

IS BLOOD THICKER THAN WATER?

By: Fountain Hendricks

Mathew 19:27-29

Is blood thicker than water? Most people believe so, depending on who you ask? The phrase, blood is thicker than water implies that family is more important than friends and they deserve more loyalty than friends.

The Kingdom of God has a very different yet interesting perspective on this issue. Per the Kingdom of God, blood is **NOT** thicker than water. **RIGHTEOUSNESS** is thicker than both. Loyalty should not be given to who you're related to nor who is close to you. Loyalty should be given to who is **RIGHTEOUS**.

PRIORITY should be given to who is **RIGHTEOUS**. King Jesus said something very profound. Mathew 12:47-50 says, *"Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my*

mother? and who are my brethren? And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother."

King Jesus did not consider His biological family to be His **AUTHENTIC** family. Per the Kingdom of God, genetics does not determine who your family is. **RIGHTEOUSNESS** does! King Jesus said those who do the will of my Father are my family.

When you can accept that the standard of righteousness is the litmus test of who your authentic family is then you can understand King Jesus words. When you are a Kingdom citizen your family are the people who are part of the Kingdom of God.

IT'S HARD TO CHOOSE

Choosing to honor the traditions and ways of your family over the standard of righteousness can be very conflicting. Deciding to choose family over righteousness will **NEVER** lead to good results. Unfortunately, many people do it.

Family values are **NOT** always God's values. Family traditions do not always match God's beliefs. Family culture does not always align with Kingdom culture.

The people who become eligible to receive the Kingdom and all of its goodness choose **RIGHTEOUSNESS**. The decision to choose righteousness over blood may be hard in practice. However, it is easy in comprehension.

ARE YOU FAITHFUL TO GOD OR ARE YOU FAITHFUL TO FAMILY?

The disciples understood this. They decided to choose righteousness above their family. Mathew 19:27-29 says, "Peter said to Jesus, "Look, we have left everything and

followed you. So what will we have?" Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, when the age to come has arrived, the Son of Man will sit on his great throne. All of you who followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And all those who have left houses, brothers, sisters, father, mother, children, or farms to follow me will get much more than they left, and they will have life forever."

King Jesus understands the weight of choosing between family and righteousness. That's why when Peter was complaining about leaving his family for the sake of the gospel King Jesus told him about the **REWARD** he will receive.

The reward for choosing righteousness over your family is receiving a hundred fold return and everlasting life. Our generous Lord and Savior made a hard decision very easy to make. This type of reward cannot be matched.

If you can be brave enough to choose righteousness **OVER** family traditions your life will never be the same.

Blood is thicker than water but righteousness is thicker than everything!

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