

Topics in Proverbs

I. Skills in Godly Child-Training - Pt 4

- A. God's Overall Intention for the Family
- B. The Stakes in Child-Training
- C. Terrible Miseries for a Foolish Child
- D. Application of Godly Parental Wisdom
- E. The Rod
- F. The Reproof

1. Opening Proposal

- a. As the rod was representative of the parents God given authority to enforce family rules
- b. so, reproof is representative of the parents God given authority to teach, inform, evangelize, enlighten, instruct, guide, correct, reprove, rebuke, and encourage the child.

2. Authoritative Parental Instruction is Standard Operating Procedure

- a. Teaching children would have been an understood factor starting at Ge 1:26-28
 - i. Adam instructed Eve
 - ii. When children came, instruction would have continued, who was God, why they existed, what was their purpose, how they were to fulfill it, what had been done so far, etc.
- b. Speaking of Abraham - Ge 18:19
 - i. God moved in Abraham's life to cause the rearing of his children
 - ii. Abraham was not to let his children go, or just be a good example to them, he was to command them to keep the way of the Lord
- c. God's expectations listed
 - i. That Abraham knew God's way
 - ii. That Abraham would teach his children God's way
 - iii. That Abraham would command his children to walk in God's way
- d. Legislated parental authority
 - i. Ex 13:8,14-16 - God expressly commands fathers
 - To give their testimony to their sons - vs 8
 - To teach bible history and doctrine - vs 14-16
 - ii. De 4:9-10 - a man should memorize God's truth
 - for his benefit and his son's and grandson's benefit
 - God's Word is to be retained and transmitted it is for them and their children
 - iii. De 6:4-25 -
 - love for God (vs 4-5) will show in one's life (vs 6, 10-25)
 - one is responsible to diligently teach their children in the way you live (vs 7)

- an example of such teaching is found in Pr 1-9 - choice of friends, attitude toward the word of God, toward God, giving, sexual morality in depth, finances, and work

3. Relation Between the Two Factors

a. not an either or situation, it is both

b. The Rod

i. represents parental authority for limits, structure, and punishments

ii. Encompasses every form of punitive discipline

c. Reproof

i. Verbal instruction

ii. Includes instruction, correction, warning, explanation, encourage, content full communication

iii. Before discipline comes instruction

- punishment w/o understanding and repentance will need repeating

- Pr 17:10; 27:22

- reproof is for correction not for vengeance, power, or convenience

iv. reproof is due to love - 3:11-12

- doesn't say that He refuses to discipline due to love or that He disciplines us in spite of His love

- He disciplines us because He loves us - Love necessitates and motivates discipline

- God sees the disciplinarian as one who loves his child and the indulgent parent as a hateful parent - your child is not an exception to God's word - Pr 29:17

v. The parent does not need permission, he has already been charged by God to discipline

- the issue is will the child will take discipline to heart - Pr 13:1; 15:5

- training is not automatic, it takes repetition, but if the child will not take it to heart by faith, it will have no effect - Heb 4:2; Jas 1:22-27

4. Did Pentecost cancel out this command? - Eph 6:4

a. do not provoke your children to wrath,

i. unfair or excessive criticism that is unloving w/ no encouragement

ii. unreasonable, excessive, and oppressive rules

iii. not being a parent, trying to be a friend, popular, liked by the child (like a man who will not take leadership in a marriage, will only produce contempt and rage)

b. but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

i. bring them up in the training

- *ektrepho* - to rear up to maturity, to cherish or train:--bring up, nourish.

- *paideia* - tutorage, education, training **2 Tim 3:16-17; Heb 12:5-11**
disciplinary correction, chastening, chastisement, instruction,

- ii. *nouthesia* - calling attention to, mild rebuke or warning:--admonition.
 - remembering the child's innate problem - bent toward foolishness
 - he is instructed in the right way and warned of the consequences of choosing the wrong

5. Critical Factor: Consistency

a. two problems

- i. What is the Definition - saying only what you mean, and meaning everything you say. - Inconsistency is a form of lying
- ii. The failure to ground consistency in the Word of God - God's heat on the subject of lying - Pr 4:24; 6:16-19; 12:19, 22; 14:25; 21:6; 26:28; 30:8

b. When you give a command, do you expect it to be obeyed or not?

i. if not

- you shouldn't have given the command
- learn your God given role and follow through
- you are communicating , intentionally or not
 - command may be safely ignored by God ordained authorities
 - disobedience is safe and comes with no consequences
 - as a parent, I am not serious and you don't have to be when you grow up
 - I just like to say things that I do not mean
- one should never be disappointed or complain when future commands are not carried out and you are not honored or respected

ii. When one doesn't follow through on warnings given

- one is breaking a promise to their child
- one is condoning disobedience, rebellion, sin, Leonardo Da Vinci - "He who does not punish evil, commands it to be done"
- one needs to repent, confess one's sins to God and one's child, a change in two areas
 - stop saying things you don't mean
 - as far as humanly possible, give your child reason to believe that 10 out of 10 times, do mean what you say