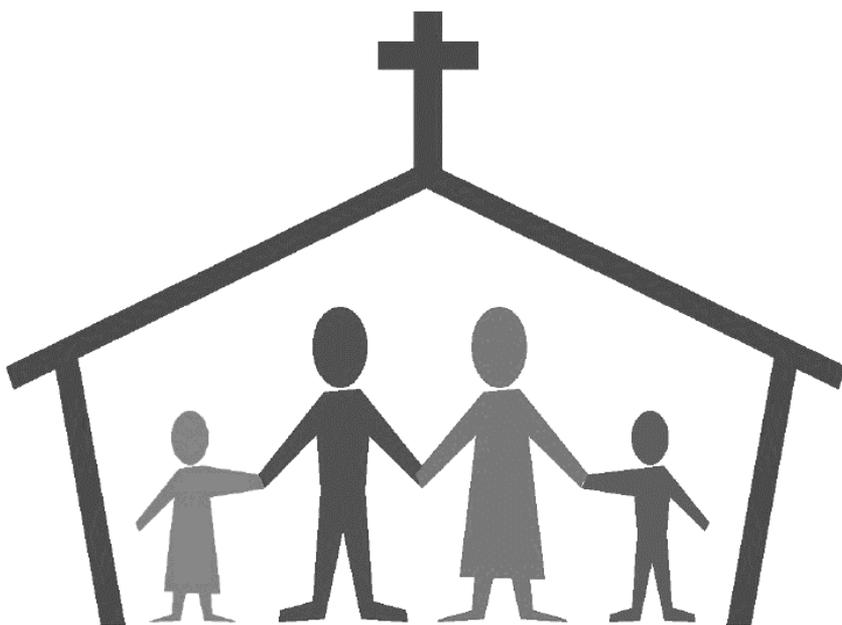


The Fifth Commandment: The Family in the Seventh Commandment



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Matt 12:48 Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? 49 And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! 50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

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The Breath of the Fifth Commandment: Order; Authority and Governments

The fifth commandment states: “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.” The sphere of this commandment is exceeding broad (Psalm 119:96). The fifth commandment’s definition, scope, realm includes obedience and submission to all (legitimate) authority(s)/government(s). The types of authority/governments include self, home, parental, marital, employment, church, Divine.

Webster’s 1828 defines govern: GOV'ERN, v.t. [L. gubernō. The L. gubernō seems to be a compound.] 1. To direct and control, as the actions or conduct of men, either by established laws or by arbitrary will; to regulate by authority; to keep within the limits prescribed by law or sovereign will. Thus in free states, men are governed by the constitution and laws; in despotic states, men are governed by the edicts or commands of a monarch. Every man should govern well his own family.

Government 1. Control; restraint. Men are apt to neglect the government of their temper and passions. 2. The exercise of authority; direction and restraint exercised over the actions of men in communities, societies or states; the administration of public affairs, according to established constitution, laws and usages, or by arbitrary edicts.

Authority 1. Legal power, or a right to command or to act; as the authority of a prince over subjects, and of parents over children. Power; rule; sway.

There exists a huge misapplication of the fifth commandment among God's people today; for example the manner in which people view "wives be submissive to their husbands" in light of the fifth commandment. There are a number of reasons for this misapplication. The main reason is because worldly submission and Godly submission of the fifth commandment are total opposites. Worldly submission is accomplished with/through force, obligation, fear, command, insincerity, deception. However, Godly submission is rendered willingly, freely, voluntarily, sincerely, joyfully, without prompting, without restraint, without urging, without reserve (Psalms 40:8).

Worldly authority, submission creates the relationship of lord to servant, master to slave, general to private. Worldly submission is an adversarial relationship where one wants to lord over, enslave another. The General gets the mansion, the filet mignon/prime rib, while the Private gets the outhouse and a can of spam/hash. While true Godly authority, submission is a mutual relationship, where there is one master Jesus and all are brethren (Matt. 23:8), where everyone that loveth Jesus that begat him, loveth him also that is begotten of him (1 John 5:1). The members have the same care one for another (1 Cor. 12:25), subject one to another (1 Peter 5:5), unto the edifying of all in love (Eph. 4:16). In Godly submission to Jesus, one is not a slave, bound in shackles. When one has totally

surrendered to Jesus, when one is a true servant of Jesus, the only experience that can result from this Godly submission is true freedom and liberty. (1 Cor. 7:22; 2 Cor. 3:17) In Godly submission, both parties benefit from the relationship. The benefits each participant receives from the relationship under Godly submission are greater than the sum that would have resulted if the individuals were alone by themselves. When Godly submission is our experience, then all are able to perceive that God is love (1 John 4:8) and is also a God of order (1 Cor. 14:40, Isaiah 40:26, Psalms 89).

The purpose of this treatise is to review the foundational principles and scope of the fifth commandment. This review incorporates the study of the different authorities which exist in our lives and the requirements of Godly submission to them from the scriptures. This review also clarifies several misconceptions and beliefs concerning the fifth commandment that are plaguing God's people today. Finally the purpose of this treatise is to restore the spiritual thought processes, the mind of the Holy Spirit which has been lost, by which we can discern God's presence, will, and purpose for/in our lives.

God Rules in the Affairs of Man

Let us begin with the following premise, which this treatise presumes the reader already acknowledges. Jesus himself states in Matt 4:10 and Roman's 13:1:

Matt 4:10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Romans 13:1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

Dan 4:17 This matter [is] by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.

From these scriptures one observes that all authority is from God. All worship and obedience is owed to and render to God only (consider this in light of the 4th commandment). This is first part of the foundation of the fifth commandment. The second part of the foundation is found in the following scriptures

John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Roman's 13:8 Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

These two scripture references clearly show that obedience to God's law is the only action/response required by any created being to comply/fulfill the requirements of God's law. Further, this obedience must be willingly (Psalms 54:6, Isaiah 1:19) and is the only way we can love God and our fellow man. Jesus stated this foundation in the following manner:

Matt. 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the

second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.
40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

The First Government

The fifth commandment is a part of the law of which “these two commandments hang all the law.” The Bible further states:

Eph. 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.
2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

This scripture identifies the fifth commandment as the first commandment from God's law which everyone is introduced to in life. When one is introduced to this commandment, we immediately notice, recognize that this commandment is contrary to our sinful nature that we were born with. Every man was born in sin, shapen in iniquity (Psalms 51:5), with a carnal mind which is enmity against God (Romans 8:7), from the womb we speak lies (Psalms 58:3), and by nature are children of wrath (Eph. 5:2). Paul stated it this way:

Romans 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. 19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. 20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. 21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. 22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: 23 But I see another law in my members, **warring** against the law of my mind, and bringing me into

captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. (see also Gal. 5:17)

Notice, there is a war, a battle for submission of one's will. The battle for one's submission is between God and the Devil, the one who and whose nature governs/controls our actions. Hence, we conclude that the first form/phase of government in any person's life is self-government, the surrendering of one's will to God, God's Law, God's government. Sister White stated that the surrendering of self is the greatest battle ever fought (3T 106.2).

No person has the power within themselves to win this battle. The devil's nature within us, whom we have yielded to, has overcome us, taken us captive. We cannot change our nature (Jer.13:23). In and of ourselves we are helpless, hopeless. We need a power greater than the power that has overcome us from within to escape, overcome this enslavement. This power must come from somewhere outside us. To win this battle/war a person needs a Saviour (from sin), the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We must be born again. The sanctuary service outlines the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the plan of salvation. The sanctuary service reveals to each person Jesus as our High Priest, by/through whom we may have the victory over self today. I thank God for the gospel of Jesus Christ (Romans 7:25, Luke 11:22, 4:18, 1 Cor. 15:57). One must study the sanctuary service from the scriptures on their own. The author would like to

recommend every person begin with the article "The Sanctuary" by Crosier.

So far, this treatise has meticulously made reference to the individual, self. This is true. The key to the success in any educational endeavor is a solid foundation. All groups, organizations, societies are composed of or made up of individuals. Hence, this is where one must start regarding the study of the family/group/society; the individual. Now that this treatise has clearly and fully established the fundamentals of the fifth commandment begin with the individual/self, the members that make up any grouping of individuals; we are ready to move to the next step, groups and the relationships between the individuals in the groups themselves.

The First Social Group in Creation

The first relationship mentioned in the Bible is the family. Below are the verses that define the make-up, the purpose, and roles of the family as originally ordained by God:

Genesis 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and **replenish** the earth, and subdue it:

Genesis 2:21 And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; 22 And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

Luke 2:1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. 2 (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) 3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) 5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

Matt 19:4 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, 5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? 6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

Proverbs 18:22 Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord... Proverbs 19:14 House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife is from the Lord.

Isaiah 8:18 Behold, I and the children whom the LORD hath given me are for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion.

The verses above clearly establish an order when God made mankind. First God made Adam, then God made Eve (not Steve), then God joined them together (in/through marriage) that formed a new entity, unit, institution; the family. The family/marriage is a union between one man and one woman (and children which are procreated by this union, Gen 4:1). The family is the basis and the means which God employed/intended to populate the earth and subdue it with a holy seed, reflecting the image/character of God (Mal.2:15). See also Leviticus Chpt 18, 19:2, 20:10-21, Numbers 5:11-31, Deut. 22:13-30, Psalms 78:6, 22:31, Deut. Chpt 6. The family is the building block of society, which is not the topic of this treatise. Who then does God joined together?

Deut. 7:2 And when the Lord thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them: 3 Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son.

Judges 14:3 Then his father and his mother said unto him, **Is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people**, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines? And Samson said unto his father, Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well.

Leviticus 21:7 They shall not take a wife that is a whore, or profane; neither shall they take a woman put away from her husband: for he is holy unto his God.

Leviticus 21:13 And he shall take a wife in her virginity. 14 A widow, or a divorced woman, or profane, or an harlot, these shall he not take: **but he shall take a virgin of his own people to wife.**

Genesis 18:19 For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

Genesis 24:37 A widow, or a divorced woman, or profane, or an harlot, these shall he not take: but he shall take a virgin of his own people to wife. 38 But thou shalt go unto my father's house, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son...40 And he said unto me, The **Lord, before whom I walk, will send his angel with thee, and prosper thy way; and thou shalt take a wife for my son** of my kindred, and of my father's house:

1 Tim. 3:2 A bishop then must be blameless, **the husband of one wife**, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; 3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; 4 One that ruleth well his own house (**Family**), having his children in subjection with all gravity; 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

Titus 2:1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: 2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. 3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; 4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed. 6 Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded. 7 In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, 8 Sound

speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.

From these verses we conclude: God joins only those who have submitted themselves to Him, those whom have been born again; those who have the first form of government, self-government. These only does God join together, for God is not the author of confusion, but of peace (1 Cor. 14:40). God will not join two together in union if they are different in mind and character. Can two walk together, except they be agreed (Amos 3:3)? If a person has not surrendered his will to God each day, if the person has not asked God to lead them each day, how can God join him and her together?

The History of Yoking with the World

This was God's intent/plan. The family/home is the basis/foundation of God's relationship and dealing with his creation. Hence, the devil's (our arch enemy, adversary) chief strategy, master plan, tactic aims to completely destroy the family institution. Throughout history Satan has attacked the family institution—through polygamy, adultery, sibling rivalry, homosexuality, pornography. Consider the following verses:

Romans 1:24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: 25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. 26 For this cause God

gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: 27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. 28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

Genesis 6:1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, 2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

Jude 7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrhah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

Mal 2:14 Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the Lord hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. Mal 2:15 And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. (see also 1 Cor. 7:14, and all of Chpt 7).

We know that when man disobeyed God. The first act of man's disobedience is accounted in Genesis Chpt 3. Sin entered into the world. Adam's nature changed. Adam became enslaved, taken captive by Satan, the adversary of God. Adam's mind (nature) became carnal, enmity against God. We know that man in his rebellion, disobeyed God's law, attempted to change God's definition of the family. The first

attempt was when man took to himself (married) multiple wives, join himself to more than one woman, a violation of the seventh commandment. Further the degree of rebellion, wickedness did not end there. We know that man debased himself even more when man joined himself to other men, and even more despicable when man fornicated with animals (Romans 1:18-32). Genesis Chapter 6 accounts that Man's transgressions became so abominable and reprehensible that God's only remedy was to sweep it all away in the flood.

After the flood, the same history began to be repeated. This repeating first began when Abraham in his sincerity to carry out God's promise to Abraham of a son, a Godly lineage, heeded his wife Sarah's counsel to father the child through a surrogate, Hagar. This practice (of multiple wives) continued when Jacob was deceived by Laban, then augmented by David and Solomon (which wives turned his heart from God, 1 Kings 11:1-4, Neh. 13:26).

Today Satan has escalated his attack, (an inculcation, a bombardment) through the visual media, entertainment including television, music industry, radio, and movies, social networking websites Facebook and MySpace, news, sports, education, video games, etc. We see the results, ramifications of this one act of disobedience, violation of the seventh commandment today. The result of

this disobedience, departure from God's way has led to a contentious, hostile disharmonious family, home environment. The result has been untold, unmeasurable misery and suffering in the world, especially among the children.

God's Family Carried Out

The paragraphs above briefly explain today's current situation of the family, and the history of how this situation came about. The question now before us is: how is God's definition of a family, defined above, carried out, lived out by God's people in the world today? What is God's plan, purpose, way in which this new union should function? What is the role of each person in this new union? How are characters, fruits of the Spirit which are in each individual separately joined/merged into one family unit. What does it mean for wives "to be submissive to your husbands"? How is the wife to be submissive to her husband in a culture of Archie Bunker, equal rights for woman and LGBT?

Again, the purpose of this treatise is not a complete definition, examination, dissertation regarding the fundamental principles of the successful family relationship. This topic has already been addressed by the pioneers, especially Sister White in Adventist newspapers, and the books *Messages to Young People*, and *Youth Instructor Articles*. This treatise's purpose is to review and correct several wrong

beliefs that exist today which have resulted from the devil's more recent attacks documented above. Specifically, the true meaning of the word "submission" (Godly submission); the role of each member of the family, and the symbolic Spiritual representation of the marriage institution.

The answer begins with a review of creation, an investigation in the order when God made mankind. First God made Adam, then God made Eve (not Steve), then God joined them together (in/through marriage) that formed a new entity, unit, institution, the family. This has been already been described above. Consider the following verses which elaborate, clarify God's purpose in creating Man (Adam) and Woman (Eve):

1 Peter 3:1 Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; 2 While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. 3 Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; 4 But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. 5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: 6 Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. 7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

1 Tim 5:14 I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide (G3616: to be the head of (i.e. rule) a family:-- guide the house) the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.

1 Peter 3:8 Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: (Yes, this a continuation of the previous verses, consider with a supreme emphasis).

1 Corinthians 11: 7 For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man. 8 For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. 9 Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man. 10 For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels. 11 **Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord.** 12 For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God.

Ephesians 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; 21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. 22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. 29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and

cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: 30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

Ephesians 5:32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

1 Peter 5:2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

Mark 10:42 But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them. 43 But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: 44 And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. 45 For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. (see also Mark 9:33-37, Proverbs 31, and Titus 2:1-8 above).

yyyEphesians 5:22-33 is the most popular scripture which most people reference to present, teach, interpret and explain the marital relationship between husband and wife. These verses define that wives are to be submissive to their husbands and husbands are to love their wives.

1 Peter 5:2-3 and Mark 10:42 introduce and elucidate the true principle of authority and leadership in the marriage. The one who is in authority is an example, model, inspiration, servant for those whom He is an

overseer of, not to Lord over. When we further view this subject from this point of view, we see that the woman's character (the fruits of the Spirit are manifested in Proverbs 31 and the following scriptures:

1 Tim 2:9 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; 10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works. Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. 11 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 12 For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 13 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. 14 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

1 Tim. 5:10: Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work.:

Titus 2:1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: 2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. 3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; 4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

Proverbs 12:4 A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.

These verses clearly delineate the fruits of righteousness and acts of benevolences which the wife is to display in the marriage relationship. What is the Man's contribution; fruit or action in the marital relationship? This subject is where a major disconnect exists in the world today. Consider the following verses and compare to the two scriptures above:

1 Tim. 3:1 This is a true saying, if a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; 3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; 4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

2 Tim. 2:24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, 25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

Titus 1:7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; 8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;

Titus 2:6 Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded. 7 In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, 8 Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.

Immediately, the first observation made is the fact that the man's qualities/contributions stated in 1 Tim.

3:1 and 2 Tim. 2:24 are similar, identical to the woman's qualities/contributions referenced above in 1 Tim. 5:10 and Titus 2:1. This is exactly the opposite of the worldly view. Society through the media, education, and entertainment portray man as: "macho man", strong, unfeeling, slaying 10,000 Philistines, self-confident, self-assured, commanding, authoritative, noble, etc. This worldly view of the husband's character is opposite, contradicts, different (than) the woman's character identified above, and man's character referenced in the scriptures above. Yes, the husband should be self-assured, noble, strong in character, but only in Jesus. These characteristics are manifested in the light of 1 Tim. 3:1 and 2 Tim. 2:24. The husband should be the example to the wife. His role, work is in its nature is one of service to the wife/family.

Now a foundation has been established, let's continue further. Where does the husband get his example, influence, inspiration from according to scriptures above? From Jesus (1 Cor. 11:3). How is Jesus' fruits, actions manifested? Consider the following:

Matt 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Matt 20:28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many (see Matt 20:20-28).

John 8:29 And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.

John 6:38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

Psalms 40:8 I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

Isaiah 42:1 Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. 2 He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. 3 A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. 4 He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.

John 13:13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. 16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. 17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

We immediately notice: Jesus' fruit and actions are identical to the husband's and wife's previously defined. Jesus was obedient to the Father. Jesus while being our Lord, was a servant (John 13:13-17). His work has a leader was for the benefit of those He was ruler over. Once again we see perfect harmony. Let's continue, where does Jesus get His example,

influence and inspiration from? Consider the following verses?

John 5:19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.

John 8:28 Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.

John 14:10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

Immediately we notice, Jesus received His example, influence, and inspiration from the Father. What is the Father's character, fruit and action?

Exodus 34:5 And the Lord descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. 6 And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, 7 Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.

Jeremiah 9:24 But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.

Psalms 89:14 Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face.

Psalm 119:137 Righteous art thou, O LORD, and upright are thy judgments.

1 Corinthians 13:4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, 5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; 6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; 7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. 8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

Notice once again (for how can it be any other way), that there is perfect harmony, perfect order from the Father to Jesus, from Jesus to the Husband, from the husband to the Wife, if further continued extending down to the children. The Holy Spirit, the other member of the Godhead, who is God, is the means through which this relational unity documented above is maintained. We see perfect harmony in the fullness of God, that God may be all in all (1 Cor. 15:28, Eph. 1:23, Eph 4:13).

The Key to Keeping a Successful Marriage

The next topic that would naturally follow to discuss is: how to preserve the new union, the marriage just created by God? The hopes, dreams and successes of the wedding were expressed prior to the wedding. The wedding day has come, vows have been exchanged. Now is the day after, the reality. How can

the success of this new union be guaranteed by two different individuals who have never lived together, cohabited, shared everything, lived together every moment of the day? How may the vows exchanged be faithfully fulfilled? The hopes, successes and dreams expressed prior to the marriage be realized?

The answer, by the same means that the union was created; by committing, surrendering the fulfillment and keeping of the marriage/family to God. The One who joined the two into one for His purpose; is the One whom is able to maintain and fulfill the purposes for which He created the union. The sanctuary service defines two sacrifices done twice daily, first in morning and second in the evening. The first (thing, not time) is surrendering, consecrating one's self to God, first in the morning and then in the evening. Before they come together as a family in the morning, each person, individually and separately, meets with God, surrendering themselves to God; self is crucified. Then the two whom have surrendered, consecrated selves to God, whom self is crucified; they (as one) come together for the family altar (worship) period where they (as one) commitment, surrender, consecrate themselves (as one family) to God (the second sacrifice). This act is a daily renewal of the marital vows made when God first joined the two into one family unit. They commit the keeping and performing of their hopes, dreams and goals as a family to Jesus, the one who first

created the union. Family success is guaranteed (of course in conjunction with keeping the law of God).

A few quick comments, guidelines concerning the home altar period. The altar period requires the mandatory attendance by everyone residing in the house as defined in the fourth commandment at the worship time; with no exceptions. This is holy, sacred time. All may not want to participate, may not be converted, but they are required to attend. Guests and family members who comply not with the family altar show disrespect to the family and God. Consider the example set to the children if guests are allowed to stay while not complying with rules of the home. Ponder on Genesis 18:19, concerning Abraham.

The husband is to lead the dedication/worship (the wife when the husband is not there). The worship should include a brief scripture reading with comments from the participants. However, this is NOT an intense, in-depth Bible Study. Worship would be most beneficial to all in attendance by also including songs, testimonies and prayer requests (these are only suggestions). The topic/theme should include, but not limited to, giving thanks, laboring for souls, work for the kingdom of God, government authorities, business leaders, and civic leaders. Where possible, everyone, including children, should be encouraged (voluntarily) to participate. The altar period should begin and end with prayer.

The morning ending prayer should include (but not limited to) committing the keeping of the prayer requests and needs (expressed by individual family members) for the day to God. The theme of the evening worship time should include (but not limited to) giving thanks for the blessing bestowed during the day, and the fulfillment of the prayer requests from the morning.

One more brief thought to consider (for this not the topic of this treatise) why there are so many unsuccessful marriages and why so many people, especially woman are depressed: A person can only be happy in being the person which God made that person to be. For example, when one sees a dog in his outdoor environment rolling around, running, sniffing everything with his nose as he investigates his surrounding, wagging his tail; the dog is happy being a dog. The dog can only be happy when he is able to be as God made him, in the environment that God made for him to be in.

This principle is the same for people. They can only be happy if their actions are in accordance with the purpose that God made them. The scriptures reveal a brief summary of the role that each one (husband and wife) contributes to the marital union. The woman is the keeper, the Chief Executive Officer of the home (remember keeper is translated from G3616). This does not make her the Chairman of the Board. Today's world is at war with this principle.

Woman are inculcated with the doctrine that being keeper of the home as God designed is denigrating, demeaning, insulting to woman. Similarly men are inculcated to get in touch with their feminine side. Woman are trying to be men, and men are trying to be women contrary to God's purpose which God purposed when he created Adam (man) and Eve (woman).

When the marriage does not work out, then follows the excuse or explanation, it must not have meant to be, or God's will; as if it was God's fault that the marriage did not work out, or that the couple involved misread God's providence at the time when they entered into matrimony. While, Adam has changed, God's original plan has not changed, nor has God himself changed. Praise God that God does not change. The family's biggest need today to correct the problems witnessed in family is for men to be men, leaders and **examples** as demonstrated by this treatise above. We know that God's never intended that the fulfillment of His original plan be in the first Adam, but the second Adam, Jesus. We have Jesus' example to guide us (2 Eph. 1:4, 10, 2:10, 1 Peter 1:20).

Reformation, Repentance Necessary

At this point, this treatise has clarified and illuminated God's design and intent in the family/marriage institution. Man's disobedient history to God's

original design has been briefly summarized also. Now that the truth of what God requires concerning marriage and the family have been illustrated, and the fact that historically man has not complied with God's requirements for marriage, the question naturally arises "Are we in the same situation today?". Are there marriages/families which are not in compliance with God's requirements? The next question beckons: If so, what reforms are necessary to bring the family/home/marriage institution back into harmony with God? This treatise will not address every violation of the seventh commandment (such as divorce, polygamy, homosexuality, adultery, fornication, etc.), nor every potential/possible unlawful relationship one may be in. The author believes that there already exists voluminous admonitions and warnings against all the potential illicit relationships and conduct.

This treatise will specifically address the family/marital state in the end time as prophetically foretold by the Bible (Matt 24:37-39, in the light of Nehemiah Chpt 13, Ezra Chpts 9 and 10). Please consider the following:

Matt 19:8 And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.

Today, many people (a high number) who have been divorced, who should have never been divorced,

have remarried and still are (re)married. Even if the divorce is lawful, the person is still prohibited from marrying again (while ex-spouse is still living). Wikipedia sites that 42% to 45% of marriages end in divorce. Wikipedia sites that 80% of divorce people remarry. This means that 33% to 50% of all married people today are living in violation of the seventh commandment (the math associated with the actual number of individuals is complex, and does not equally translate to the same 33% to 50% of current marriages because some of the marriages both spouses (not just one) in the marriage may have been previously divorced. Other factor such as a person maybe married and divorced multiple times).

Regardless, even the low end of the potential range is noteworthy, material, worthy of attention. God has not joined these individuals into a union. These households are not recognized as a family, a lawful union before God. These individuals have violated the seventh commandment, they are living in sin.

Considering Matrimony, Already Married: Meditate On.

Many young people today ask the following question when considering one as a potential spouse: I am a child of God considering matrimony to a potential spouse. In my opinion, my potential spouse does not hold the same faith as I do. My potential spouse's character is not perfect, perfect as God requires, but

only has one or two faults that occasionally manifest themselves. However, overall, this person I am considering is a “good person.” We agree on almost everything, except one or two “small” or “insignificant” issues. However, I believe the person will change over time, the occasional faults will cease and the issues we disagree on now, we will come into perfect harmony over time. The benefits which will result from us being together will “far outweigh” the “small/little” injuries and/or harm we may experience. You know “NOBODY IS PERFECT”. What should I do?

Please reread the treatise above. Know the veracity of God’s word, which has been tested, tried and found true (Psalm 12:6, 2 Sam. 22:31). The scenario described in the previous paragraph is from the Devil. The scenario described in the previous paragraph is enmity against God, disobedience against God. The scenario above is not a truth in reality, never can exist, a ploy from the Devil himself. Most importantly, mediate heavily, solemnly consider your relationship with God. Consider your motives, your likes, your desires, your heart. Are they in harmony with God? Point blank: Have you been converted? Do you love sin? The answer is yes. Prayerfully consider what has been stated. You have or desire to joined yourself to the world, which is enmity with God. You profess to be Christ’s, but now you desire to join Jesus to the same harlot that you desire to joined yourself to. A true child of God would find this

sacrilege, an abomination, this act would break their heart (2 Cor 6:14-7:1).

A person may further ask, we both profess to be God's children, how do we know if God's plan is that we change our relationship as brother and sister in God, to a new expanded relationship as husband and wife? How do we know if we are compatible? Brother Richard's (the minister who brought me the gospel) responded to this question: try "praying and laboring for souls together" first, if you can do this, then you are compatible."

For Ladies who may ask "how do I know if he is the right one for me?" Consider the following: When you envision your potential spouse in your home, when you see Him sitting in the home, do you see revealed tranquility, steadfastness, confidence, and most importantly reverence? Do you see, experience in his presence evil trembling, quaking, scattering before Him when he sits (including yourself); or does evil feel right at home with him? If the first vision is in the affirmative, then you may have the assurance that this man is the right one for you.

“For the Hardness of Your Hearts”

Matt 19:7-9 is a very misconstrued scripture reference. Today people apply these verses in order to give sanction to, as justification for, as reasons in support of, to grant permission to, as license for divorce. What is the "hardness of your heart" a

reference to for which God suffered/allowed divorce?. Many erroneously believe the answer to be the people's constant, persistent desire and requests (to a point of nagging) to put away one's wife. Most people erroneously believe that God just relented to their persistent requests such as the persistent widow in Luke 18. What did Jesus mean when He spoke the phrase "hardness of your heart?" Consider the following:

Matt 19:3 The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife **for every cause?** 4 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, 5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? 6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. 7 They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away? 8 He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: **but from the beginning it was not so.** 9 And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, **except it be for fornication**, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.

Mark 10:2 And the Pharisees came to him, and asked him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife? tempting him. 3 And he answered and said unto them, What did Moses command you? 4 And they said, Moses suffered to write a bill of divorcement, and to put her away. 5 And Jesus answered and said unto them, **For the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept.**

Deut. 24:1-4 When a man hath taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favour in his eyes, **because**

he hath found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give it in her hand, and send her out of his house. 2 And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's wife. 3 And if the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorcement, and giveth it in her hand, and sendeth her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her to be his wife; 4 Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that is abomination before the Lord: and thou shalt not cause the land to sin, which the Lord thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.

First, the Pharisee's question was deceptive, the question was construed in a manner that divorce could be sought for and granted for any reason. Remember the judgment of the two accounts back in Deuteronomy 22:19 and 29, "he may not put her away all his days." In Deut. 24:2, God clearly declared a criterion required for which divorce may be sought and granted: "because he hath found some uncleanness in her". The key word emphasized is uncleanness. This explanation is found back in definition of those who God joins, which was discussed earlier in this treatise. In summary, God only joins those who have surrendered to Him, nobody else. Further God strictly forbade the joining of one who is surrender to God, to someone whom is not surrender to God (a heathen). But what did the people do???

Genesis 6:1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, 2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

Exodus 34:14 For thou shalt worship no other god: for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God: 15 Lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they go a whoring after their gods, and do sacrifice unto their gods, and one call thee, and thou eat of his sacrifice; 16 And thou take of their daughters unto thy sons, and their daughters go a whoring after their gods, and make thy sons go a whoring after their gods.

Gen. 4:19 And Lamech took unto him two wives: the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah.

Gen 28:8 And Esau seeing that the daughters of Canaan pleased not Isaac his father; 9 Then went Esau unto Ishmael, and took unto the wives which he had Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael Abraham's son, the sister of Nebajoth, to be his wife...36:2 Esau took his wives of the daughters of Canaan; Adah the daughter of Elon the Hittite, and Aholibamah the daughter of Anah the daughter of Zibeon the Hivite; 3 And Bashemath Ishmael's daughter, sister of Nebajoth.

Judges 3:6 And the children of Israel dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, and Amorites, and Perizzites, and Hivites, and Jebusites: 7 And they took their daughters to be their wives, and gave their daughters to their sons, and served their gods. 8 And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and forgat the LORD their God, and served Baalim and the groves.

Numbers 25:1 And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab. 2 And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. 3 And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor: and the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel.

Judges 14:3 Then his father and his mother said unto him, Is there never a woman among the daughters of thy brethren, or among all my people, that thou goest to take a wife of the uncircumcised Philistines? And Samson said unto his father, Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well.

Deut. 17:17 **Neither shall he multiply wives to himself**, that his heart turn not away: neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold.

Deut. 7:2 And when the Lord thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them: 3 **Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son.**

Joshua 23:11 Take good heed therefore unto yourselves, that ye love the LORD your God. 12 Else if ye do in any wise go back, and cleave unto the remnant of these nations, [even] these that remain among you, and shall make marriages with them, and go in unto them, and they to you: 13 Know for a certainty that the LORD your God will no more drive out [any of] these nations from before you; but they shall be snares and traps unto you, and scourges in your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until ye perish from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.

1 Kings 11:1 But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites: 2 Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. 3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. 4 For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father.

2 Chron. 11:21 And Rehoboam loved Maachah the daughter of Absalom above all his wives and his concubines: (for he took

eighteen wives, and threescore concubines; and begat twenty and eight sons, and threescore daughters.)

Neh. 10:28-29 And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters, the singers, the Nethinims, and all they that had separated themselves from the people of the lands unto the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, every one having knowledge, and having understanding; 29 They clave to their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse, and into an oath, to walk in God's law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the Lord our Lord, and his judgments and his statutes;

Neh. 13:23 In those days also saw I Jews that had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab: 24 **And their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people.** 13:25 And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, saying, Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves. 26 Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? yet among many nations was there no king like him, who was beloved of his God, and God made him king over all Israel: nevertheless even him did outlandish women cause to sin. 27 Shall we then hearken unto you to do all this great evil, to transgress against our God in marrying strange wives?

From these verses, we observed that God constantly declared, warned the people from His Law, not to join/yoke themselves with unbelievers (the world). Remember in James 4:4: “friendship with the world is enmity with God.” What did the people do? The people did the exact opposite, disobeyed what God had lovingly ordained. The people joined themselves in matrimony to the world, sons of Belial, heathen

nations. This disobedience led to family home environments and situations filled with contention, discord, bickering, strife, and confusion. The result was untold misery, fighting and struggles, such as referenced in Nehemiah Chpt 13, Ezra 9 and 10. God in his mercy provided a remedy for this situation, in Deuteronomy 24:1-4, which resulted from the people's blatant disobedience of His decree.

Train up a Child in the Way He Should Go

The final topic of this treatise is children, specifically concerning a familiar scripture Proverbs 22:6: *Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.* Earlier in the treatise, the fact was established that God ordained that the family was the means through which the earth was to be populated (mentioned in Genesis 1:28). God gave parents the responsibility to train up the children in way they should go (Deut. 6:7, 11:9, Psalm 78:1-8). The purpose of this treatise again is not to define God's ways and purpose in how to train a child in the way he should go. This has already been done by the pioneers, especially Sister White in the books *Education, Counsels to Parents, Messages to Young People* and *Youth Instructor Articles*. This treatise would like to address the current condition of children's education in God's church today. This treatise would like to address and clarify God's

definition of chastise, which is greatly misunderstood. Second; the manner in which God's law is taught, present, communicated to the children. The current understanding of these two subjects have caused a gross misunderstanding of God's character and love.

Let's us first consider the word chastise from the following scriptures, Webster's 1828 definitions, and Strong's definition:

Proverbs 3:11 My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of his **correction**: 12 For whom the Lord loveth he **correcteth**; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

Hebrews 12:5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: 6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. 7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? 8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons 9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? 10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. 11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

Webster's 1828 CHASTISE, v.t. 1. To correct by punishing; to punish; to inflict pain by stripes, or in other manner, for the purpose of punishing an offender and recalling him to his duty.

I will chastise you seven times for your sins. Lev. 26. 2. To reduce to order or obedience; to restrain; to awe; to repress. 3. To correct; to purify by expunging faults; as, to chastise a poem.

Strong's H4148 *mûwçâr*, moo-saw'r'; from H3256; properly, chastisement; figuratively, reproof, warning or instruction; also restraint:—bond, chastening(-eth), chastisement, check, correction, discipline, doctrine, instruction, rebuke.

Strong's H3256 *yaw-sar'*; a primitive root; to chastise, literally (with blows) or figuratively (with words); hence, to instruct:—bind, chasten, chastise, correct, instruct, punish, reform, reprove, sore, teach.

Strong's G3809 *παιδεία* *paideía*, pahee-di'-ah; from G3811; tutorage, i.e. education or training; by implication, disciplinary correction:—chastening, chastisement, instruction, nurture.

Strong's G3811 *παιδεύω* *paideúō*, pahee-dyoo'-o; from G3816; to train up a child, i.e. educate, or (by implication), discipline (by punishment):—chasten(-ise), instruct, learn, teach.

Webster's 1828 DISCIPLINE, v.t. 1. To instruct or educate; to inform the mind; to prepare by instructing in correct principles and habits; as, to discipline youth for a profession, or for future usefulness. 2. To instruct and govern; to teach rules and practice, and accustom to order and subordination; as, to discipline troops or an army. 3. To correct; to chastise; to punish. 4. To execute the laws of the church on offenders, with a view to bring them to repentance and reformation of life.

The word of God is extremely broad (Psalms 119:96). Many times scripture translation from Hebrew/Greek into English is not word for word, or one to one. Many times the translation of a one word in one language could be translated into many potentially different words of another language. One may have to read the whole verse to get the context

in which the translated word is used. This is the case with the word “chastise” referenced in the scriptures above. When one considers the scripture references above from the Webster’s dictionary definition of the word chastise, one would naturally be limited/confined in his thinking that chastise’s meaning is one of physical severity, physical infliction, scourging, wounding, cutting, extremely painful.

However, this is the farthest from the true meaning expressed in the context of the verse. A more correct and proper understanding is obtained when one considers Strong’s definition of the Hebrew and Greek words, which associate chastise with instruction, deterrence, admonishment, nurturing, reforming; or better put disciplining, the root of disciple. God is gentle, long-suffering, kind. Disciplining may include a sever painful reprimand, but when considered in God’s love is a last resort.

Children naturally want their parents’ attention and affection. The parent should communicate, teach, disciple the child concerning which of child’s actions will gain this attention and affection, and through discipline acts (disciplinary measures) which acts will not gain the parent’s attention and affection. Be not mistaken, our sinful nature, stubbornness, propensity to disobey, hard-headedness, stiff-neck may require a sever reprimand/deterrent. In which case, the

parent is not to spare the rod. Today, the world holds a contrary view. God says:

Proverbs 13:24 He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.

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

Proverbs 23:13 Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. 14 Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.

Proverbs 19:18 Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.

Regardless of how one disciplines his child, a parent **MUST, ALWAYS** explain to the child why the correction is coming, instructing the child with the truth from God's word, and is the consequence/result from the child's disobeying God's law, the child earned the discipline (Romans 6:23). Discipline must also be carried out in love, not in rage or anger. The parent must always be in self-control, never in a rage. Also the parental actions must not be vengeful, punitive, avenging, or done in malice. The discipline should be presented, communicated to the child as for the child's benefit. Consider the following scriptures:

Genesis 3:17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: **cursed is the ground for thy sake**; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

Isaiah 43:14 Thus saith the Lord, your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; **For your sake** I have sent to Babylon, and have brought down all their nobles, and the Chaldeans, whose cry is in the ships.

The Parent's Biggest Crime

This leads us to the next point to consider, the parent's biggest crime. Throughout the history of man, parents have failed miserably at training a child in the way they should go. Consider the points the previous section in conjunction with the following scripture:

Ephesians 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

How has God's law been taught, revealed, and passed on from by the parents to the children? Today, the law is portrayed, taught to the children as a bunch of don'ts. Continually all the children hear is don't do this, don't do that, continually to a point of nagging. Or to point as Ephesians 6:4 states "*provoking the children to wrath.*" This improper discipline and communication creates a negative association of the law in the minds of the children. The children grow up hating, despising the law of God. The negative manner in which the law is presented, expressed and associated to the children drives, repels the children away from God. The final end/result of this course of action is that when the children are grown they hate God; they have no interest in Him at all; they alienated from Him.

When children are toddlers, it is true that parents train them as "beasts", because of the mental

development in infancy; they don't have the capacity to understand, think or reason yet. But as the child grows, develops from infant, to toddler, to child, to adolescent, to teenager (young adult), etc. so must the parent's teaching perspective, attitude, slant viewpoint which the parent instructs, disciplines the child concerning the law change. The law must be taught to the children as more than a bunch of don't(s).

The law must be taught, presented to the child as wisdom, understanding, liberty, discretion, more valuable than gold, more to be desired more than gold, beautiful; if followed a guide where are the issues of life; the results of which are happiness, joy. The totality of this can only be fully expounded and understood except by reading God's word itself (Deut. Chpt 6, 4:8, Deut. 32:46-47). This treatise cannot do this subject justice. Each reader, who is a parent, should read Proverbs Chapter 1 to 9 and Psalms 119 for themselves.

Further parents have transferred their parental duties and responsibilities to schools, television, video games, civic clubs, and many others. As stated above, children have a natural desire for the affection of their parents. However, the parents have given their attention to worldly pursuits such as entertainment. The worst culprit is the cellphone. Parents spend more of their time on their cellphones

talking directly on the phone, chatting in social media, and worst listening to sermons.

Parents have alienated themselves from their children This is especially true concerning the Sabbath Day. Parents spend more time on the Sabbath listening to sermons than spending time with their children. Children are alienated from their parents on the Sabbath Day and as a result from the Sabbath Day itself. Then we wonder why when children are grown, they hate the Sabbath, God's Law, His church, and even God himself. Please ponder this thought further by considering Luke 2:41-52, 2 Tim. 3:14-17, Prov. 4:1-13, 5:1, 6:20, Isaiah 11:2-3. The importance of this subject cannot be stressed enough.

What To Do If I Am In Violation

What should a person do, if they find themselves in any of these situations described above? First, the very first act is to repent, confess this sin, and be reconciled to God. The reconciling steps may involve (not limited to) restitution. Restitution includes an acknowledgement of your trespass/act to others. Fornication is a blood crime, an assault against the other. The trespass may have been upon or affected children, in which case the parent is required to acknowledge this fact to the child. Consult your pastor, elder, or minister in God's true church regarding this matter. Follow the scripture statutes,

mandates and ordinances in 1 Cor. 7, Deut. 22:13-30, and other references.

Conclusion and Further Study

The purpose of this treatise is to identify the major obstacles and false teachings facing God's people (the church) today regarding the realm of the fifth and seventh commandments, and provide the basis for the solution to correct, rectify, remedy these problems. We live in a most solemn, and grave time; one of immense importance in earth's history. If one were to continuing studying these subjects on their own, continuing on with this reasoning, one would conclude, prove, establish the following:

- The chain of the family character would extend downward to the children. Consider Psalms 128:3
- The definition of Christian unity is fully realized in John 17:21-26
- The Holy Spirit is the means through this unity and harmony is accomplished. (Eph. 2:22, 4:3, 1 John 2:27)
- God is a God of order (1 Cor. 14:33, Creation in Genesis Chpt 1). That the purpose of all authority, a characteristic of the fifth commandment is order. This includes the physical laws of the universe (Eph 4:3, 1 Cor. 12:11).
- God (The Father, not trinity) is all in all, supreme (1 Cor. 15:28, Eph. 4:6).

- The Godhead is one in purpose and character (1 John 5:7).

It is now the responsibility of each person reading this treatise to study for themselves, prove all things for themselves, make this their experience and grow in their understanding. Each person is to be a disciple of Jesus, not the author. The author's desire is that reader will be equally blessed in reading this treatise as the author was in writing. Please, prayerfully consider what has been discussed above. God be with you toward this end. May the Lord be with you as you grow in your understanding and experience in the faith of Jesus.

Ephesians 1:10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; [even] in him:

Appendix

The following is an excerpt from the “The Law of Life” by E. J Waggoner concerning the Fifth Commandment.

Let us then dwell on that which is little thought of, on a phase of the commandment not usually recognized. In *Ephesians* 6:1-3, the fifth commandment is quoted, and in the fourth verse we are made to see the responsibility resting on parents in connection with it. We learn that it applies to them equally with their children.

Parents are in the place of God to the children whom He gives them. For the first few years at least the whole responsibility rests on the parents to see that the children keep this as well as the other commandments. If the parent does his part well, the children will certainly do theirs, for God says, speaking of the same promise that is referred to in the commandment:

Isaiah 59:19 The Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob. 20 As for Me, this is My covenant with them, says the Lord: My Spirit that is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of your mouth, nor out of the mouth of your seed, nor out of the mouth of your seed's seed, says the Lord, from henceforth and for ever.

So then the faithful parent can say:

Isaiah 8:18 Behold I and the children whom You have given me.

The Admonition of the Lord

In immediate connection with the commandment the Apostle says:

Ephesians 6:4 And fathers, provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

That is, nourish them, bring them up, cultivate them, train them as plants, in the way that they should go. The word “admonition” will bear study. It is composed of two Greek words, one of which means *mind*, and the other, *to place*. Admonition, therefore, means *placing in the mind*.

One must know the admonition of the Lord in order to bring his children up in it. God does not admonish as most people do; unfortunately men very commonly judge of the Lord’s admonition by their own, instead of learning from God how they ought to do. God’s covenant is,

Hebrews 8:10 ...I will put My laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts.

He sends His Spirit to place the law in the heart and life. This is the admonition, the “putting in mind” of the Lord. As God gently breathes the Spirit into the soul, thus placing there His righteous law, so the parent is to instill loyalty and obedience into the mind of the child, for the parent stands in the place of God, and in its earliest infancy must reveal to it all that it knows of God.

Some Illustrations

Two cases will show how very much parents are concerned in this commandment. God said of Abraham,

Genesis 18:19 I have known him, to the end that he may command his children and his household after him, that they may keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; to the end that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which He has spoken of him.

God was made known to Abraham, in order that Abraham might make Him known to his children. The result of this was that God could bring upon Abraham that which He had spoken of him. Suppose that Abraham had not known the law of life, and had not trained his household according to it. What then? He himself would have lost the promise.

So we see that parents are concerned in this commandment as much as children possibly can be. If they should not do their duty, there would be no possession of the promised land. But the parents are not to rule by arbitrary authority, because they are bigger and stronger, because they support the children, or because they wish their dignity and authority to be respected. No; the parent is to rule even as God does, who gives His law by His Spirit in the hand of a Mediator, gently establishing a bond of union by which the law may flow from Him to us.

The case of Eli presents a view of the opposite course, and taken in connection with the case of Abraham, shows that, if we can make any comparison, it is a more fearful thing for parents to have disobedient children, than for the children to be disobedient.

God expects the children of His people to be His also. Eli was God's high priest, but he had wicked sons; He knew of their wickedness, and remonstrated with them, saying,

1 Samuel 2:25 Why do you such things? for I hear of your evil dealings by all this people. 26 Nay, my sons, for it is no good report that I hear; you make the Lord's people to transgress.

But his sons paid no heed to this mild remonstrance, and the Lord said to Samuel:

1 Sam. 3:12 I will perform against Eli all the things which I have spoken concerning his house; when I begin I will also make an end. 13 For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knows; because his sons made themselves vile and he restrained them not.

Eli did not learn from the Lord how to govern, and he lost much by it. Abraham had learned the lesson from God, and it was eternal gain to him.

There is another phase of the commandment that is scarcely ever thought of.

Exodus 20:12 Honor your father and your mother.

To whom does this speak? There is no limit; it speaks to every one who has or has ever had a father and a

mother, that is, it speaks to all mankind without exception. This commandment is not limited to children; it speaks to the man of fourscore as well as to the child of four. Someone may say:

“I have no father or mother; they are dead; how can I honor them?”

Just the same as though they were alive; indeed it is often the case that people do not learn to honor their parents until after they are dead.

A person never in his life gets into a condition where this commandment does not apply to him. He may never have known father or mother; they may have died the day he was born. Yet the commandment still speaks to him, “Honor your father and your mother.”

The Commandment Universal

Still more: it makes no difference about the character of the father or mother; they may have been the most depraved characters, nevertheless the commandment speaks:

“Honor your father and your mother.”

It is not the child simply, that is the index of the parent, but so long as a person lives, his character reflects upon his ancestry. Even though a man's parents have not done their duty by him, have neglected or ill-treated him, and have trained him in habits of sin rather than of righteousness, still his duty is to honor them. How? you will ask; must he implicitly

obey and always follow their evil teachings? Not by any means. That would not be honoring them. He must honor them by his upright life.

Whenever a man lives an honorable life, the name which he bears is honored, and his father is thus honored through him. People who have not known his parents will naturally conclude that he must have come from a good stock; and even though they have known them, and have considered them to be worthless characters, yet seeing the right character developed in the son, they will think that there must have been some good in them, after all.

Of course, the good all comes from the Lord, yet God Himself desires that the parents should share in the honor, even as He would have them cooperate with Him in the development of right characters in their children.

No man can live a base, ignoble life without bringing dishonor upon his parents; but if he himself yields to the redeeming grace of God, he redeems to some extent, at least among men, the character of his parents.

The Universal Father

So this commandment simply says to every soul on earth,

Be good: do that which is right and true; honor God, the Universal Father, the One from whom all

fatherhood comes. We are His offspring, and He is the One who is to be honored above all in the honoring of our parents, and nothing that is dishonoring to God can possibly be honoring to the parent.

Psalm 27:10 When my father and mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up.

Our duty to our parents when they are living, is simply our duty to God through them, and if they are dead, the relationship still continues the same to God.

Isaiah 66:13 As one whom his mother comforts, so will I comfort you.

God Himself is the fulness, the reality, of all human relationships.

We see that this commandment is exceeding broad; it not only embraces the whole relation of children to parents and of parents to children but the whole of every person's life.

If there be any difference, it applies to the parent more emphatically than to the child, for the parents have a duty first, in order that the child may honor them in obedience to this commandment.

God who gives to us the promise of the eternal inheritance, expects us to live in this world in a way becoming the inheritance.

Colossians 1:11 Strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness; 12 Giving thanks unto the Father, who has made us

meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; 13 Who has delivered us from the power of darkness, and has translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son.

He expects us by the grace He has given us to live in this world as we shall continue to live in the world to come. We are to live now as in Eden. That does not mean that there should be no family and social life; quite the contrary, since the family began in Eden. It matters not that we are in a sin cursed earth, with sinful flesh. The Lord Jesus, in whom was no sin, and who knew no sin, was

Galatians 4:4...born of a woman, born under the law, 5 To redeem them that were under the law.

And He has redeemed us from the curse of the law.

Gal. 4:28 We, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.

The promise referred to in the fifth commandment, which is the reward for obedience to it, is the power by which we obey it; for the exceeding great and precious promises make us.

2 Peter 1:4...partakers of the Divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Being made partakers of the Divine nature, we honor the Father in heaven, and so all earthly relations. The possibility of this perfect childhood is shown not alone in the case of Jesus:

- John the Baptist, filled with the Holy Ghost from his mother's womb;

- Samuel, asked of the Lord, and devoted to His service from his birth;
- Jeremiah, ordained of God to be a prophet before he was born.

All these cases show us what is possible, and what God would have for every child. It is the birthright of every child born on the earth, the right purchased for us by Christ and made possible for every one in Him. Every child born with less has been deprived of his due, and has received an injury.

These things recognized would prevent any parent from delaying the training of his child. Most parents seem to think that the child is not capable of receiving training before it is four or five years old. It is marvelous how much an infant in arms can understand. Think of the breadth of mind that Jesus, the model child, had at twelve years of age, and you will realize that His mind must have begun to develop at a very early period.

Someone will ask, how soon a child should be corrected. The answer is, just as soon as it is old enough to show self-will.

“But that would be cruel!”

No; not cruelty, but kindness. The admonition must be suited to the age. The younger the child, the more easily is it trained in the right way. The cruelty comes in only in neglecting this training until the child has reached an age when severe measures become

necessary, and when even these will not avail.

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

This is an unqualified promise. If a person goes astray, we may be sure he has not had the proper training in his childhood. God expects that the child of every Christian shall grow up His own child. He is to be trained to recognize authority. Having learned the principles of obedience he will obey God.

But if we have failed in this, we need not despair. God enables us to redeem the past; He forgives sins of ignorance and unbelief and neglect, and saves that which has been lost. Although we have been deprived of our birthright, we need not be despondent, for by the new birth all the disabilities of the first birth are canceled.

We are heirs of God, who undertakes our bringing up, breathes His life and character into us, and superintends our education. Let us then honor Him by our faith in His promises, and He will honor us with His salvation...

Excerpt from Chapter 7:

From the contemplation of God as Creator, we are next brought to consider Him as Father. He is the Universal Father, and human parenthood is the revelation of God working through the flesh. From the honor due to our parents, we are to learn the reverence due to God, the Supreme Father of all.



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Rev 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. 2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. 4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. 6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. 7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.