

**T:** *No Neutrality! Commitment to J is essential. Religious roller coaster leaves us worse than before. neutral fails to His Js ID, seeking signs for temporal satisfaction rather than trusting/abiding in His Word*

43 prefer waterless/dry/deserted place: lifeless. Prison: prefer lifeless, yet can only find rest in living body  
conclusion: evil ~~exist on its own~~; only a perversion of good; 'good' can exist on its own, is Real parasite.

44-45 frightful warn: repossession! Maybe retreat/camp *find religion*, tidy up a bit; only to *return to vomit*  
pic of Israel in OT & post-X: judges, tried topple Rome, defeat, temple still destroyed: *worse than b4*  
No different today: *Sp. Retreats*: "go back". It's time to stop going back & begin striving forward in Christ!  
point: Impossible for natural man; change must go deeper: heart! Otherwise, *worse than b4*: [Hb6.4-6](#)  
To truly turn from old way of death, must be filled with New way of Life: Holy Spirit! **NO NEUTRAL!**

*this evil generation*: v39 crave another sign, ~~the Son~~; seeking a fix, ~~the Father~~; temporary, transformatory

46 *mother & brothers stood outside* Apparently, like HS, J = exhibit A: He is in the house w/His own.  
[*brothers*: refutes Catholic dogma of Mary's *perpetual virginity* introd'd much later than Text: they suggest *sons of Mary's sister* also named Mary or *Jo's boys fr. previous marriage*. No, just *brothers*.]

48-50 what a searching question: *Who really makes up My Family?* His blood runs thicker than biology!  
not disrespecting His bio-family, just revealing the supremacy/eternality/priority of Gs spiritual family.  
*stretching out His hand*: only means by which sinners can be made Gs saints/family: ~~our~~ *G stretching*  
¿Where else J *stretch out His hands*? Calvary! nailed for our sin: G stretch to 4give/redeem/repo us.  
those reached are Repo'd: filled w/Gs Spirit: true followers: doer of Gs will; Js nearest/dearest  
we ~~make ourselves~~ His family by being "doers"; those He makes His family are ID'd by *their will*: His!  
¿*Is it your will to do His will, to lovingly obey Him/His Word; and when found wanting to repent/retry?*  
If so, listen to the gracious title with which J identifies you: My brother, sister & mother: Family!  
Such gracious words: J calls you His "family". Such a mighty love He loves you with! Keeping, Covenant Love! He knows your feeble frame/faith, weak repentance, small strength, PnS. Yet! ...  
He calls you Family: bone of His bone, flesh of His flesh.  
recall in Gn how richly Joseph provided for his sinful brothers: his *kindness led them to repentance!*

**BENEDICTION:** *Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. –Ro12.2,15.13*