

Eddy Craft

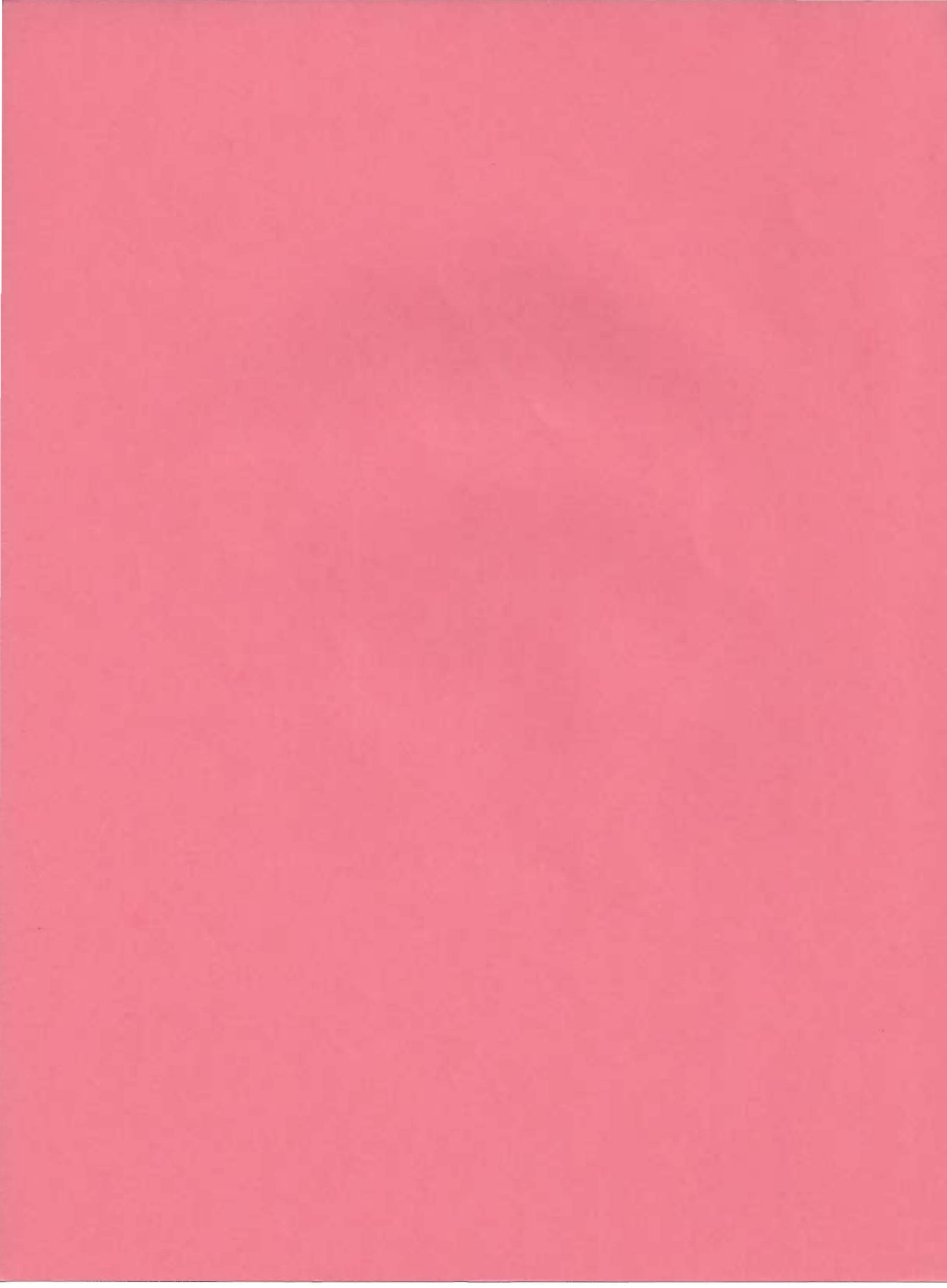
BIBLICAL VIEWPOINTS LECTURESHEID

- 1988 -



THEME: THE HOME





THE ANCIENT HEBREW HOME

(Clayton Winters)

INTRODUCTION

- A. The home is a divinely ordained institution, perfectly designed by our Creator, and properly equipped to fulfil in every respect His holy intent and purposes.
- B. This lesson is a word study involving the home, and will show how each member of that home functions in carrying out its divine mission for the ultimate happiness of mankind, and the perpetuation of the human race.

I. "AND THEY SHALL BE ONE FLESH"

- A. *Ish*--man, probably from a verb meaning to be strong. Its common use is that of male, champion, great man, or husband. His strong emotional and physical makeup peculiarly fits him for:
 - 1. His role in leadership (Gen. 3:16; 1 Tim. 2:11-15; 1 Cor. 11:3; 14:34,35; Eph. 5:23; 1 Pet. 3:1-6).
 - 2. His role as provider (Num. 32:24; 1 Tim. 5:8).
 - 3. His role in training and discipline (Deut. 6:4-9; Eph. 6:1-4).
 - 4. His role as protector and defender (Josh. 1:14; Neh. 4:14; Luke 11:7).
- B. *Ishah*--woman, probably from a verb meaning soft, or delicate. Its basic meaning is female, woman, or wife.
 - 1. Physically, the weaker sex (1 Pet. 3:7).
 - 2. Interested in more delicate surroundings (Pro. 31:21,22), easily moved to tears, and capable of providing patient, tender, loving care for her husband and babies (1 Tim. 2:15; Eph. 5:33).
 - 3. She is the queen of the home, responsible for forming the morals and attitudes of the young (Titus 2:3-5; 2 Tim. 1:5).
- C. The two, when joined, become one flesh, and comprise a unit of both strength and delicacy--a perfect setting for a well balanced home. This oneness of flesh involves:
 - 1. A common heritage of the two sexes (Gen. 2:23; 5:2).
 - 2. A mutual need for each other (Gen. 2:18).
 - 3. A mutual dependency on each other for existence (1 Cor. 11:11,12).
 - 4. A centralized authority for the family (1 Cor. 11:3,4; Eph. 5:23).
 - 5. Two joined sexually: not just a sexual union, but a total giving of one's self in that union (1 Cor. 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4; 1 Cor. 6:16).
 - 6. A permanent relationship (Matt. 19:6).
 - 7. Production of offspring--a seed that is a combination of the two (1 Pet. 3:7).
- D. How tragic it is that some are now working fervently to destroy the distinction between the sexes (Rom. 1:26,27; 1 Cor. 6:9). Let men be men and women be women, ever distinct in their own God-given sexuality.

II. "BE FRUITFUL, AND REPLENISH THE EARTH"

- A. *Banah* is a verb meaning to build. From that comes the terms *ben* (son), and *beth* (daughter).
- B. The home is the perfectly balanced environment for rearing children, and as the home is built in this way, it affords parents the greatest satisfaction and happiness on earth (Ps. 127:3-5; Pro. 17:6). Also by this reproductive means, the human race is perpetuated.
- C. How tragic it is, when for our own selfish reasons, we offer our children only a semblance of this God-designed home, as one out of three now chooses to do.

III. "HE THAT FINDETH A WIFE FINDETH A GOOD THING"

- A. *Kalah*, daughter-in-law, means completeness. God designed everything to be self-perpetuating (Gen. 1:12): the home is no exception.
- B. No home was considered complete until the son had taken a bride, enabling him to carry on the family lineage. For this reason, weddings were occasions for great joy and celebration (John 2:1-10; Rev. 19:6,7).
- C. One of the most beautiful statements of the Bible is that of a young widow made to her deceased husband's mother (Ruth 1:16,17). She realized that the completeness of Naomi's home now depended on her (Ruth 4:13-15).

IV. "A CERTAIN MAN PLANTED A VINEYARD, AND SET AN HEDGE ABOUT IT"

- A. The above heading is taken from a parable of a man who planted a vineyard, then planted a hedge to protect it. But it well depicts the protection afforded the newly established home by parents of the young groom.
- B. *Chamah* is the word for wall. From it comes the word *cham* (husband's father), and *chamoth* (husband's mother). The young man and his new bride face many problems as the new marriage struggles to take root and grow. But around them are always the parents, keeping their distance, but ever near enough to provide a nearly invisible wall of protection around the tender plants.

CONCLUSION

- A. How thankful those of us ought to be who have had the opportunity to be reared in such a home. May we labor diligently to reproduce the same for our children.
- B. Even if we missed that blessing in our tender years, may God help us to create such an atmosphere for our own families. The rewards of such are immeasurable.

THURSDAY--ARE MARRIAGES MADE IN HEAVEN?

YES, A HEAVENLY DESIGN

(Jeff Trotter)

I. MARRIAGE IS DESIGNED

A. Mind of design

1. The quality of any item is directly tied to the quality of the designer and builder.
2. God being the designer of marriage attests to the value of the relationship (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:18-25).

B. Motive of design

1. An item may be designed only for the ego of the designer.
2. God designed marriage for the benefit of His creation (Gen. 2:18; Heb. 13:4).

II. MATES SHOULD BE DEVOTED

A. Responsibility of the wife

1. Wives are instructed to love their husbands (Titus 2:4).
2. Such a love recognizes God's plan for the marriage relationship and provides the foundation for the wife's role (Eph. 5:22; Col. 3:18; Titus 2:5; 1 Pet. 3:1).

B. Responsibility of the husband

1. Husband are instructed to love their wives (Eph. 5:25,28,33).
2. Such a love recognizes God's plan for the marriage relationship and is the backdrop for the husband' role as leader (Eph. 5:23,24; 1 Peter 3:7).

III. MATURITY IS DEMANDED

A. Growing is learning

1. Marriage is an ongoing education concerning each other and life.
2. God's word is the textbook for learning (2 Tim. 3:16,17).

B. Growing is loving

1. The love required to say "I do" must grow and mature through the years in order to be able to say "I still do."
2. The foundation for such a growing love is revealed by God (1 Cor. 13:4-7).

IV. THE MISSION IS DESIGNATED

A. Where is this marriage going? Hopefully both individuals will be in heaven even though the marriage itself is an earthly relationship (Mark 12:25).

B. How will this be accomplished? Only a removal of pride and a seeking after truth.

- C. What is the standard of authority? Only the Bible can guide us in this life into the life which is to come.
- D. When do we start? Your marriage can be better starting today!

NO, SOME VERY EARTHLY CONSIDERATIONS (Eddy Craft)

INTRODUCTION:

- A. While it is the case that marriages are made in heaven, it is also the case that some earthly considerations must be made.
- B. If preparation and thought is not put into your marriage it stands a good chance of failure.
- C. Too many marriages (of course just one would be too many) are ending in divorce.
- D. With the preceding in mind let us look at some earthly considerations.

I. SOME CONSIDERATION:

- A. Am I ready to leave and cleave: (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:5; Ephesians 5:31)?
 - 1. If you are not willing to leave father and mother and cleave to your mate, then you are not ready for marriage.
 - 2. Marriage is establishing your own home. You become one flesh. Parents can cause a lot of trouble by interfering many times.
- B. Are We eligible?
 - 1. Do we have scriptural authority for marriage?
 - 2. Some cannot marry. Those who are put away, fornicators (Matt.19:9).
 - 3. If you are going to marry someone who has been divorced, you had better make sure they have scriptural grounds. If not it is unlawful for you to be in that condition (Matthew 14:4).
- C. Education:
 - 1. It could be the case that even your educational background could cause you problems in a marriage.
 - 2. This is certainly something that should be given serious thought and discussion by parties contemplating matrimony.
- D. Financial Differences:
 - 1. If someone very poor is about to marry someone very rich this can bring about serious problems within a marriage.
 - 2. I have seen many homes in trouble because the husband couldn't supply the wife with the kind of finances she was used to.
- E. Time:
 - 1. How long have I known this person?

2. Don't rush into a marriage because it is a lifetime affair.
3. Give yourself time to get to know the person you are about to marry.

F. Love:

1. Is it real love or infatuation?
2. The Biblical characteristics of love are:
 - a. Patience
 - b. Kindness
 - c. Not envious
 - d. Not boastful
 - e. Not proud
 - f. Not rude
 - g. Not self-seeking
 - h. Not easily angered
 - i. Keeps no records of wrong
 - j. Does not delight in evil
 - k. Always protects, trusts, hopes and perseveres (I Corinthians 13)
3. You can gauge real love by the preceding.

II. DON'T GET MARRIED FOR THE WRONG REASONS:

A. Loneliness:

1. Some get married because they are lonely.
2. Being married is not a cure for loneliness. There are certain problems of being married that often adds to the problem of loneliness.

B. Sexual Passion:

1. Certainly sex is important in marriage (Hebrews 13:4).
2. But if one just gets married for sex alone their marriage will be in danger.
3. We are living in a sexual revolution. It seems that some think that sex will take care of every problem.

C. Pregnancy:

1. Some get married because they are pregnant. Some even think they have to or else further sin.
2. Two wrongs don't make a right. To get married just on the basis of being pregnant can turn out to be a great mistake.
3. Getting married doesn't cover the sin of getting pregnant either.

D. Physical Beauty:

1. If we marry someone just on the basis of their physical beauty, our marriage may be in deep trouble.
2. As someone has said, "beauty is only skin deep."
3. Beauty will often times lead people into more temptation and sin.

E. Leave Home:

1. Some just think if I can get away.
2. The grass always looks greener on the other side.

F. Social Prestige:

1. Some think that society won't accept them.
2. One is not weird or gay just because they are not married. Some of the greatest people that ever lived were not married. Look at the Apostle Paul or even Jesus.

III. YES MARRIAGE IS SERIOUS:

- A. Good people, marriage is a lifetime affair (Romans 7:1-4; Matthew 19:8).
- B. "Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled. . ." Marriage is truly made in heaven. But if we don't make some earthly considerations, our homes are going to remain in trouble.
- C. Every sixty seconds a home is broken up. Eighty five percent of teenage marriages end in divorce.
- D. Don't marry someone that God wouldn't approve of.

CONCLUSION:

- A. It is very important that we take a close and serious look at some earthly considerations and in so doing we won't get married for the wrong reasons.
- B. The devil is the home-wrecker and he has leveled his fiery darts at the homes in America, so please take this lesson seriously.

FRIDAY--CHILDREN A HERITAGE OF THE LORD QUIVERS FULL OF BLESSINGS (Jim Roberts)

INTRODUCTION

- A. "Lo, children are a heritage of Jehovah: And the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows in the hand of a mighty man, so are the children of youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: They shall not be put to shame, when they speak with their enemies in the gate" (Ps. 127:3-5).
- B. Happy are those who have children.
 1. Children complete the circle of life.
 2. What did we do before children.
- C. Children are great blessings in our lives because they remind us of:

I. OUR POWERFUL CREATOR AND LOVING FATHER

- A. Try to explain the existence and beauty of a new-born child apart from a powerful Creator (Ps. 139:13-17).

- B. Our loving Father provides us with the "good gifts" of life (James 1:17).
 - 1. Ancient women who were barren felt cursed (Gen. 16:1,2).
 - 2. Parents have been entrusted with priceless treasures (Gen. 33:5).

II. THE PURITY OF LIFE APART FROM SIN

- A. The innocence of a child surpasses the beauty of a freshly fallen snow.
- B. Woe to those who would place the sins of the parents upon the heart of the pure child (Eze. 18:20; Mt. 19:14).

III. THE SIMPLICITY OF LIFE

- A. Children have the answers to our "complex problems."
- B. Their minds are not cluttered with the worries of tomorrow (Mt. 6:34).
- C. They are constant reminders of the real values of life (Lk. 12:15).

IV. SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSONS IN LIFE

- A. Dependence on God and man (Mt. 6:11; 1 Pet. 2:12)
- B. Gratitude for gifts received (1 Thess. 5:17,18; Lk. 17:11-19).
- C. Forgiveness toward those who have wronged us (Mt. 6:14,, 18:21-35).
- D. Humility to keep us balanced (Mt. 18:1-4; 1 Pet. 5:5,6).

CONCLUSION

- A. Jesus loves the little children (Mk. 10:13-16).
- B. In the spirit of Jesus, let us be thankful for the joys that our children bring us.

ARROWS THROUGH THE HEART (Lowell Altizer)

Jehovah's reward, "the fruit of the womb," is heaven's ordained program for the continuity and perpetuity of the human race. The first harvest of such, Cain and then Abel, must have given their parents, Adam and Eve, both joy and pain. Abel obtained from God witness that he was righteous (Heb. 11:5) and Cain was informed that "sin lieth at the door" (Gen. 4:7)

When the Immaculate Son of Mary graced the manger of Bethlehem, the guiding Star appeared, the angelic chorus serenaded His appearance and "wise men from the east" came to worship Him, prophecy was fulfilled and Heaven's gift to humanity was realized as Jesus Christ was born!

When the proper number of days were fulfilled, Joseph and Mary brought

Christ to Jerusalem to present Him to God, according to the Law. There the devout Simeon took the child in his arms and worded many blessings to come from Him. Then to Mary Simeon said, "This child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:34,35). Mary's soul was pierced when she beheld her Son, God's only Begotten Son, succumb to the cruelties of Calvary. This "piercing of heart" gave to the world the Hope for Eternity!

How sad it is when activities of offsprings become "arrows through the heart" to the parents that bore them. Several such recorded in the Sacred Volume let us now note.

Esau, the older of the twins born to Isaac and Rebekah, a rough Bedouin type person, at the age of forty took Judith and Bashemath of the Hittities to wives, "Which were a grief of mind to Isaac and Rebekah" (Gen. 26:34,35). Hebrews 12:16 describes Esau as a "fornicator, or profane person, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright." This an exhibition of disrespect for the family inheritance desired by all.

Hophni and Phinehas, the sons of Eli, rebelled against the wishes of their father, desecrated the sacrifices brought to be offered to the Lord, which they as the sons of the priest had some charge. Their immorality with the women that assembled at the door of the tabernacle was of public knowledge. The upbrading on the part of their father brought no proper response from them. Holy Writ describes them as "sons of Belial; they knew not the Lord (1 Sam. 2).

Simeon and Levi, sons of Jacob, acted deceitfully with Shechem and his family. Shechem had violated their sister, Dinah, and desired her for his wife. This was agreed upon with the condition that Shechem and all of his be bircumcised. They gladly submitted thereto and when sore from the surgery and unable to defend themselves, Simeon and Levi slew them all. Regarding their action, Jacob said, "Ye have troubled me and made me to stink among the inhabitants of the land" (Gen. 24:30).

Absalom, a son of David, was "praised for his beauty; from the sole of his foot even to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him" (2 Sam. 14:25). He gathered a following in the kingdom and rebelled against his father, David. In activities of battle, Absalom's head was ensnared in the limbs of a tree under which he was riding a mule. There he died with three darts through his heart by the hand of Joab. When news of this reached the ears of David, he wept exceedingly and said, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom" (2 Sam. 19:33).

The elder brother of the "prodigal son" must have been a grief to his father when he refused to join the festivities of joy upon his brother's return from his prodigality (Luke 15:25-32).

Activities of many in families of today, activities that are counter to parental instruction and have brought problems to the actors, have brought early hoary locks, furrowed brows and tear-coursed cheeks to those who love them most. Parents should be cognizant of the great responsibility incurred in

the bringing of offsprings into the world. How great the need to "bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). Obedience to parents promises "that it be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth" (Eph. 6:1-3). "Disobedience to parents" is among a list of sins emanating from a reprobate mind (Rom. 1:28-32).

"Flee also youthful lusts" said the eminent apostle Paul to the young Timothy (2 Tim. 2:22). This action will say "No" to drugs, reject the imbibing of alcohol, possess their vessels in sanctification and honor preserving their virginity for the one with whom they may be made "one" in the sanctity of the marriage bond. Failing to do so as here listed will bring a great measure of ruin to self and burden their progenitors with sorrow and pain.

SATURDAY--THE HOME A TRAINING GROUND FOR LIFE AND ETERNITY

MEN'S CLASS: DEUT. 6:1-9, TITUS 2:1-8, Malcolm Hill, no outline submitted

LADIES' CLASS: DEUT. 6:1-9, TITUS 2:1-8, Billy Hill, no outline submitted

TEENAGE CLASS: PROVERBS 1:7-19

(Gary Francisco)

Each day that a person lives, he/she receives some amount of training. As the person matures and ages in years, the training learned is put into practice and becomes a part of daily activity. Training comes from numerous sources, but perhaps one of the most influential is the home.

The home is a classroom for teaching from the time of a person's birth until that person moves out and lives on his/her own. This teaching prepares the person for their future life in the world. Physical, emotional, mental, social, and more importantly, spiritual teaching comes from the environment of the home. By word and/or deed, a child is taught and when that child leaves the home, he/she takes with them those "roots", those things they have learned, whether they be good or bad. And these "roots" are the basis of developing their life philosophy.

The text for this lesson offers many words of wisdom for training the young person for life and eternity. As we study, let us glean the ripe fruit from these passages and be willing to feast upon them, thereby allowing the words of Almighty God to fill our souls!

Solomon, in verse 7, states that the first step in becoming wise is "**the fear of the Lord,**" or to trust and offer reverent obedience unto God! A person has no hope of true wisdom without first humbling themselves before the God of heaven! "*No man can ever become truly wise who does not begin with God.*" (Clarke) **II Peter 2:10** along with **Proverbs 23:9** and **Matthew 7:6** show the folly of those who "*despise wisdom and instruction.*" The next step, verse 8, is to "**hear the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the law of your**

mother." Young people, let us place a great amount of emphasis on the word **"hear."** Do not merely listen to your parents, but abide by their will! Open your mind to understand the things they say and why they are said. As Paul encourages the children of Ephesus in **Ephesians 6:1-3**, be willing to obey your parents because it is a commandment of God! We must realize, however, that in obeying our parents we must not violate God's will. **Luke 14:26** tells us that we must love God above all others, including parents. As long as our parents' will is in subjection to God's will then we are commanded to be obedient to them. That is Paul's meaning of obeying parents **"in the Lord."**

Solomon affirms that both parents have important roles in instructing their children (verse 8), and by obeying them, the benefits are astounding! Verse 9 reads, **"For they shall be graceful ornaments on your head, and chains about your neck,"** and **"that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth"** **EPHESIANS 6:3**. By obeying the teachings of your parents, you will be treated more respectfully by society and your works will reflect their teachings, even after you are no longer alive. Hunt suggests that, **"Following the sound teachings of the father would bring the son to great dignity as well as give a beauty to his life. The elements of good character are likened to spiritual ornaments."**

In verses 10-14, Solomon pleads with his son to beware of evil companions and not to listen to their pleadings to join them in sin. The world, maybe even your friends, is saying to you: **"Cast in your lot among us."** They promise **"all kinds of precious possessions"** while neglecting the most precious possession of all: your eternal soul. God begs and pleads with you to say **"NO!"** to sin like Joseph (**GENESIS 39:8,9**), and to abstain from the evil of the world: **EPHESIANS 5:7,11; I THESSALONIANS 5:22; II TIMOTHY 2:19; JAMES 1:27**. In verse 15-19, Solomon challenges his son to avoid the paths of the evil ones (**PSALMS 1:1; 119:101; PROVERBS 4:14**) because eventually justice catches up with them and they pay with their lives - **"For the wages of sin is death..." ROMANS 6:23!** But, such is the way for those who are **"greedy for gain; it takes away the life of its owners."** Young people, how many of you will lose your life, and ultimately your soul because your heart is not filled with heavenly desires (**PHILIPPIANS 4:8**), but rather with worldly desires! Truly it has been said of those who walk on the wide and broad way:

Instead of **"getting,"** there is **"losing"...** the **"important"** (his own life) is lost trying to gain the **"unimportant"** (material gain). **HUNT**

Young people, through patience, love, and respect, submit yourselves to the will of your parents, thereby submitting yourselves to the will of God, and becoming prepared for life and eternity!

TEENAGE CLASS: I TIMOTHY 4:11-16

(Gary Francisco)

In **PROVERBS 1:1-19**, we noted that Solomon pleaded for his son to avoid the way of the wicked and to heed the instruction of his parents. We noted that by submitting to the will of our parents, we are in fact submitting to the will of God. It is certainly true that the home which abides in the doctrine of the

word of God is a prime training ground for life and eternity! Young people, let us continue our study and examine ourselves to make sure that we realize our responsibility as youth to the home.

Paul is giving good advice to Timothy about the characteristics of a good minister. Young people, all Christians are to be ministers of the Gospel (**MATTHEW 28:19,20; MARK 16:15,16; ACTS 8:4; II CORINTHIANS 5:20**) and that means you too! Paul begins by telling Timothy to "**let no one despise your youth.**" The word "**despise**" means "**to look down upon.**" The way to avoid this attitude in the home from our family is to earn respect instead of demanding it! You may wonder why your parents seem to treat you as a child instead of a young adult. It may be because your behavior is childish and immature. You may be irresponsible and rebellious and, if so, you deserve to be treated as a child who still needs their parents protecting control. Until you decide to "grow up," don't expect to be treated any differently!

Paul says that this earned respect can be gain by being "**an example to the believers**" in the following important areas:

1. "**In conversation/conduct**" or manner of life. How do you behave when you are at home? What example do you set to your family that would lead them to see Jesus alive in you (**MATTHEW 5:16**)? Our manner of life must be worthy of the Gospel of Christ (**PHILIPPIANS 1:27**). Let us "**hold fast that which is good**" and "**abstain from all appearance of evil**" (**I THESSALONIANS 5:21,22**).
2. "**In word**" or speech. Let us make sure that our speech is pure and edifying (**EPHESIANS 4:29**), because we know that "**by your words shall you be justified, and by your words shall you be condemned**" (**MATTHEW 12:37**).
3. "**In love**". Let us love God with every fiber of our being and love those around us as we love ourselves (**MARK 12:30,31**). Take time to read **I CORINTHIANS 13** and begin to apply the truths found therein to you role in the home.
4. "**In spirit.**" Make sure that your spirit is walking after The Spirit! **ROMANS 8; GALATIANS 5:16-25; PSALMS 51:10**. When Christ is living in you then your family will definitely be able to see the spirit of Christianity that God wants you to possess!
5. "**In Faith.**" How strong is your faith in God? Does it show in your role in the home? At the same time, is it reasonable for your family to place their trust in you? Paul urged Christian servants to show "**all good fidelity/trustworthiness**" (**TITUS 2:10**). Let us live in the in a manner that will promote trust and faith.
6. "**In Purity.**" A young person who would be a Christian example in the home must be morally pure and chaste in conduct. Nothing can be more disappointing than to see a young person caught in the snare of immorality. Our words, deeds, and our thoughts are subject to the wiles of Satan, so we must be strong and avoid anything that will cause

us to cross the line of morality. Jesus warned us about lust (**MATTHEW 5:28**) and Paul warned us about choosing friends (**I CORINTHIANS 15:33**). **GUARD YOUR HEART!! PROVERBS 4:23-27.**

Young people, **"do not neglect the gift that is in you!"** Each of you is blessed with special talents that will enable you to be a great influence for Christ in your home! Paul encourages you to **"give attendance to reading."** No book is more precious than the Word of God and we need to absorb ourselves in it (**II TIMOTHY 2:15**)! **HEBREWS 10:25** directs us to exhort one another; build each other up; encourage each other. Can you imagine the source of strength and support you can be in your home? And please remain in the doctrine of Christ for only it can lead your soul to heaven (**II TIMOTHY 3:16,17**)! Spend time every day to **"meditate upon these things: give yourself wholly to them."** When you become immersed in the riches of God's Word, not only will you grow spiritually, but you will also grow and mature in the relationship you have with the home. People will be able to see the change in you just like they did in Jesus (**LUKE 2:52**)!

In conclusion, Paul challenges us all to watchfulness for our spiritual being and to persevere in the faith of God. Why? Because our souls and those that we live with are at stake! Look at your family. Are they Christians? If so, does your life build up or tear down their faith? If not, what are you doing to teach them the truth of the Gospel? Young people, it is a serious thing. Please **"take heed unto yourself"** and make sure that you are living as God would have you to live. You can do so much for Christ in your home and thereby train and grow in the service of the church. I challenge you to meet up to that responsibility and **"be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry"** **II TIMOTHY 4:5.**

A TRAINING GROUND FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS, Wayne Miller (no outline submitted).

A TRAINING GROUND FOR IMMORALITY (Ray Frizzell, Jr.)

INTRODUCTION:

- I. One of the greatest of tragedies is for a home which should train in righteousness to actually prove to be a training ground for immorality.
 - A. The immoral lives of the sons of Eli, the priest, is a classic example of this tragedy that has often been repeated (1 Samuel 3,4).
 - B. Christian parents do not set out to advance immorality.
 1. It is usually more a matter of default that enables immorality to enter an otherwise godly home.
 2. We must not overlook the fact that life abhors a vacuum (Matthew 12:43ff.).
 - C. The home is the beginning point of everything, not just biological life but moral, ethical, mental, emotional, and spiritual life as well.

II. A healthy family (morally and otherwise) is not an option for society - it is a life-and-death matter!

DISCUSSION:

I. INROADS OF IMMORALITY INTO THE HOME

A. *A radical change in basic values has had a detrimental effect upon the health and stability of the home.*

1. We are witnessing a deliberate, well-planned and executed effort to change the values on every level of one's life.
2. Permissive education shares a large part of the responsibility for the radical changes in basic values.
 - a. Humanism, a product of Dewey's "progressive education", has been governing philosophy in American education for a number of decades.
 - b. The "in thing" in some educational circles is to develop an "inquiry" concept which views all knowledge as tentative rather than absolute.
 - c. A person indoctrinated with the concept that there are no absolutes will obviously have doubts as to moral standards.
3. The radical change in environment has not been conducive to maintaining moral values.
 - a. The mobility which characterizes our age allows the flow of ungodly philosophies and immoral practices to ill-affect our youth.
 - b. In our fast-paced, dehumanizing world, the only path to safety is to commit ourselves to a Cause and to moral principles which can be carried with us wherever we may go.
4. Families must deliberately examine their values and ascertain the attitudes of their children for many may have unconsciously changed their values

B. *The failure to adequately communicate moral values has opened the door for immorality to enter the home.*

1. There are many things being communicated to the American people that are harmful to the family and moral values.
 - a. Billboards, magazine stands, books, television, movies, etc., bombard us with crime, violence, illicit sex, and pornography
 - b. Sex has become an obsession and violence is accepted as a way of life.
 - c. The home suffers from the philosophy that repression, not license, is the world's greatest evil.
2. Our homes have seen a change, morally, because the world has come into our homes, unhindered, more than ever before.
3. Some practical needs in effectively communicating moral values:
 - a. Homes must do a better job in the area of wholesome sex education.
 - b. Conduct during the courtship period and instruction to prepare for Christian marriage must receive greater emphasis.
 - c. The lack of proper communication is just as damaging as too much evil communication.

d. Setting priorities and proper perspectives are vital needs for the home.

C. *The failure to exemplify and enforce moral values can encourage immoral living.*

1. Training involves more than mere theory ("telling"); there must be helpfulness in the application/use of the instruction for daily living.
2. Moral values which are stressed must be enforced if they are to become part of a person's life.
 - a. Eli had spoken to his sons about their immoral ways, yet he failed to enforce the teaching (he restrained them not", 1 Samuel 3:14).
 - b. We may talk against all types of sinful conduct, yet allow such to enter our homes without a word of restraint or control.
 - c. Parents are often so desirous that their children "be popular" that they are not consistent in enforcing the principles of morality they may teach.

II. WAYS TO KEEP IMMORALITY FROM FINDING AN ENTRANCE INTO THE FAMILY

A. *The thinking and actions of youth are influenced by such factors as community standards, peer pressure, family expectations, the influence of God's word, and the individual's personal philosophy of right and wrong.*

1. As noted, there continues to be an erosion which has weakened the support of moral principles in the general community and among peers.
2. A greater effort must be made to assist youth in the development of a stronger personal desire to do right (1 Timothy 4:16; Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:1).
3. The lack of a sense of personal responsibility for wrong-doing is prevalent in every avenue of immorality.
 - a. Accepting responsibility for one's own actions is of vital importance.
 - b. An intense hatred for sin must be cultivated (Amos 5:15; Romans 12:9).

B. *We must avoid extremes and attack more than just the symptoms!*

1. Factors which affect morals have gone to the extreme of situation ethics, where almost anything goes.
2. As deplorable as the extreme of situation ethics is, and as needed as the stand against such actions really is, care must also be taken to avoid the other extreme of drawing the guidelines for morality more narrowly than God has set them.
 - a. Setting up a system of "strait Jacket" morals may overshadow the truth and drive some to involvement in questionable conduct (Colossians 3:21; Ecclesiastes 7:16; Amos 5:19).
 - b. The serious approach to morals does not eliminate good, wholesome fun and hearts filled with happiness.
3. In dealing with morality, we must not deal only with the symptoms while permitting the real problem, the deeper trouble, to go untouched.

- a. Illicit sexual relationships (before or after marriage) stem from a lack of respect for God's divine plan for the home as well as a lack of respect for one's own body (1 Corinthians 6:18-20).
- b. Immodest apparel, suggestive language and actions, etc., are but evidences of an impure mind.
- c. The consumption of alcohol and other drugs (for other than medical purposes) shows a failure to accept the fact that the body is the temple of God.
- d. Though the symptoms must be considered, spiritual health depends on getting to the real infections of the soul (Proverbs 4:23; Philippians 4:8).
- e. We must do a better job in training our youth by helping them to see the real issues.

CONCLUSION:

- I. The threat of immorality to our homes relates to both the survival of the family unit and survival/salvation of souls.
- II. We can/must have young people with high morals and homes where no encouragement is ever given to immorality in any way.
 - A. May none ever need to cry out too late, "Where, when, how, did I go wrong?"
 - B. Neglect and/or failure on our part, which would result in our homes becoming training grounds for immorality rather than for righteousness, will only bring heartache and grief.

GIVEN TO HOSPITALITY (Powell Purkey, elder)

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Definition: The act, practice or quality of being hospitable.
- B. Not just entertaining or being sociable.
- C. Not just being hospitable to those who are friendly and nice to us.
- D. Our words "hospital" and "hotel" come from this word.
- E. "Hospitality: found four times in the Bible.
- F. There are many examples of hospitality in both Old and New Testaments.
- G. The home is where it all begins.

I. WHAT IS HOSPITALITY?

- A. It is the opposite of selfishness.

1. Rich farmer (Luke 12:16-21).
2. Corinthian Church (I Corinthians 11:21,22).

B. Hospitality is Love.

1. All is vain without love (I Corinthians 13).
2. Loving neighbors (Luke 10:33-37).
3. Loving brethren (I John 3:10, 11, 17).
4. Loving the lost (Psalm 126:6).
5. Loving enemies (Luke 6:27-35).

C. Hospitality is being kind.

1. Kindness will open doors
2. Kindness will melt cold, hard hearts
3. Kindness will enrich our lives

D. Hospitality is serving.

1. Providing the needs of the destitute (James 2:15,16).

II. WHERE DO WE PRACTICE HOSPITALITY?

A. In the home

1. Theme of this Lectureship
2. Must be taught and practiced in the home
3. Hospitality fails in the home then many times the home fails.

B. In the church

1. Having the bowels of compassion" (I John 3:17).
2. Members share in helping others (Acts 11:29, 30).
3. We may not individually be able to buy groceries, clothes, etc. but together we can.

WHEN DO WE CALL IT QUILTS?

(Benny Burns)

INTRODUCTION

I. **DANGERS CONFRONTING THE CHURCH** by N.B. Hardeman; Several years ago brother N.B. Hardeman, one of the great spiritual giants of his generation, was asked what dangers he saw confronting the church of his day. His reply was as follows: (1) A lack of Bible knowledge and a light regard with what it says, (2) A tendency to make the church a social club of entertainment, (3) A disposition to compromise the truth and to discourage sound preaching, (4) A love for the praise of men more than the praise of God, lest they should be put out of someone's social circle. Consider these four things and note how the growth of each of them is causing problems to the church in our day.

II. SCRIPTURE TEXTS

- A. Matthew 19:3-12
- B. I Corinthians 7:1-7

I. WHY DO MARRIAGES FAIL ANYWAY?

- A. They fail first of all because the persons involved in them fail as persons.
- B. They fail because the participants do not understand the commitment which is involved.
- C. They fail because of immaturity on one or both parts.
- D. They fail because of unfair or harsh criticism.
- E. They fail because of hyper-sensitivity.
- F. They fail because one or both of the partners are torn asunder by inner conflicts.
- G. They fail because of a lack of trust in one another.
- H. They fail because of a lack of physical intimacy and an ignorance of physical anatomy.
- I. They fail because of a lack of kindness, courtesy and thoughtfulness.
- J. They fail because the people involved did not learn how to resolve conflict.
- K. They fail because of financial problems.
- L. They fail because the husband and wife are not united in Christ.
- M. They fail because the husband does not love the wife as Christ loved the church.
- N. They fail because the wife will not submit herself to the leadership of her husband as the Bible teaches her to do.

II. BUT TO BE SPECIFIC, WHEN DO WE CALL IT QUITTS?

- A. Scriptures:
 1. Ezra 10:1-4 God commanded it in Old Testament times.
 2. Matthew 19:8-9 Jesus commanded it.
 3. Matthew 5:31-32
 - a. Jesus gave the exception
 - b. Paul in Romans 7 and I Corinthians 7 gave the marriage law but left out the exceptions.
- B. We Call It Quits When It Is Evident That God's Way Is In Violation.
 1. Two Laws argument
 - a. Genesis 2:21-24
 - b. Romans 13:1-3
 - c. apply and illustrate
 2. What is fornication anyway?
 - a. Matthew 19:9
 - b. Porneia - " illicit sexual intercourse stands for and includes adultery." W.E. Vines Word Study. Vol. II. pg. 125.
 - c. Let us illustrate.
 3. What Is Repentance?
 - a. I'm sorry?
 - b. The truth: Matthew 12:41; Jonah 3:1-10
 4. Other discussion:
 - a. I Corinthians 7: does it contradict Matthew 19:9?
 - b. The word bondage in I Corinthians 7:15?
 - c. What about Gomer?
 - d. What about separation alone?
 - e. If innocent is free to divorce and remarry, what about guilty?

- f. Which is better to divorce or to forgive?
- g. What about Eunuch's for the Kingdom of Heaven's sake?
- h. Etc.

CONCLUSION:

Quit Or Qualify

I tried to be a Christian and live as I should live.
I tried to be unselfish and give as I should give.
It took time and sacrifice and yet I thought I's try,
But found 'twas easier to quit than it was to qualify.
I tried to be a teacher and teach in the Bible School;
To teach without much study and the pupils try to fool,
But the class began do dwindle, and I knew the reason why,
But it was easier to quit than to qualify.
I tried to be a Deacon and be a credit to the Church;
To give up all bad habits and leave them in the lurch;
I found it very hard to do, no matter how hard I'd try;
I found 'twas easier to quit than it was to qualify.
I tried to be an Elder, an example to the flock; To have a faith
unshaken and founded on The Rock,
But I saw I wasn't perfect in the public eye,
So 'twas easier to quit than it was to qualify.
I tried to get to Heaven by works that I could do.
Not depending on the Savior that He would see me through;
Now my life is ending and after I have died
I'm afraid the Lord will say, "He quit, unqualified."

-Elmer I. Newton

PICKING UP THE PIECES

(Joe Scroggin)

INTRODUCTION

- A. The childhood story of Humpty Dumpty
- B. Illustration: The fog of a broken heart.
- C. While we realize there is a time when homes will break up, I want to share with you how one might be able to pick up the pieces and go on to make a useful and reasonably happy life for themselves.

I. PICKING UP THE PIECES AFTER THE DEATH OF A SPOUSE!

- A. The words, "I'm sorry he (or she) is gone" suddenly change the world.
- B. The grief process
 - 1. Numbness, denial
 - 2. Yearning, searching, protesting
 - 3. Disorganization and despair
 - 4. Reorganization of behavior

- C. Ruth 1:16--Turn to physical family
- D. Proverbs 15:22--Remember you have many in your spiritual family that may be able to help.
- E. What can the church do to help those who have lost mates?

II. PICKING UP THE PIECES OF A CRUMBLING MARRIAGE

- A. The words may be, "I'm moving out", or "Your husband (or wife) is having an affair".
- B. You feel, betrayed, hurt, resentment, anger, crushed and even like retaliating because of an affair. Yet there may be other problems that crumbled the marriage.
- C. You both want to put the marriage back together--I Cor. 7:11b
- D. Picking up the pieces
 1. Affair or other problems must be corrected.
 2. Open and honest communication must take place.
 3. Adjustments and changes make have to be made by both.
- E. What can the church do to help crumbling marriages?

III. PICKING UP THE PIECES AFTER DIVORCE

- A. The gavel sounds and the words from the judge echoes, "Divorce granted".
- B. For some the death of a spouse could have been dealt with easier.
- C. But with divorce, no flowers and very little sympathy.
- D. Unhealthy feeling are developed and must be handled.
 1. Feeling of uselessness
 2. Feeling of low self-worth
 3. Feeling of loneliness
 4. Feeling of being dumped
- E. Picking up the pieces.
 1. Psalms 121
 2. Seven Survival Tips for the Solo by Cherry Lloyd
- F. What can the church do to help divorced Christians?

CONCLUSION

- A. Poem--*Broken Pieces* by Earlene Rose
- B. Proverbs 3:6

HOW TO FIGHT IN YOUR MARRIAGE

(Wesley Simons)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. How does a husband and wife disagree and still love one another?
2. Many people today believe that if they disagree strongly enough, that this is sufficient reason for divorce.
3. Matthew 19:9 says there is one reason for divorce.
4. We must learn to disagree.
5. Paul and Barnabas disagreed.
6. Is it wrong to be angry (Ephesians 4:26)?

II. WAYS WE EXPRESS OR SHOW ANGER.

1. The Volcano Approach.
 - a. One explodes like Mount St. Helen.
 - b. They blow up so fast that often times the mate might not know what caused the explosion.
2. The Bean Pot Approach.
 - a. I can remember Mom cooking beans and the lid rattling on the pot.
 - b. You can see some people steaming.
 - c. Some people steam for days, weeks, months and years.
3. The Blow-torch Approach.
 - a. These people are burning all the time. They stay mad.
 - b. They just know that their mate is going to burn them up, because they are burnt up already.
 - c. This individual expects to be hurt, cheated on, deceived, misled, etc.
4. The Big Joker Approach.
 - a. This is the approach I take.
 - b. If someone makes me mad, I try to joke it off.
 - c. If Elva makes me mad, I joke it off.
 - d. The danger here is that one will not take problems seriously.
5. Kick-The-Dog Approach.
 - a. The boss has been mean to you so you come home and take it out on your wife and children.
 - b. Your car won't run and you get mad at your wife.
 - c. I know a man who got mad at his wife and shot his dog.
 - d. All that proved (point 3) is that he cannot control himself.
6. The Too-Mature-To-Fight Approach.
 - a. Some people believe they are too mature to fight.
 - b. We must resolve differences.
 - c. This takes communications.
7. The Senator Foghorn Approach.
 - a. This individual tries to out-talk, out-shout their mate.
 - b. This means get as loud as possible.
 - c. One man said, "he and his wife never fought, but you could hear them discussing it all over the neighborhood."
8. "I Will Ring Your Neck" Approach.
 - a. Glasses fly, plates break, and bodies are battered.
 - b. I have known of husbands and wives to get guns and shoot at each other.

c. husband and wife on Signal Mountain.

III. GROUND RULES FOR FIGHTING.

1. You don't have the right to fight unless you have experienced the three loves of marriage.
 - a. If you have not experienced these loves, how would you know if you have lost these loves?
 - c. You don't fall in love. Love is something that is taught, learned, and one grows in (Titus 2:3,4).
 - d. When one says, "there is no love there anymore," they are saying they are tired of working on the problem.
 - e. I must work on my love toward God. I must also work on my love toward my mate.
 - f. The loves of marriage:
 - (1) *Eros*- in marriage there is to be erotic love (Heb. 13:4; Proverbs 5:15).
 - (2) *Philia*- friendship love. (They asked Jim Backus on TV., how has your marriage been able to survive Hollywood, when others have failed? His wife said, "not only are we husband and wife, but we are best friends."
 - (3) *Agapa*- love is found in the lover and not in the love-ee. This means I am to love my wife even when she is not lovable.
This is the kind of love God has shown toward us (Rom. 5:8).
2. No physical blows.
 - a. husbands can't beat on their wives (Ephesians 5:25,28).
 - b. Millions of wives are beaten each year.
3. The wife cannot forget that the husband is the head of the home.
 - a. She can disagree.
 - b. Ephesians 5:22 says, "the wife is to submit to the husband as unto the Lord."
 - c. Ephesians 23 - husband is head of the wife.
 - d. I Corinthians 11:1-3 - here is God's divine order of authority.
4. Attack the problem, not one another.
 - a. I have had people tell me that my mate is the dumbest person on the face of the earth.
 - b. Name-calling will get you nowhere.
5. Fight about the same thing.
 - a. I have talked to husbands and wives who were mad at each other and were fighting about separate matters.
 - b. Settle one problem at a time.
6. Husband and wife must be forgivable.
 - a. Matthew 18:15-18 says I must resolve my differences with my brother.
 - b. If God wants me to resolve my differences with my brother, (and He does), you know He wants me to resolve my differences with my mate (I Peter 3:7).
 - c. Ephesians 4:26,27,31,32.
 - d. Matthew 6:14,15.
 - e. Forgiveness is something all of us need, because we are not perfect.
7. Avoid mind reading.
 - a. "I know what you are thinking."
 - b. "Go ahead and say it!"

- c. I Corinthians 13:1-7.
- d. Don't rejoice in iniquity.
- 8. Do not withhold your bodies from one another.
 - a. I Corinthians 7:1-5.
 - b. It is a sin to withhold your body from your mate.
 - c. I have had women to tell me, "I don't agree with you on that. "They are not disagreeing with me. They are disagreeing with God.
 - d. I know of cases where one mate became unfaithful because their mate would not sleep with them.
- 9. Don't pull in unrelated parties.
 - a. Leave Mom and Dad out of it.
 - b. Leave old girlfriends and boyfriends out of it.
 - c. Genesis 2:24 - leave to cleave.
- 10. Don't bring all the skeletons out of the closet.
 - a. This doesn't help.
 - b. No one is perfect.
- 11. Remember that when all is said and done, you and your mate must seek Bible answers to go to Heaven.
 - a. That leaves out divorce.
 - b. That leaves out murder.
 - c. That leaves out hate.
 - d. That leaves bitterness out.
- 12. The bottom line is communication.
 - a. Couples need peace summits.
 - b. Many couples never talk about their problems in the right way.
 - c. If you cannot talk to your mate, then to whom can you talk?

IV. CONCLUSION:

- 1. May God help us to build stronger nations and churches through our homes.
- 2. What kind of home do you have?

*Some thoughts and points in this lesson came from: 1. Al Behel, "Marriage and The Family", 2. Wallace Denton, "Family Problems and What To Do About Them"

OUR HEAVENLY HOME

(Timothy Hall)

INTRODUCTION:

- 1. How we all dream of heaven! It will truly be a magnificent place, full of glory and splendor. We should dream of heaven more often.
- 2. But can we not enjoy something of heaven while we are on earth?
 - a. Ephesians 3:14,15 - Paul says we don't have to wait until we get to heaven to be part of the heavenly family. We begin here on earth!
 - b. II Corinthians 3:18 - We will be changed, step by step, here to prepare us for the glories of heaven. We begin here and now!
- 3. It has been said that marriage is a little bit of heaven on earth. Should that not also be said of our families?

DISCUSSION:

I. HEAVENLY FAMILIES HAVE A DEEP LOVE FOR GOD

- A. That will certainly be true in heaven!
 - 1. Revelation 4:8-11 - Here, the elders cast down their golden crowns so they might better adore the One they love.
 - 2. Only those who love God supremely will be in heaven; thus, in heaven there will be no detractors for our expression of love.
- B. But must families wait for eternity to develop that love?
 - 1. Matthew 22:36-38 - What is the most important duty your family has? Families must not neglect this important duty.
 - 2. This goes beyond merely memorizing Bible verses, or learning Bible facts. This gets to the heart of what the Bible is all about. (cf. Isaiah 1:2,3)
 - 3. Families should be places where God is revered, loved, adored.
- C. Many of us do well in preparing our children for their responsibilities of life: Jobs, child-rearing, etc. But how well are we doing in helping them fulfill their number one obligation - to love God?

II. HEAVENLY FAMILIES STRIVE FOR A DEEPER KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S WILL

- A. Does our growth of knowledge end with this life?
 - 1. I Corinthians 13:12 - Paul shows there will be more to know about God when we have left this life. On earth, we can only have a faint understanding. But in heaven, we'll know clearly.
 - 2. One of our greatest privileges in heaven will be to know God in a full and complete way.
- B. But heavenly families begin this quest for knowledge on earth:
 - 1. Deuteronomy 6:6,7 - A solemn charge given to parents everywhere.
 - 2. Ephesians 6:4 - Don't just bring your children up - bring them up in the proper way, in God's nurture and admonition.
 - 3. II Timothy 1:5 - Lois and Eunice knew the importance of instilling in Timothy a thirst for knowledge about God and His will.
- C. This applies, though, not just to parents and their children, but husbands and their wives, children and their parents, etc. We love them so much, we try to give them everything they need. Are we doing anything to provide for their need for Bible knowledge?

III. HEAVENLY FAMILIES WORK TOWARD RIGHT RELATIONSHIPS

- A. In heaven, relationships will be right:
 - 1. Those who inhabit heaven will have love and acceptance of all other inhabitants. No quarreling, bickering or fighting!
 - 2. Inhabitants of heaven will not only enjoy the fellowship of God for eternity, but will also enjoy the company of other saints.
 - 3. Do we have to wait to begin enjoying a taste of such relationships?
- B. Heavenly families begin on earth striving for right relationships:

*Chap. 10
5-2-81*

1. The prodigal's older brother shows us what to avoid:
 - a. Luke 15:30 - The older brother did not wish to love or accept this backslider. "This, thy son", he called him.
 - b. Luke 15:32 - But the father's standard was unchanged: "This, thy brother", the father reminded his older son.
 2. I Peter 1:22 - The challenge for all Christians to love one another will first begin to be realized in the family.
 3. Acts 2:44-46 - Too, families will work toward developing an appreciation of being with fellow Christians.
 4. Acts 12:12 - John Mark is an example of what this Christian fellowship can mean: His mother appeared to be quite hospitable to the Christians of her day. Could this have influenced this young man to grow as he did?
- C. Most parents are concerned about their children's friends - Will they be a good example for my child? But how many Christian parents are concerned enough to see that their children enjoy the company of the saints? If we don't enjoy being with Christians on earth, why would it be any different in heaven?

IV. HEAVENLY FAMILIES LEARN TO SERVE GOD

- A. What will the inhabitants of heaven do?
1. Some think we will float about on clouds, viewing the scenery and singing beautiful songs. This may be true - in part.
 2. Revelation 22:3 - But John tells us we will serve God in heaven. We don't know exactly how, but we know we will.
- B. Heavenly families know that service to God begins here and now:
1. II Timothy 4:11 - Again, John Mark serves as a good example. He was raised by a godly mother, and she evidently showed him the value of good service rendered for God.
 2. Romans 16:3 - It works the same for husbands and wives. They help one another learn how to serve God, how to find opportunities to serve Him. Marriage is a partnership for God's glory!
- C. But how about those families who don't consider serving God here on earth? Why would they enjoy serving God in heaven? Our preparation begins now! Families serve as good training ground.

V. HEAVENLY FAMILIES SPEND HAPPY TIMES TOGETHER

- A. This will certainly be true in heaven:
1. If we will have anything in heaven, it will be "time" to be together. No one will have to rush about.
 2. We believe also that our times together in heaven will be times of happiness. Nothing will mar our relationships.
- B. Must families wait for heaven to begin enjoying time together?
1. Too many of us are pressed in many directions. The home can often better be compared to a "filling station": Come fill up on food or sleep, and then off again! No time to sit and visit.

2. Joshua 4:6 - But this picture assumes some time spent together. There must be companionship in order to have teaching.
3. Ephesians 5:28,29 - Likewise, there must be time spent together if husbands are to nourish and cherish their wives.

C. If American families today lack one thing in general, it would surely be this: Time! But taking the time to be together, to share our values with those we love, is such a high priority. Let's not wait until heaven to begin spending happy time together!

CONCLUSION:

1. There are many people I hope to see in heaven. But the ones I want to see most are those who are now my family in the flesh.
2. In order to realize that goal, I must commit myself to having a heavenly family now, so that my family can truly be heavenly some day!

This outline book of our 1988 *Biblical Viewpoints Lectureship* is presented to you without charge as a service of the East "C" Street Church of Christ, 137 East "C" Street, Elizabethton, TN 37643. We hope you have profited by our lectureship, and that you will make further use of these lessons in your own personal way to further the cause of our glorious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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