man on Earth Father?

As far as Jesus saying, "call no man on earth Father", Jesus was simply using figurative language to emphasize that all legitimate authority and truth ultimately comes from God and not to worship anyone, but God. We cannot take these passages literally. Otherwise, Jesus would be contradicting Himself for repeating the 4th Commandment, "honor your father and mother" Matthew 19:19 and referring to "Father Abraham" Luke 16:24. Throughout the Bible men are called fathers and teachers. Both Catholics and Protestants call earthly men fathers and teachers.

Exodus 20:12 "**Honor** your **father** and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

Matthew 19:19 Jesus responded, "honor your father and mother," and "love your neighbor as yourself."

Luke 16:24 "So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'"

Matthew 15:4: For God commanded, 'Honor **your father** and your mother,' and, 'He who speaks evil of father or mother, let him surely die.

Luke 2:48: And when they saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, **your father** and I have been looking for you anxiously

John 8: 54-56: Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing; it is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say that he is your God. But you have not known him; I know him. If I said, I do not know him, I should be a liar like you; but I do know him and I keep his word. **Your father Abraham** rejoiced that he was to see my day; he saw it and was glad."

Acts 7:2: And Stephen said: "Brethren and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our **father Abraham**, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran,

Acts 22:1 "'Brothers and fathers, listen now to my defense."

Romans 4:12: and likewise the father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but also follow the example of the faith which **our father Abraham** had before he was circumcised.

1 Corinthians 4:15: For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For **I became your father** in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

1 Thessalonians 2:11 "For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children"