Mat 135

Who are your brothers and sisters?

Thanks to James & Alison for recent donations.

Mat 12:46 While He was still speaking to the crowds, behold, His mother and brothers were standing outside, seeking to speak to Him.

[Mat 12:47](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/47/s_941047) Someone said to Him, “Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to You.”

Most historians account for 4 brothers of Jesus and a couple sisters.

One brother James wrote the book of James but wasn’t a Bel until Jesus was resurrected.

/[Mat 12:48](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/48/s_941048) But **Jesus answered** the one who was telling Him and said, **“Who is My mother and who are My brothers?”\**

[Mat 12:49](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/49/s_941049) And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, “Behold My mother and My brothers!

[Mat 12:50](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/50/s_941050) “For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother.”

Knowing that Jesus’s brother James did not believe in Him until after the death and resurrection there is a distinct possibility the majority of His family other than Joseph and Mary had no faith in Him as the messiah.

This is what TLJC meant when He made statements like this;

/Luk 4:24 And He said, “Truly I say to you, **no prophet is welcome in his hometown**.

(Familiarity breeds contempt)\

It’s the same old story folks…those we are closest too… often get the least amount of respect from us.

I can tell you that in my circle of close family and friends there are many who do not respect me as a pastor-teacher because they know me as wild and crazy Rick from years ago. ELABORATE

What TLJC is telling His followers is that family does not determine your eternal security and those who are true Bels become closer than blood relatives.

/Luk 14:26 “If anyone comes to Me, **and does not hate** (*miseō*) **his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters**, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple.\

MISS-AH-O this Greek verb is used in a passive tense which means it is not used like the word hate that we know, but to esteem less or love less. REPEAT

This word can be used as strong as hate or to detest someone or something but because of the Greek passive tense it is a much softer version of the word.

Turn to 1John chapter 3 with me.

While you do that, I want to show you an example of what TLJC is talking about.

The tribe of Levi are a good example when Moses needed them to follow the word of God they did so.

The men of the tribe of Levi stood by Moses and were willing to forsake family and friends after the debacle of the golden calf ritual that Aaron had allowed to take place while Moses was on Mount Sinai speaking with the Lord.

/Deu 33:9 (Levi) Who said of his father and his mother, **‘I did not consider them’**; And he did not acknowledge his brothers, nor did he regard his own sons, **for they observed Your word**,
and kept Your covenant.\

This is why they became Levitical priests because they had a strong belief and stayed faithful to the word of God.

This is recorded in Exodus chapter 32;

/Exo 32:26 then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, **“Whoever is for the LORD, *come* to me!**” And **all the sons of Levi** gathered together to him. 27 He said to them, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘Every man *of you* put his sword upon his thigh, and go back and forth from gate to gate in the camp, and **kill every man his brother, and every man his friend**, and every man his neighbor.’”\

This is how serious God takes the worship of false gods and idols.

We know His word and people were being established back then…a different dispensation but this is a serious infraction.

/Exo 32:28 So the sons of Levi did as Moses instructed, and about **three thousand men** of the people fell that day. 29 Then Moses said, “Dedicate yourselves today to the LORD—for every man has been against his son and against his brother—**in order that He may bestow a blessing** upon you today.”\

Notice it was the men in leadership positions that fell… each tribe had elders and men in positions of authority and it was those men…3,000 that died by the sword of the house of Levi that day.

There are a few deep doctrinal principles attached to what TLJC teaches about who are the brothers and sisters in Christ.

1Jo 3:17 But whoever has the world’s goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?

/[1Jo 3:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1jo/3/18/s_1162018) Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, **but in deed and truth**.

This speaks to not giving God lip-service but concentrating on truth (BD) and letting fruit come forth from your life.\

[1Jo 3:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1jo/3/19/s_1162019) We will know by this that we are of the truth, and will assure our heart before Him

[1Jo 3:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1jo/3/20/s_1162020) in whatever our heart condemns us; for God is greater than our heart and knows all things.

God knows all things even better than what our own conscience is telling us.

[1Jo 3:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1jo/3/21/s_1162021) Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God;

This is a prepositional phrase in the Greek…meaning our confidence comes from fellowship when we are cleansed from sin operating with the filling power of HS. REPEAT

Because who is in view here…. GOD. Nothing we do on our own.

/[1Jo 3:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1jo/3/22/s_1162022) and whatever we ask we receive from Him, **because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing** in His sight.

This is highlighting the Bel cleansed from sin and applying BD to their lives, producing fruit.\

And when we walk by means of the new nature…in the filling power of HS we usually ask for what is godly and what will help us grow not something from our lust patterns or greed.

REPEAT

/[1Jo 3:23](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1jo/3/23/s_1162023) This is **His commandment**, that **we believe** in the name of **His Son Jesus Christ**, and **love** (*agapaō*) **one another**, just as He commanded us.

This is how we are recognized as Royal Family members, faith alone in Christ alone and operating in impersonal, unconditional love.\

This is the calling of the Royal Family of God…brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus.

Unbels can’t achieve this nor can the carnal Bel.

Only those who are walking inside the plan of God with consistency.

/[1Jo 3:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1jo/3/24/s_1162024) The one who keeps His commandments **abides in Him**, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, **by the Spirit** whom He has given us.\

Abiding speaks of consistency and notice the power source is in the new nature…HS.

When TLJC says this is my family…those who live in the truth of BD shows us how serious it is to be born again and following BD.

TLJC put very little stock in blood lines be it Jewish bloodlines connected to Father Abraham or family ties that hold us together in a natural world.

None of that carries us into eternal life.

It is believing in Christ and adhering to His words that matters. In His own words in…

/Joh 7:16 So Jesus answered them and said, “My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me. 17 **“If anyone is willing to do His will**, he will know of the teaching, whether it is of God or *whether* I speak from Myself ”\

If the Unbel really desires to know truth it is available which starts with the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Someone… somehow…someway will deliver a message about Christ.

God the HS will put that Unbel in front of people and situations throughout their life time that will bring into light who Jesus Christ is.

And the Bel who is seeking to grow up God will place a ministry or teacher somewhere in their path that will assist them in spiritual growth…the Bel has to have a desire for truth not emotional nonsense.

Turn to Matthew chapter 7 that we had previously studied.

God works overtime trying to bring His message to the world.

Truthfully the ministry of God the HS is always at work in this world revealing truth and TLJC to people. Most people have what is called willful ignorance.

There are two kinds of ignorance that the world lives in…. one is willful it is blatant… because it is a lazy attitude that knows better yet refuses to accept truth.

The other is unconscious ignorance which also stems from a lazy attitude.

It is someone who always says - *I didn’t know…I wasn’t aware…nobody told me*.

That works for the teenager when he or she is a fresh-men in high school but the truth is once we reach adulthood, we are responsible for our own actions and decisions. When it comes to the name Jesus Christ it is written and taught throughout human history…no excuses.

The bigger problem is those who give God lip service yet have never come to believe in the one true God and savior Jesus Christ.

/Mat 7:13 “Enter through **the narrow gate**; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. 14 “For the gate is small and **the way is narrow that leads to life**, and there are few who find it.\

Why is that statement so definitive concerning eternal security? We studied it before…because there are not several ways to enter into heaven.

There are not multiple religious and spiritual systems all designed to guide us to heaven if we are good and follow those paths.

Only one name under the heavens has the power for eternal security.

Yet look what the Lord tells His followers in verse 21…jump down few verses.

/Mat 7:21“**Not everyone** who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ **will enter the kingdom of heaven**, but **he who does the will of My Father** who is in heaven will enter*.\*

You can safely say the will of the Father is that narrow gate in verses 13 & 14.

God the Father set the standard it is His plan….TLJC brings it to humanity when He established His earthly ministry in fact even in the OT it was faith in the one true God.

That one true God that walked in the garden in the cool of the day…the one who wrestled with Jacob and stood in front of Joshua as Captain of the angelic hosts has been and always will be Jesus Christ. REPEAT

/Joh 6:38“For **I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him** who sent Me. 39 “This is the will of Him who sent Me, **that of all that He has given Me** I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day.

In eternity past the Trinity looked down the corridors of time and knew who would respond to Christ.\

It has always been faith alone in Christ alone…that is where a human blood line is broken and new one is established….one of Royalty and eternal and of divine value.

Those who respond to truth…those who know the one true Messiah they will be just like those first few apostles the Lord called upon;

/Mat 4:22 **Immediately** they left the boat and their father, and **followed Him**.

This is what makes a brother and sister in Christ. What do they do once the truth has been revealed?\

REPEAT ELABORATE

This is why we often find fellow Bels who we knew very little about… yet in a short time we have a bond that feels like family because we are of the same mind.

 /Mat 10:37“**He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me**; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.”

Where does Christ fit on your priority list. Do the details of life & family supersede your relationship with God?\

The bond we have partaking in when we believed in TLJC is an everlasting union that places you and I in the most intimate of relationships with the Trinity…especially the person of Jesus Christ…that is why the teaching of the CA mystery doctrine speaks to the body of Christ and the marriage to Christ in such detail.

Also why Jesus made such powerful statements like this;

/Mat 19:29“And **everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother** or children or farms **for My name’s sake**, will receive many times as much, and **will inherit eternal life**. 30 “But many *who are* first will be last; and *the* last, first.

Eternal life matters to Christ much more than the temporal bonds (90-100 years) of flawed creatures on a cosmic system infiltrated by fallen angels.\

Family ties are not to be neglected but they certainly are not to supersede your relationship with Christ.

We should be a light to guide family and friends but if they reject that… we are to put truth and God over family names and friendships.

This is why TLJC spoke to a crowd while His family waited outside and HE said this with all honesty.

/[Mat 12:50](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/50/s_941050) “For **whoever does the will of My Father** who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother.”

God so loved the whole world (Joh 3:16) that His will is for everyone to be saved. Then to grow in His grace & knowledge (2Pet 3:18).\

Let’s close with some family principles that may give you pause to think about your human blood ties to people and deep friendships and how we often choose them over TLJC and it hinders our growth.

Why do you think TLJC made statements like this that we studied months ago?

/Mat 10:Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; **I did not come to bring peace, but a sword**.

The word of God is the sword. Truth is a dividing agent because not everyone will conform to truth.\

Truth is a powerful weapon just like facts over feelings…life long friends and relatives often divide over what they believe in and who they think has lied to them or just their different lifestyles.

TLJC knew this…He knew mankind would reject t Him but he also knew many would accept the truth of who he is.

/Mat 10:35 “For I came to SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW; 36 and A MAN’S ENEMIES WILL BE THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD.\

How many people could say AMEN to this fact…many of us have relatives we have grown apart from… friends who we no longer stay close too because if a series of choices or events that have shown them to be going in an opposite direction than you?

Its nothing to be ashamed of or anger over it is a fact of this flawed life here on earth.

/1Joh 3:1 See **how great a love the Father has bestowed on us**, that we would be called **children of God**; and *such* we are. For this reason **the world does not know us**, because it did not know Him.\

TLJC SAID THEY HATED HIM… THEY WILL HATE YOU!

When you begin to truly make changes toward the truth of BD your choices and viewpoints will probably change and you will want to stand strong in your beliefs which is the right way to be…strong…not arrogant or angry. REPEAT

/1Joh 3:2 Beloved, **now we are children of God**, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, **we will be like Him**, because we will see Him just as He is.\

If you are born again you should be moving forward toward reflecting TLJC more and more…you will fall and fail but you brush yourself off and keep moving forward. We are in union with Christ and in our POSITION we are perfect in the end. God recognizes TLJC perfect righteousness when He looks upon us.

TLJC is not shamed to call you brother are you ashamed of Him?

/The brothers and sisters in Christ speaks to a Royal Family that has come to accept the one true Savior and has begun to develop HIS mind, HIS love and HIS ways (Bible Doctrine). Therefore, this is making Bels much more connected on a mental & spiritual level than members of their own household.\ REPEAT

Sadly, there are family and friends I have known almost my whole life who may not be in heaven when the time comes.

I believe many of you will say the same thing.

In heaven we will not have sorrow or tears or pain therefore we will not remember those who have been left behind.

 There is no mourning or weeping in heaven.

/Mankind makes an issue over blood ties and deep friendships. God is much more concerned with truth, righteousness and eternal security. Just as human viewpoint on birth and death differ greatly over what God teaches us.\

Remember even those cute little babies born in this new year are born spiritual dead…they will reach an age of accountability and they will have choices to make.

And the Bel who dies is a time of angelic rejoicing because another Bel is face to face with the Lord. Yet we handle birth and death differently in the human realm. Its no different with family…

TLJC tells us from all His teaching that the Royal Family…the body of Christ is what HE considers HIS personal body…HIS family…His bride.