

Series: Wealth and Walk of a Christian  
"The Christ-Centered Home" # 22  
Eph. 6:1-4  
1-14-18

1. The American family is under attack.

Fatherhood and manhood are under attack. Fathers have failed in their God-given role or it's perverted by society.

Motherhood and womanhood are under attacked.

Half of all children under 18 have mothers working outside the home. Home alone has our children influenced by secular television and ungodly role models. Daycare centers can't do what God has ordained for the parents.

What is the remedy? Are we to do as Babylon does or do we remain different while living in Babylon? The cure is functioning in our God-ordained roles in Spirit-filled relationships.

2. We have seen the Spirit-filled marital relationship [vs. 22-33], now the Spirit-filled Parent-Child relationship.

**TT:** Today I note the command to children toward their parents [vs.1-3], and the command to parents toward their children [v.4].

**I. The Command to Children [6:1-3].**

1. The Principle [6:1]. Two thoughts:

(1). Children raised in Christian homes have a great privilege. Homes where God is known, Jesus is loved, the Bible is read and honored. Where they hear the gospel from an early age, and taken to Sunday School and church.

(2). Children raised in Christian homes have a great responsibility.

To obey is to do what is right. The parents brought them into the world, cared for them, and have more knowledge and wisdom. If they can't obey their parents, they will not obey God.

This command is here for the purpose of teaching the child to obey authority. Failure to learn here, will result in anarchy and rebellion to other authorities that come into their life as they get older. At the heart of rebellion is rejection to God's Word.

1. The Principle.

2. The Precept [6:2]. Two thoughts:

1. Parents act as God's authority in the life of the children. They are agents placed over them by the Lord.

2. They are to honor their parents for their whole lifetime. Honor means obey, respect, and love. And in latter years to take care of their parents. Failure to do so, is a sin.

3. The Promise [6:3].

1. The obedient child will live a happier, more stable life than the rebellious child.

2. Days might be long?

The promise was given to the Jews as they entered Canaan [Ex. 20:12]. Paul applies it to Christians.

They will have a blessed enriched life and live long. The principle is that they would escape sin and dangers that come about by it and not have our days shortened.

**I. The Command to Children [6:1-3].**

**II. The Command to Parents [6:4].**

Someone said, "Everything in the American home is controlled by switches except the children." The Greek word used here can be used for parents. Parents have 3 responsibilities:

1. Not to provoke their children to wrath- [frustrate or discourage].

By being domineering, legalistic, smothering, inconsistent discipline, failure to model what you try to teach them, failure to teach them, unreasonable demands, favoritism, and failure to keep promises.

We are to have authority yes, but with love.

2. To train their children- "bring them up."

Train by nourishing them to maturity. Why God give them to you?

3. To nourish their children- Whole training of the child.

Look at the development of Jesus. **Luke 2:51-52** He had balanced growth- mind, physical, spiritual, and social.

God has never assigned the raising of children to anyone except the parents and family.

**Heb 12:5-11** Discipline in love not anger. We must break their will without breaking their spirit. Discipline must be fair and consistent.

4. To instruct their children- teach them the principles of the Bible. Instruct and exhort.

It's not the Sunday School teacher's responsibility, the Christian school, Christian day-cares, but the responsibility of parents and Grandparents.