

# Matthew 23:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.

## Analysis

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Reformed theology emphasizes the divine initiative evident in this text. The verse connects to broader biblical themes of covenant, redemption, and God's unchanging character. Understanding this passage requires recognizing both its historical context and its application to Christian life.

## Historical Context

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This verse originates in Jesus' ministry during a pivotal period. The first-century Jewish context included Roman occupation, Pharisaic religious authority, and messianic expectations. Understanding these factors illuminates the passage's significance.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does this passage challenge your understanding of God's character?
2. What practical application does this truth have in your daily walk?
3. How should this verse shape your priorities and decisions?

## Interlinear Text

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ὑμεῖς δὲ μὴ κληθῆτε Ῥαββí· εἷς γάρ ἐστιν ὑμῶν ὁ  
ye But not be Rabbi one for is your G3588  
G5210 G1161 G3361 G2564 G4461 G1520 G1063 G2076 G5216

καθηγητής, ὁ Χριστὸς· πάντες δὲ ὑμεῖς ἀδελφοί ἐστε  
Master even Christ all But ye brethren are  
G2519 G3588 G5547 G3956 G1161 G5210 G80 G2075

## Additional Cross-References

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**James 3:1** (Parallel theme): My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.

**1 Peter 5:3** (Parallel theme): Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

**Matthew 17:5** (Parallel theme): While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

**Luke 22:32** (Parallel theme): But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

**Revelation 1:9** (References Christ): I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

**Matthew 23:10** (References Christ): Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ.