

# Let The Bible Speak Series

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## Honoring God's Plan For The Home

2Kings 20:14-15

The very foundation of society is the home. Man did not live one day upon this earth apart from the environment of a home. Marriage, the divine union between a man and a woman who love one another, and who have welded their lives together "so long as they both shall live," is the cement that holds society together.

The home has been defined as the fathers kingdom, the mothers world, and the child's paradise. Homes are the vestibules of heaven.

In 1851 an American was sent as consul to Africa--first sent in 1843-1845 returned home, then went back in 1851. Died in 1852. In 1883, 31 years later his remains unearthed, wrapped in an American flag and returned home. When they arrived, the Courts took a recess, schools closed, and the country stood with bowed heads, while children marched behind the Marine band. Why? What books had he written? What buildings designed? None of these. When he was 30 he had written a little song, one sung around the world by both rich and poor, high and low. "Home, home, sweet home, be it ever so humble there is no place like home." This man, John Howard Payne, had forever wrapped the American people around him through this song.

### I. Honoring God's Plan for Marriage.

- a. Divine in origin--Gen.2:24 "Therefore shall a man leave father and mother and be joined..." Mt.19:4-5 "Have you not read that he who made them at the beginning made them male and female, therefore shall a man leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and the two shall become one flesh."
- b. Honorable--Heb. 13:4 "marriage is honorable in all..."
- c. Monogamic--Only one scriptural mate at a time.
- d. United in construction--This thought implied in the fact that woman was formed out of man Gen.4:24.

### II. The Husband and Father in the Home.

The word husband is a contraction composed of the word house and band; thus, the band around the house. The husband is the band of love, security and protection around the home.

#### a. Duties as a Husband.

- 1. Head of wife and home. Eph.5:23 "...for as the husband is the head of the wife..."

To insure stability, peace, and order every institution on earth must have a head.

2. The husband represents authority in the home. He is the leader. He guides the family in right living.

3. He is to love and honor his wife. Eph. 5:23 "husbands love your wives..." Love is long-suffering, kind, humble, patient, unselfish, and courteous. He honors her by showing sympathy and understanding. By showing tenderness and affection and by being worthy of her love.

4. He is to be faithful to her. Heb. 13:4, 1Cor. 7:2 "Nevertheless because of fornication let every man have his own wife, and every wife her own husband."

5. He is to support and care for his family. 1Tim. 5:8 "But if any provide not for his own, and especially those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel."

Every deadbeat Dad who has left his wife and children to chase after some other woman should be made to go back home and discharge his God given duty of supporting his family.

#### b. Duties as a Father.

1. Be an example. The right kind of father must be the right kind of man. 1Thess. 2:10 "Ye are witnesses and God also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves among you that believe: as ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged everyone of you as a father doth his children."

2. He must love his children. Psalms 103:13 "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him."

3. He must train his children. Eph. 6:4 "Fathers provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

Prov. 22:15 "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him."

Deut. 6:6 "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart; and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down and when thou risest up."

#### Study of two families:

Edwards family lived during the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Mr. Edwards came to America and settled in Hartford, Conn. His son made a lawyer--lawyer son made a preacher. The preacher was Jonathan Edwards who became president of Princeton University. He had 1394 descendants. 295 college graduates, 65 college professors, 13 college presidents. 186 preachers, 60 doctors, 80 public officials, 1 vice-president, 75 army officers, 101 lawyers, 60 prominent authors, 16 railroad and steamship presidents, 1 attorney Gen of U.S. and not one ever convicted of a crime.

On the other hand, Max Jukes, was born in 1720. He had two boys who married two sisters. He had 1200 descendants researchers were only able to trace 709 of them.

310 professional paupers, 280 lived on public support, 440 died because of disease brought on by own wickedness, 140 convicted of crime, 7 guilty of murder, total of 140 years spent in prison, 60 thieves. It cost the State of NY \$1,308,000 to prosecute the descendants of this one man.

Leadership, discipline, and good examples in the home do make a difference.

### III. The Mother and Wife in the Home.

#### a. Duties as a wife.

1. Love their husband. Titus 2:4 "That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children."

A wife manifests respect and love for her husband by:

- a. fulfilling her obligations in the home--Titus 2:5 "to be discreet, chaste, home-makers, good, obedient to their own husbands that the word of God be not blasphemed."
- b. by being in subjection to him--Eph. 5:22 "Wives submit yourselves unto your own husbands as unto the Lord..."
- c. by wearing his name
- d. by avoiding criticizing him, especially in front of others,
- e. by refusing to compete with him, dominating him or overshadowing him,
- f. by never depreciating him
- g. by never "henpecking" him.

2. Submit to and obey their husband. Eph. 5:22-23 "Wives submit yourselves to your husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head..."

Read 1 Peter 3:1-6

- 1. Just as Christian slaves were to be subject to their masters, just so Christian wives are to be "constantly submitting to their husbands."
- 2. By Godly conduct and discreet behavior Christian wives are to encourage their unbelieving husbands to that which they already understand to be right.
- 3. By scrutiny and close observation these unbelieving husbands would be able to form an evaluation of the chaste behavior of their wives and attribute such to the influence of Christianity.
- 4. Christian wives are to attract and appeal to their husbands, not by outward adorning, but rather the incorruptible apparel of a meek and quiet spirit.
- 5. Peter appeals to women of old as Godly examples for Christians today.
- 6. Sarah called Abraham Lord (a term which is a title of honor addressed to one regarded as superior). Sarah revealed an attitude of habitual and continuous subordination.
- 7. "Whose daughters you become..." i.e. following the pattern of Sarah. By adorning themselves as Sarah did, they became daughters of her to the extent that a child is like its parent.

#### 3. Bear Children.

1Tim. 5:14 "Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully."

1Tim.2:15 "Nevertheless she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety." The idea is that women will be saved in the line of their duties and those duties are domestic rather than public.

#### 4. A Good Housekeeper.

Titus 2:5 "keepers at home" "It takes a heap of living in a house to make a home" There is more to home making than "house keeping." In addition to keeping a tidy house, a woman must make an atmosphere of love, happiness, friendliness, cheerfulness, and cooperation.

#### b. Duties As A Mother.

##### 1. Career of motherhood is woman's highest calling.

Jno.16:21 "A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow because her hour is come; but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world."

2. Love her children. 1Kings 3:16-18 Willing to give up her child, rather than see it killed

##### 3. Teach her children.

"As is the mother so is her daughter." Ezek. 16:44

"When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois and thy mother Eunice..." 1Tim.1:5

"The bravest battle that ever was fought

Shall I tell you where and when?

On the maps of the world you will find it not, It was fought by the mothers of men.

There is the story of poor a mother who lived by rich woman. The rich woman called her over to see her jewels "its a shame not to have any jewels" "yes, I guess so, replied the poor woman" "What do you have some?" asked the rich woman. "Yes, but you wouldn't understand." She then called her children and said "these are my jewels."

#### IV. Children in the home.

Titus 2:4 "that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children.

Every Child has a right to:

##### 1. A home--food, clothing, shelter, material needs.

Many children don't have a home, because of neglect, divorce, etc. They live without adequate shelter and care.

2. A right to be taught the truth.

1Tim. 3:13 "That from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures..."

Have you wandered from your teachings as a child? Have you forgotten or neglected your duty as you were taught it by Christian parents?

3. A right to its parents.

Can't be raised by baby-sitters, live in nanny, school, or SS, or church. Children need to be raised by their parents. The most important people on earth to them.

4. A right to be loved.

To have the capacity for love, we must be loved.

1Jno. 4:19 "We love him because he first loved us." Can you imagine what it would be like to never be loved, cuddled, or tenderly cared for?

5. A right to discipline.

To discipline is to teach and train. To limit its meaning to punishment is to render a great disadvantage.

Prov. 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go..."

Eph. 6:4 "Fathers provoke not your children to wrath..."

Prov. 3:12 "For whom the Lord loveth he correcteth even as a father the son in whom he delighteth."

Discipline must always be corrective in purpose and administered in love.

The home as God would have it, is the most influential institution in any society. Homes that are built according to God's plan can have a tremendous effect on the nation and church. Homes that go astray can and usually will produce havoc, heartache, and trouble for everyone involved and in addition will contribute to the destruction of society in general.