

Context of Biblical Parenting – Godly Household Rules

Deut 8.1 “Every commandment which I command you today you must be careful to observe, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers. 2 And you shall remember that the LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. 3 So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD. 4 Your garments did not wear out on you, nor did your foot swell these forty years. 5 You should know in your heart that as a man chastens his son, so the LORD your God chastens you. 6 Therefore you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to fear Him.

► The first thing God did when he brought his children out of Egypt was to set up a household. Last week we looked at (1) God’s _____, which was to train up his children to have hearts of faith, love, and wisdom; (2) his _____, which was the immersion method; and (3) the overall atmosphere of his household, which was gratitude & _____. This week we look at the household rules God adopted, which were extremely wise and a major training _____ for the benefit of his children

1Cor 14.40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

► Four features of God’s household rules:

► 1) God’s household rules were _____, not reactive. They imposed _____, _____ responsibilities that constantly required his children to put faith, love, & wisdom into action.

• A few of the values taught by God’s household rules are:

• _____ and _____

Rom 13.7 Render ... to all their due ..., fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

Lev 19.32 “You shall rise before the gray headed and honor the presence of an old man and fear your God: I am the LORD.”

– Courtesy and good manners are simply a behavioral language of _____.

• _____ and _____

Exo 22.21 “You shall neither mistreat a stranger nor oppress him ... 22 You shall not afflict any widow or fatherless child ... 25 If you lend money to any of My people who are poor ..., you shall not charge him interest.”

• _____

Luke 16.10 “He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. 11 Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? 12 And if you have not been faithful in what is another man’s, who will give you what is your own?”

► 2) God’s household rules were intended to _____ the hearts of his children.

Deut. 8.2 “[T]he LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart ...”

► 3) God’s household rules gave opportunity for his children to _____ or _____.

Deut 5.29 “Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep My commandments, that it might be well with them”

Prov 1.7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Eph 6.2 “Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise: “that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.” [quoting Exo 20.12]

Deu 8.2 “... and whether you would keep His commandments or not.”

► 4) God's household rules gave God constant opportunity to _____ his children thru praise, instruction, correction, discipline, or any combination thereof as warranted.

Deut 8.5 "You should know in your heart that as a man chastens his son, so the LORD your God chastens you ... 16 ... that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end"

• Notice the duty to _____.

► In sum, imitating God's household rules:

(1) Saves a ton of _____.

(2) Produces _____ and security.

► Modern example: Gregg Harris' *The 21 Rules of This House*

- *We obey our Lord Jesus Christ.*
- *We love, honor, and pray for one another.*
- *We tell the truth.*
- *We consider one another's interests ahead of our own.*
- *We speak quietly and respectfully with one another.*
- *We do not hurt one another with unkind words or deeds.*
- *When someone needs correction, we correct him in love.*
- *When someone is sorry, we forgive him.*
- *When someone is sad, we comfort him.*
- *When someone is happy, we rejoice with him.*
- *When we have something nice to share, we share it.*
- *When we have work to do, we do it without complaining.*
- *We take good care of everything God has given us.*
- *We do not create unnecessary work for others.*
- *When we open something, we close it.*
- *When we turn something on, we turn it off.*
- *When we take something out, we put it away.*
- *When we make a mess, we clean it up.*
- *When we do not know what to do, we ask.*
- *When we go out, we act just as if we were in this house.*
- *When we disobey or forget any of The 21 Rules of This House, we accept the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*

(3) Puts proper _____ on your children.

(4) Gives them an opportunity to _____ or fail.

(5) Reveals the _____ of your children.

(6) Gives you constant _____ to praise, correct, or instruct as warranted.

(7) Gives you constant opportunity to demonstrate _____ yourself.

(8) Prepares your child for life as a _____ of God.