

# Matthew 23:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.

## Analysis

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This text illustrates key Reformed principles: *sola Scriptura*, *sola gratia*, and *sola fide*. The passage demonstrates how God's Word speaks authoritatively to human need, revealing both our depravity and God's merciful provision through Christ.

## Historical Context

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First-century Palestine was marked by religious fervor and political tension. The passage reflects interactions between Jesus and various groups: Pharisees, Sadducees, disciples, and crowds. Each audience received teaching tailored to their needs and spiritual condition.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. What does this text reveal about human nature and God's grace?
2. How can you apply this teaching to current struggles or questions?
3. What changes in thinking or behavior does this passage require?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	πατὴρ	μὴ	καλέσητε	ὑμῶν	ἐπὶ	τοῖς	γῆς	εἰς
And	Father	no	call	man your	upon	which	the earth	one
G2532	G3962	G3361	G2564	G5216	G1909	G3588	G1093	G1520
γάρ	ἐστιν	τοῖς	πατὴρ	ὑμῶν	τοῖς	ἐν	τοῖς	οὐρανοῖς
for	is	which	Father	man your	which	is in	which	heaven
G1063	G2076	G3588	G3962	G5216	G3588	G1722	G3588	G3772

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hebrews 12:9** (Parallel theme): Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

**1 John 3:1** (Parallel theme): Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

**Malachi 1:6** (Parallel theme): A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear? saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name?

**Matthew 7:11** (Parallel theme): If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

**1 Corinthians 4:15** (Parallel theme): For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

**Acts 22:1** (Parallel theme): Men, brethren, and fathers, hear ye my defence which I make now unto you.

**2 Corinthians 6:18** (Parallel theme): And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

**2 Kings 2:12** (Parallel theme): And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces.

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