

Biblical cases of fathers and sons

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INTRODUCTION:

A. The lessons from this series:

1. 327_Introduction to the series about the family
2. 591_Marriage: Its purpose
3. 592_Marriage: Its permanency
4. 015_The man's role in marriage
5. 017_The woman's role in marriage
6. 498_A wife worth more than jewels
7. 244_When mommy is not home
8. 597_Loving intellectually
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11. 602_Communication
12. 604_Problems between husband and wife
13. 606_The responsibilities of parents and children
14. 608_Training our children: Instruction
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16. 610_Training our children: Direction
17. 612_Biblical cases of fathers and sons
18. 611_The relationship between siblings
19. 440_What every youth wants in reality
20. 618_Courtship: Preparation for marriage
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B. We have seen some Biblical principals about the rearing of a child by his parents

1. The responsibilities of parents and children
2. Training our children:
 - a. Instruction
 - b. Chastisement
 - c. Direction (last sermon)

C. Now we will see what happens when these principals are put in practice or when we ignored them. We want to see this in real life examples of fathers and their sons. We will see some Biblical cases of fathers and sons of whom some are good examples to follow and others not so good but we can certainly learn from all of them. We will see the examples of:

1. Abraham and his sons (**Genesis 18:19**)
2. Amram and Jochebed and their son Moses (**Exodus 2:1-10; 6:20; Hebrews 11:23**)
3. Job and his children (**Job 1:5**)
4. Joshua and his family (**Joshua 24:15**)
5. Manoah and his wife and their son Samson (**Judges 13**)
6. Elkanah and Hannah and their son Samuel (**1 Samuel 1**)
7. Eli and his sons (**1 Samuel 2:12-3:14**)
8. Samuel and his sons (**1 Samuel 8:1-3**)

9. David and his son Adonijah (**1 Kings 1:5-6**)
10. John (Mark) and his mother (**Acts 12:12**)

[Let us begin with the first major point in this lesson...]

I. ABRAHAM AND HIS SONS (Genesis 18:19)

A. Abraham commanded his children, household (family, servants, etc.)

1. In what manner did Abraham command his family and household? “After him”, in other words after his OWN EXAMPLE!
2. Notice (**Genesis 17:1**) NAS77 – “Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, ‘I am God Almighty; walk before Me, and be blameless’”
 - a. To walk before the Lord is to live our lives as Christians as He has commanded us, it is what we do as Christians (give examples)
 - b. To be blameless, that is to be holy for He is Holy (**1 Peter 1:14-16**), Why? Because we as Christians we are a chosen nation (**1 Peter 2:9-12**) and therefore our behavior should be as such to be blameless!
 - c. You see Abraham was commanded by the Lord to walk in such way and be blameless, now he can also demand that from his family as well

B. Why was so important to command them in this manner?

1. Because just as Abraham kept what God commanded him, he now also wanted his family and household to do the same. Notice what the text says, “by doing righteousness and justice” (**Genesis 18:19**)
2. In order to receive the blessing from God, “in order that the Lord may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him” (see previous verse, see also **Genesis 12:1-3**)

II. AMRAM AND JOCHEBED AND THEIR SON MOSES (Exodus 2:1-10; 6:20; Hebrews 11:23)

- A. Read (Exodus 1:22-2:10; Hebrews 11:23)**
- B. The parents of Moses had fear for God and walked by faith**
- C. They fear God but not man**
- D. Moses himself also was faithful and fear God**

III. JOB AND HIS CHILDREN (Job 1:5)

A. Read (Job 1:4-5)

1. Job worried about his family spiritual wellbeing. Not only did he worry about their spiritual wellbeing, but actually did something about it! An action was necessary, and therefore he took precautions for his family wellbeing.
2. We ourselves may worry about the physical wellbeing of our families and the future of our sons and daughter, like school they may attend, career, place to work, where are they going to move to live, house, etc. Well, what do we worry about their spiritual wellbeing? Ladies and gentlemen, it does not matter if my son digs holes for a living, as long as he puts in a hard day’s work on an honest job, but most important is he is a Christian that is what matters the most!
3. As a parent, what are the precautions I am taking so that they understand the importance of becoming and being a faithful Christian?

IV. JOSHUA AND HIS FAMILY (Joshua 24:15)

- A. Read (Joshua 24:15)**
- B. Joshua as a father leader of his house and leader of the people of Israel was going to do everything that was possible for him and his family to worship God**

1. Joshua took the lead in this matter; he did not leave it to his wife or his children. Regardless of the opposition and the circumstances even if the circumstances were not favorable!
2. In the matter of God there are no second plans; God takes the first priority in our lives. They may be relatives and family that may pull us back or want to pull us back from worshiping the Lord. This text in Joshua teaches us to stand and be decisive for God.

V. MANOAH AND HIS WIFE AND THEIR SON SAMSON (Judges 13)

- A. Read (Judges 13:8, 12); notice the right attitude on how to raise their son before he is born. But what happens after?**
- B. The problem of Samson:**
 1. "I saw a woman in Timnah, one of the daughters of the Philistines; now therefore, get her for me as a wife" – (Judges 14:2) also see (Judges 16:1, 4; Matt. 5:28). Samson's decisions were based on sensual desires.
 2. Another problem that we can see is selfishness (Judges 14:2, 3). "...now therefore, get her for me..." You can hear the same cry or tantrum of a child today.
 - a. Samson ignores the good counsel from his parents (Judges 14:3)
 - b. See chapters 15 and 16 and compare it with (Proverbs 26:11) NAS77 – "Like a dog that returns to its vomit is a fool who repeats his folly"

VI. ELKANAH AND HANNAH AND THEIR SON SAMUEL (1 Samuel 1)

- A. Elkanah and Hannah lived in the same time as Eli (the priest) did**
 1. You may think because Eli was a priest that he may have a higher probability for his children to come out alright.
- B. The disposition and the right attitude of Hannah, she was neither selfish nor disinterested about her dedication to God (1 Samuel 1:10-11). She desired the best for her son.**
- C. She fulfill her vow to the Lord (1 Samuel 1:21-28). She asked of God, God gave a son to her and she gave it back!**
 1. Will you be willing to give your son or daughter back to God?

VII. ELI AND HIS SONS (1 Samuel 2:12-3:14)

- A. According to the word of God Eli's sons were worthless men who "did not know the Lord" (1 Samuel 2:12)**
 1. The word "know" also denotes or includes the idea of approving or recognition, or caring, care
- B. They were selfish, rebellious sons, violent and can care less about the ordinances of God (1 Samuel 2:13-17)**
 1. Not only that they were also laying with the woman who were serving at the temple and could be very be that they were doing this degrading thing right there at the temple! (1 Samuel 2:22)
- C. Many fathers today do not believe in corporal punishment. Eli did not do this, "he did not rebuke them" (1 Samuel 3:13b).**
- D. Eli therefore honored his sons more than God (1 Samuel 2:29).**
- E. Eli and his sons died the same day (1 Samuel 4).**

VIII. SAMUEL AND HIS SONS (1 Samuel 8:1-3)

- A. Samuel a good man, a moral man, a man of God with dishonest sons (1 Samuel 8:1-3)**
- B. Compare with (Ezekiel 18:5-13, 20)**

IX. DAVID AND HIS SON ADONIJAH (1 Kings 1:5-6)

- A. David perhaps was a father who consent his children like Eli. Where the father does not want to rebuke his children and he will let them do what they want. The consequence of this is that we bear a rebellious child (1 Kings 1:5-6)**
 - 1. There is nothing mysterious about all this!
- B. We may actually think that we love our child when we withhold their discipline; in reality we hate the child.**
 - 1. How do we know this? (**Proverbs 13:24**) NAS77 – “He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him diligently (bedtime, KJV – early at any task, earnestness)” Therefore there must be **CONSISTENCY** in the child’s discipline and upbringing.
 - 2. We may want to withhold this discipline because of tiredness, good or bad mood, lack of time (business), etc.

X. JOHN (MARK) AND HIS MOTHER (Acts 12:12)

- A. The home of Mark was a place of prayer (Acts 12:12)**
- B. Blessed are those who raise their children and the children who have a home where the brethren visit them, where they pray, sing hymns to God or have Bible studies, etc.**
 - 1. Why is it important for the children to be raised in such environment? Because they will learn to be servants of Christ and thus serve others as well, they will learn the love of God, they will learn and will see how important salvation is, they will learn about the importance of spreading and doing the Lord’s work.

CONCLUSION:

- A. In general the fathers who do not practice discipline who do not rebuke or withhold the rod from the child, those who will look away any of the child’s offense and who give everything the child wants. These fathers are bringing up selfish, rebellious children who will bring shame to their parents.**
- B. On the other hand**
 - 1. The fathers who bring up their children with the fear of the Lord are the fathers who fear God! They walk by faith, keep their word and set the example of obedience, faithfulness, righteousness and try to be blameless before God!
 - 2. The fathers who lead their children in the instruction of the Lord will seek for the spiritual wellbeing of their children and family! These fathers have a vision, a goal for their children beyond that which is pure physical (school, career, etc.).
 - 3. These fathers maintain a healthy home environment where they practice and pray often and where other Christians come and visit.
- C. We understand that there are cases where the father was good but the children turn out bad, God knows this.**
- D. It is an individual responsibility.**
 - 1. Each individual in the family must do their part (**3 John 1:11**) ASV77 – “Beloved, **do not imitate** what is **evil**, but what is **good**. The one who does **good** is of **God**; the one who does evil has not seen God”

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