

Walking Out Your Salvation in Home and Work Relationships

January 13, 2013

I. Parent/Child Relationship

Eph 6:1-4 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the first commandment with a promise), 3 SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH. 4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

A. Children = (tekna) This word usually signifies those who are young; but it is used here, evidently, to denote those who were under the care and government of their parents, or those who were not of age.
(from Barnes Notes)

B. Obey (hupakouo) = to submit to, to comply with, to listen, to heed, to follow the direction or guidance of some instruction. (Preacher and Sermon Outline Bible)

"to listen, attend" (as in Acts 12:13), and so, "to submit, to obey," is used of "obedience"

(a) to God, Heb 5:9; 11:8;

(b) to Christ, by natural elements, Matt 8:27; Mark 1:27; 4:41; Luke 8:25;

(c) to disciples of Christ, Luke 17:6;

(d) to the faith, Acts 6:7; the gospel, Rom 10:16; 2 Thess 1:8; Christian doctrine, Rom 6:17 (as to a form or mold of teaching);

(e) to apostolic injunctions, Phil 2:12; 2 Thess 3:14;

(f) to Abraham by Sarah, 1 Peter 3:6;

(g) to parents by children, Eph 6:1; Col 3:20;

(h) to masters by servants, Eph 6:5; Col 3:22;

(i) to sin, Rom 6:12;

(j) in general, Rom 6:16.

(from Vine's Expository Dictionary)

stronger than as to wives "submitting," or 'being subject' (Eph 5:21). Obedience is unreasoning and implicit; submission is the willing subjection of an inferior in point of order to one having a right to command. (from Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary)

"Obedience is the first law of the universe -- that the law of obedience regulates everything in the world: the stars, the planets, the seasons. Even man himself tries to govern the world by the law of obedience. He wants obedience in the state, at work, at play, and at home." Lehman Strauss

Obey your parents **"in the Lord."**

Col 3:20-21 Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so that they will not lose heart.

Other references:

Dt 4:9-10 Only give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently, so that you do not forget the things which your eyes have seen and they do not depart from your heart all the days of your life; but make them known to your sons and your grandsons. Remember the day you stood before the LORD your God at Horeb, when the LORD said to me, 'Assemble the people to Me, that I may let them hear My words so they may learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children.

Dt 6:6-7 These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. 7 " You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.

Dt 11:19-21 You shall teach them to your sons, talking of them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road and when you lie down and when you rise up. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your sons may be multiplied on the land which the LORD swore to your fathers to give them, as long as the heavens remain above the earth.

Prov 1:8 Hear, my son, your father's instruction And do not forsake your mother's teaching;

Prov 6:20-22 My son, observe the commandment of your father And do not forsake the teaching of your mother; Bind them continually on your heart; Tie them around your neck. When you walk about, they will guide you; When you sleep, they will watch over you; And when you awake, they will talk to you.

Prov 10:1 A wise son makes a father glad, But a foolish son is a grief to his mother.

Prov 23:22 Listen to your father who begot you, And do not despise your mother when she is old.

1 Tim 3:4-5 He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?)

1 Tim 3:12 Deacons must be husbands of only one wife, and good managers of their children and their own households.

Titus 1:5-6 ...appoint elders in every city as I directed you, namely, if any man is above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe,

C. Honor = (timao) to esteem and value as precious
to show respect, reverence, kindness, courtesy and obedience (Wuest Word Studies)

D. Notice that this is a lifelong principle:
Mark 7:9-13 He was also saying to them, "You are experts at setting aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition. 10 "For Moses said, 'HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER'; and, 'HE WHO SPEAKS EVIL OF FATHER OR MOTHER, IS TO BE PUT TO DEATH'; 11 but you say, 'If a man says to his father or his mother, whatever I have that would help you is Corban (that is to say, given to God),' 12 you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or his mother; 13 thus invalidating the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down; and you do many things such as that."

E. Two promises:

1. Things will go well for you.
2. You will live long on the earth.

F. Parents and not to provoke their children

Provoke = (parorgizo) to arouse to wrath or anger, to provoke to the point of other exasperation and resentment.

Things that provoke children to rebellion:

- Lack of boundaries; failure to offer the structure children need; or under controlling a young child.
- Too rigid, lack of flexibility; failure to give more freedom as children mature.
- Authoritarian leadership; over controlling children and not allowing them to have an opinion or choice.

- Chaotic home; a child is uncertain if they will get the policeman or Santa Claus parent.
- Abuse; physical, emotional, mental, sexual and/or spiritual.
- Living an inconsistent Christian life before a child (hypocrisy).

Avoid all severity; this will hurt your own souls, and do them no good; on the contrary, if punished with severity or cruelty, they will be only hardened and made desperate in their sins. Cruel parents generally have bad children. He who corrects his children according to God and reason will feel every blow on his own heart more sensibly than his child feels it on his body. Parents are called to correct, not to punish, their children. Those who punish them do it from a principle of revenge; those who correct them do it from a principle of affectionate concern. (from Adam Clarke's Commentary)

- G.** Parents are to bring up a child in the ways of the Lord, in the **nurture** and **admonition** of the Lord.
Nurture = (paideia) the whole training and education of children which involves the cultivation of mind and morals; commands and admonitions, reproofs and punishment, correcting mistakes and curbing the passions, the increase of virtue (from Thayers Greek English Lexicon)

Admonition = (nouthesia) means counsel, expectation, correction

II. Employer Employee Relationship

Eph 6:5-9 Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ; 6 not by way of eye service, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. 7 With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, 8 knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free. 9 And masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.

A. Employee; Serve (**be obedient**) your employer:

1. With fear and trembling = this does not mean working with the slavish fear of man, but with the fear of God in the heart (from FF Bruce; The Epistles to the Ephesians, p. 123)

2. In sincerity (singleness) of heart = means with purpose and focus attention, without any pretense or hypocrisy or slack.

1 Cor 6:20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

Matt 5:16 Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

1 Cor 10:31 Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

3. Doing the will of God from the heart (psyches) = this means with interest and energy, it is the opposite of routine and listlessness, of having no energy or heart for the work.

4. Work with goodwill doing it as to the Lord and not to men.

1 Cor 4:2 ...it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy.

1 Cor 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

5. Knowing the result of such labor is to be a reciprocal reward.

2 Cor 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Mat 25:23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Col 3:25 For he who does wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and that without partiality.

B. Employers (Masters)

1. Employers (managers) are to do the very same things required of the workmen.

To serve both the Lord and the employees:

With fear and trembling, managing with respect and eager concern.

In singleness of heart, guaranteeing as to Christ.

Not with eye service as men pleasers.

As servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

With goodwill, managing as to the Lord, and not to man.

Knowing that he is to receive a reciprocal reward for how well he managed.

2. The manager is to give up threatening; he must guard against unwarranted threats.

Col 4:1 Masters, grant to your slaves justice and fairness, knowing that you too have a Master in heaven.