

Authority 5

Tonight we began by reading from Col 3:20 which is recorded in the New Covenant which was written to the house of Jacob, over which rules a King — our Master Yahshua. He has been given the name of the Father (Jn 17:11). This is authority. Whoever belongs to Him will be kept in oneness and will have the same mind of how we interpret the New Covenant. Col 3:20 is actually backed up by the King of Israel who is the incarnate Word, the very Son of God who became flesh and dwelt among us, who is now enthroned at the right hand of God in heaven (Lk 1:31-33). After He rose from the dead, he was coronated at the right hand of God and sits on the throne of David and rules over the house of Jacob. We are that house of Jacob and will remain that house if we are faithful (Heb 3:6). The first edah was not faithful. Messiah was faithful as a son over God's house and we will be also if we hold on to the faith and hope that we have. This is what the New Covenant word is to us (Heb 1:3; 8:1; Eph 1:20-21). Jer 31:31 speaks about the New Covenant several hundred years before it was inaugurated on the night our Master was crucified. The restoration of the New Covenant has begun. Lk 22:20 is the fulfillment of Jer 31:31.

The word *obey* in Col 3:20 is translated from the Greek language as a command. It means to hear and obey — *shamah*. This *obey* means to be subject to parents in all things, for this is pleasing to the Lord.

The word *subject* is the word for obey that relates to the parent-child relationship. The children are subjected to their parents' rulership. It does not ask the child to be submissive because they do not have the ability to be submissive. Only we have the ability to be submissive — of our own free will, but children are subjected. Their parents bring them under their control by force and they learn to willingly submit to their parents of their own free will by the time they are youths. Until then, children's will is just self-will if left to their own.

Col 3:20 is talking to older children, giving them the concept of pleasing the King. To *subject* means to bring under the power or dominion of. Without this command or institution by God, with parents being placed in this position over their child, children would only do what was right in their own eyes (Jdg 21:25 — as Israel did without authority over them), thus they would always be doing wrong.

Col 3:20 is our constitutional law. It sets a law for the children and a constitutional right for the parents.

“Children obey your parents.” Children are not to be left to themselves to grow up as they will, but they are to do as they are told according to the parents' will, thus a parent's word is law for the children. Your word is law. You can create law. If your child is disobedient to the word you told him, he has broken the law you set for him. The rod is the only means by which you can enforce your law. There is only one way to expiate the guilt of breaking the parents' law from that child in order to give him a good conscience, and that is the rod. If the rod is not used, the guilt piles up. It is wonderful that we can keep our children's consciences pure and clean.

The command in Col 3:20 is addressed to children, but parents are the ones who are in charge and are accountable to God for its fulfillment. Just the same as Heb 13:17 tells people of the edah to obey their leaders, but it is the leaders who are accountable for your souls. As long as the children are under the parent's control, the parents are accountable. God always holds the ones in authority responsible for the actions of those under their rulership. The parents are accountable to God for the obedience of their children, elders are responsible for the sheep in their flock, and governments are responsible to carry out laws given to the nations.

In the ten commandments, “You shall not murder” is a command given to the people, but it is the responsibility of the government to carry it out and see to it that if a person did truly murder, then that person's life is taken away from him. Good government sees to it that whoever sheds blood, his blood shall be shed (Gen 9:6). This is a commandment to the nations. Those who do not uphold and advocate this commandment are not worthy of the nations.

Gen 9:6 says “*by man* his blood shall be shed.” Human government over man is established *right there*. If anyone violates that (a judge, jury, whoever) when it is proven that a person committed premeditated murder and he does not judge that person to be executed, he will be excluded from the nations. In Ex 20 the commandment not to murder is to the people, but God gives responsibility to the government to carry it out. However some people in government are against the death penalty, as a

result of their reasoning. They think that because innocent people might sometimes be executed, no one should be. But our Father takes care of the innocent. The electric chair is a deterrent from murder. Liberal form of government does away with the death penalty; conservative form of government maintains it. In this sense, conservative is better. Whoever votes for liberal candidates who are against the death penalty will go to the second death for that alone, because it reveals their philosophy of life, that they have reasoned away God. Such people are under the sway of the Satanic force that is bringing forth lawlessness. Liberal government is not as responsible a form of government as conservative is, even though there is not much difference between the two.

God gives the government the authority and responsibility to execute the death penalty. If we do not believe this, how can we be worthy of the Holy City when those in the nations who do not advocate the death penalty are not worthy of the nations? We must have a mind superior to the nations.

God has given responsibility to parents to see to it that children obey them. Liberal parents do not believe in corporal punishment. Conservative parents do believe in corporal punishment. This shows that they are working with the holy angels in restraining lawlessness. But liberal parents are working with Satan's angels bringing in lawlessness and ultimately the antichrist.

God gives parents the right to enforce his child's compliance to obey him in all things. The area within the boundaries and limits of parental authority is more extensive than any other institution. Parental authority goes beyond any other institution on earth because the parent's right to rule includes the power to force obedience in *all things*. The government however does not have the right to force obedience, but only to punish disobedience. The government cannot make you do anything. They cannot force you to work. [And if you will not work they can only support your being a lazy glutton by giving you money from welfare, etc. Through taxation, the government gives you housing, food, shoes, etc., etc., until they have more and more control of your lives, making way for the antichrist to one day come in and take over. One kind of government (liberal) promotes this; the other (conservative) does not.]

No other institution is given as much power as the parent. The subjects of all other institutions are to *submit* to authorities, but a *child* is commanded to obey, to be *subject* to his parents' rulership. Government does not have the right to spank people if they are rebellious, but only to punish them if they break laws.

The basic difference between the Greek words *submission* and *subjection* is that *submission* appeals to the attitude of *voluntary* acceptance of authority and *subjection* is compliance whether one wants to or not (you have to obey *regardless of personal willingness*). Children are under involuntary servitude of their parents until they are youths when they mature and become fruitful adults in the Body.

Children are helpless in themselves to submit, for they do not know how to submit since they are not equal to their parents; they do not have mature wills, which are developed by the rod. Children are by nature rebellious. Parents not only have the right to rule in all things, they also have the power to force their child's unwilling compliance to their commands. This is approved by the New Covenant. If you are persecuted for obeying the New Covenant, you are righteously persecuted and great is your reward in heaven. Government does not have the right to keep you from obeying the New Covenant. But we are coming into an age of lawlessness, so governments will try to do this.

Parents are delegated authority. *Delegated* — sent with a trust or commission to act for another person; sent with power to transact business for another. Messiah delegated His authority to make disciples and establish the church (Mt 28:18). Parental authority is delegated to parents. They are delegated the right to rule their children. No other institution, not state, social agency, etc., has rulership over children (even other people in the edah) except for the parents. Only the parents and whoever the parents give that right to have that right to ultimate rulership. It is only if the parents *give* that right that another person can have it.

Parental authority delegates to parents the right to rule the children under their control. No one has rulership rights over the children of parents — not social agencies, school personnel, or nosy individuals. None of these have any authority over children because that right is the parent's only (and whoever the parent delegates that right to by their consent).

Years ago they would spank children in school for rebellion and disrespect to the point that they learned to respect authority. Parents gave them the right to do it. But 20 years ago, after discipline was taken out, all hell and chaos broke out in schools. Disobedience of every kind came in when they took discipline away. Parents have the authority to say whether or not someone else can discipline, even in the edah, because the family is an institution. No one has any authority over the child except the parents, whose authority is delegated by God over their own children. The same is true in the nations also. The parents' power over their children is accountable to government in the nations (good government) only through God's law concerning incest, injury, or murder. If parents are brutally injuring their children, breaking, burning, wounding them, then the government has the right to come in and correct the situation. Parents are directly responsible to God for any misuse or abuse of their authority. We know that the "stripes that wound" spoken of in Pr 20:30 is not considered *injury* by the merciful loving God because it is under the control of a loving parent who is loving the child and obeying the word of God. *These stripes* are the only way the heart can be reached. *Injury* is to impair soundness of health; to wound. But stripes or marks from loving discipline shows love by the parent. The child has no rights except the God-given right to be raised by parents without the intervention or interference of any other institution.

The family is an independent institution as high as the state. When the government begins to misuse its authority, it goes beyond its boundaries and undermines parental authority, wanting to make the child responsible to the state rather than the parents. Today they are taking children away from parents and saying that the child belongs to the state.

The socialist education system has no checks and balances to what they teach children. They take away their human dignity by lowering them to the level of animals, teaching them that they were not created, but instead evolved from animals. Anyone who teaches this does not acknowledge that a person is made in the image of God (Gen 9:6), which is the very reason why people should not murder men, because man is made in the image of God. If children do not know this, they are liable to do anything they want to other humans. No one who teaches this is worthy of the nations, for they are teaching children that they can do anything against man and God. Some governments that overstep their authority take children away from parents. For instance, ancient Sparta made warriors out of them; also in socialist nations, in Hitler's Germany, and communist Russia, the government usurped the parents' role.

The evils of the socialist school system undermines parental authority. As it is today in the United States, *parental authority is being undermined by socialist compulsory public education* and child protection agencies. Child advocacy agencies are promoting child abuse laws, undermining parental authority. Parents must not allow government to usurp their authority in any area when God holds parents alone accountable. We cannot allow these governmental agencies to have any inroads to tell us what we can or cannot do with our children when *God has given authority to the parent*.

For example, parents have the explicit instruction in the Bible to train and teach their children in accordance with the word of God. The institution of government has no such instruction. Therefore they have no authority above the parents to teach or train children. No instruction can be found in the Bible that grants authority to government over children in any area except that good government should praise parents for doing good (1 Pet 2:15).

God honors the value of parental authority so highly that He instituted laws for government to protect the parents' rights and authority from *internal revolution* by the child himself. Rather than the government being the agency to do the job of the parent, it is the job of the government agency to support the parents in controlling their child. It used to be this way, but lawlessness has crept in. But government should protect *parents'* rights and ensure that parents are not prevented from doing their job.

Children are not to be allowed to revolt against their parents. The commandment in Ex 20:12 and 21:15,17 in the law of the nations of Israel, which our Master brought into the gospel in Mt 15:34 (except that enforcement is different, i.e., instead of stoning, we send them outside the edah) —*anyone who curses his father or mother must be put to death*. Even if he speaks an evil word against them or wishes evil on them, that is a curse and he forfeits his right to live on the earth. (In the edah, he forfeits his right to live in the edah.)

To *curse* means to speak evil against; even if no one heard you, God heard.

Lev 20:9 — Notice that the father and mother are equal in requiring respect from their children. The blood of the child who curses his father or mother shall be on his own head, which today means that he cannot be saved; he dies with his guilt and goes to the lake of fire. In Old Israel he would be stoned and rocks would make blood come to his head to show that his blood is on his own head. To *curse* means to even just utter a wish of evil: “I wish something would happen to them. I wish they would get sick. I hate them.” That is a curse.

Ex 21:15 — Anyone who hits his father or mother shall be put to death. He will be spiritually dead; he will not be saved except by a tremendous act of mercy on our Father’s part.

Cursed even is he who dishonors his father and mother (Dt 27:16). *Dishonor* means that he does not highly prize them; they are not a precious possession to him. He takes honor away from them, does not esteem them (Pr 4:8). If we do not honor our parents, we will die. If we dishonor them we will be put to death. If the Body says *AMEN* to that, it means we consent to that sentence (Ps 91:14-15; Pr 30:17)

Three things are revealed to us here, three important principles: 1) Both father and mother are equal in this respect; they have an equal role in the child training as parents over their children; 2) God will not tolerate the slightest disrespect of parental authority by children; parents are God’s agents for disciplining and punishing those who do wrong (Rom 13:1); they are responsible to uphold his authority; children are to respect their parents; and, 3) The death penalty was to be executed. Children were to be executed, destroyed. Those who made a practice of overt disrespect, a type of disrespect that was judged as leading to death, were to be killed by stoning. Such a child was to be executed, but the parents themselves were not given the right to take their own child’s life. [You do not have the right to send your child away from the edah; it has to be judged.] Judgment had to come from the elders of old Israel first. Only the institution of the government of Israel had the power to execute the child — stone him — set him outside the church so he would die outside and go to the lake of fire. The parents, however, did have the right to testify against the child, and in some cases, the one who brought the complaint had the right to cast the first stone (Dt 21:18-21).

It is a very serious matter about children being full of respect. If respect does not run out of your mouth then you are not respect-full. Respect that is running out of your mouth comes out in good words to your parents, husband, our Master, etc. If you are not honoring, you are disrespectful. Whoever dishonors is not full of respect. If you are full of respect, it means that you are filled up with honor, praise, and respect, and it overflows out of your mouth. So all children who dishonored and were disrespectful to their parents in the edah are dead inside already. You cannot get any life out of them; they feel dead. But if they repent and start honoring their parents they will be full of life and have a long life.

These laws were given to the nation of Israel, but the principle still applies to us. God will not tolerate disrespect. God will not tolerate children who are not full of respect. He will not tolerate disobedient children. They must be ex-membered from their parents. They are members of their parents, but just as, if my arm was dead and started to rot, it would have to be cut off, your children will have to be cut off from you. If children must be ex-membered from the community and sent away outside the Body, predetermined by the consent of the parents and the elders, that is drastic.

As drastic as it may seem that God would institute the death penalty for a child, it was for the protection and benefit of the whole nation. One reason that Israel fell away is because they stopped executing judgment, drawing the sword, drawing blood. This was for the protection and benefit of the nation. It is for the protection and benefit of the Edah itself. If a child is raised to adulthood and is not trained to be respectful and he is disrespectful and disobedient to his parents and training instructors, he is likely to not respect or obey anyone, even God. Knowing this law, parents would fear — all Israel would fear. Few would fail to train their children to be respectful, knowing that if they failed, they would have to testify against their child for the death penalty (Dt 21:18-21).

Ecc’cus 30:1-13 — If you do not train your child up right, you will rue his insolence; you will grieve over his haughty contempt, his rebellion.

So the parents will have to testify against their child for the death penalty —that is ruing their insolence. The

child, knowing this, would at least outwardly conform to save the rest from the evil influence that he would have. If a child who is a rebel was not executed because of slack government or lack of parental authority, God's word *promises* direct judgment to the child. Likewise, if we do something that is a sin unto death which requires the death penalty and nothing is done about it in the Body because no one knows about it, God saw it and He will put you to death spiritually and then physically (1 Sam 3:13-14; 4:10-18; Pr 30:11-17). *Curse* even means "does not bless." If you do not bless your parents, you curse them.

From the time when the first church fell away until now, you can see the curse that is in Christianity today. They revile their parents, speaking against their parents. Many are under that curse. Wars, violent deaths, drug abuse are the direct result of untrained children.

Cursing is the result of parenting a rebellious child. On the other side, blessing is the result of parenting one who honors his parents. God has promised the blessing of peace and prosperity; He has promised long life to the child with no sick-bed affliction, no violent deaths, no premature deaths due to disease, famine, wild beast or war; the promise that death would come just at the right time to the godly; they will see prosperity and will live long enough on the land to see their children rise up and bless them. When the truth is observed the result is blessing. When it is not, the result is cursing. The child who honors his father and mother will be protected throughout his adult life by God's promises and that will produce the Male Child.

Pr 3:1-12 — Parents who truly love their child will turn their heart to them regardless of the cost, seeing to it that the child honors them. Parents who misuse their authority, not using it to raise their children, will be cursed. Whenever children receive mistreatment, bad fruit will come out on the child and judgment will fall on the one responsible. God is in control and has chosen to give your child to you. He has a plan for every life. If the parent fails, how great the cost is, how sorrowful the hurt. Though we as parents are weak and have faults, we must be loyal and true to the responsibility we have been given. Do not let your faulty nature keep you from fulfilling your responsibility. If you are doing your best by the grace he provides, then you are doing the best you can do because it is by his grace. God knows you. He knew you were imperfect when he gave you your children. If you know this fact you will be dependent upon Him. No matter what you feel about yourself, do not avoid your responsibility.

[If there is anything that you particularly heard tonight, do not avoid your responsibility of speaking. Our Master said that what is whispered in your ear, shout it from the rooftop. Shout it from where you have your meetings, otherwise you will surely die (Jn 8:51). If you have heard something you need to speak loud, because it will be imperative for your children to do this.]

N'su: I saw how in the school system the government should support the parents in raising their children, but now it takes away the rights of the parents and the child turns out to be a criminal, going against the government. The government is cutting its own throat. It is an evil spirit in that system. I see it is a wonderful thing to have discipline in school. I'm thankful we have the authority to train our children because we have the ultimate authority because the authority comes from God.

Elionai: If children turn out to be disrespectful they can be sent to death and it is the responsibility of the parents. If children do not honor their parents, it is our responsibility. It put a desire in me to be aware of them that they would be respectful.

Caleb David: Each good government is founded in the laws of the nations recorded in the Bible, and not once is it stated that government has authority over the parental authority, but rather that government should support parental authority.

Meshullam: We train our children to be obedient. Yesterday we heard how obedience is the highest form of love. We train them to love. If we train them to honor us we train them to honor our Father. If we deal with guilt with the rod and do not spare it, our children will understand easily about the removal of guilt from the heart by our Master because all their life long they are experiencing the removal of guilt by the rod.

Yoneq: It shouldn't be that you need the rod so much after 12 or 13.

Haggai: I see we have to train our children to the point they can bless us not curse us and the principle

of rebellion is when children will look for defects in the parent's authority so they can throw off the restraint. So the parent makes clear his will and his will deals with the rebellion.

Jehu: It is wonderful our Father speaks to us about the age of 12 when a child comes into an age of understanding. But in the world, no one knows that. In the world you want to love your child as a friend but it is impossible. A child cannot reason rightly; he is bent to evil. If you put authority in his life and train him up, then you can take him as a friend because he really respects you.

Yoneq: In ten years the edah is going to be explosive!

Derushah: I am thankful because I realized what a precious gift it is to know what God intends human beings to be, how He wants them to be raised up and He gives us wisdom that government and books do not have — His instruction. We know what is really true and right. I want to take this in and do what needs to be done.

Ben Naby: I see it is a matter of death or life raising our children. The laws he inaugurated for Old Israel, the parents feared giving an account to the elders and to throw the first stone. It is either going to be a curse or a blessing, and it can be a blessing but we have to receive the grace our Father gives us. It is an absolutely serious thing. The blessing or curse will come upon us. I do not want that my son would have to be excommunicated and me having to give an account of why I failed. But I know that if you have a bowl of apples you cannot keep the bad one in there or they will all turn bad. If my son is rebellious, he would contaminate the whole edah and would need to be expelled from it. I see that the death penalty is a good thing; it serves for the benefit of the whole.

Asher: From what Ben Naby said, I understand the way that hating your child is sparing the rod. It is with dignity that we raise up our children here, not like in the world where they are raised up like animals.

Kepha: I'm thankful that our Father is leading us in all truth, especially about good government. If someone had said to me 10 or 15 years ago that the death penalty was good government, I would have disagreed. But we have to know the whole context of our Father's word. I did not know how it was the law of our Father. I am thankful our Father is renewing my way of thinking and my life. The authority given parents surpasses good government but it also gives us the right to force our children's obedience, to train them in the way they should go so later they will stay in it.

Jonathan Elezar: I appreciated this teaching. I see how the word is true. When you see in the consequences how a child is going to the second death unless you deliver him from it. I never realized how true it was that when you spank him as the word says, you save his life from death. Love compels you to discipline your child.

Elisheva bat Haggai: I am thankful for the rod because a few weeks ago I was feeling heavy and then I got disciplined. Now I realized that that heavy feeling I had was because I was guilty. After I was disciplined I felt free, and now I understand why — because the rod took the guilt away.

Yoneq praised Elisheva for obeying the Holy Spirit and sharing that. How wonderful it was to hear it from her perspective.