

“Back to Basics, Pt. 5 – Children and Parents, Pt. 1”

Ephesians 6:1-4

February 5, 2023

I. Christian Children and Christian Parents as Salt and Light

- A. The Lord is seeking godly offspring from believing homes.

Malachi 2:15 - Did he not make them [believing couples] one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth.

- B. The Lord promises to be the God of the children of believers.

Genesis 17:7 - And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

1 Corinthians 7:14b - ...Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.

Acts 2:38–39 - ³⁸ Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ “For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.”

- C. Children and parents have responsibilities to which God’s promises are tied.

Deuteronomy 5:16 - Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may go well with you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

Proverbs 22:6 - Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old, he will not depart from it.

- D. When children and parents faithfully fulfill their responsibilities, they function as salt and light.

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II. The Responsibilities of Believing Children – Eph. 6:1-3

- A. Christian children in the home are to obey their parents.

1. “In the Lord” – as unto the Lord.

2. They are to obey full and cheerfully.

Philippians 2:14–15a - ¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing, ¹⁵ that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God...

- a. Without grumbling = without complaining.
 - b. Without disputing = without arguing.
3. They are to obey like Jesus obeyed.

Luke 2:51a - And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them.

B. Children who obey their parents are promised happy and long earthly lives:

- 1. Lives that benefit from good decisions.
- 2. Lives that avoid needless/sinful risk.

C. Grown believers are still called to honor their parents.

- 1. By honoring them with gratitude and kindness.
- 2. By helping to provide for their latter years.

Mark 7:10–13 - ¹⁰ For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.' ¹¹ But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, "Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban" ' (that is, given to God)— ¹² then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, ¹³ thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do."