

Marriage and the Family *The Desire to be Ruled*

There is nothing a man desires more, in his natural desire, than for his wife to desire him; and there is nothing a wife desires more, in her natural desire (according to natural law) than him and his rule over her. In a similar way, Pr 13:24 is a child's greatest desire—that his parents show their love for him by their diligent discipline of him. This is basic, inherent knowledge in man, as this is what they all—husband and wife and child—need more than anything else.

Her desire for him and his rule over her make them a team, allied together for a second life. Together they also fulfill all the other aspects which a man and woman instinctively know about what is good and what is evil (Gen 3:16-19; 9:1-7; Isa 24:5).

Desire means to express a need for him or to express a longing for his good (well-being). To *rule over* is to protect what one loves most—as looking after his wife's well-being, or as a child is ruled over by his parents and is disciplined diligently. The more the child is loved, the more diligent is the parents' rule in disciplining him (Pr 13:24). This expresses their love for him. This child was wanted or desired.

The expression of hate and love is manifested by the parents. The parent who hates his son spares the rod. The governments of this world order are doing their best to make parents express hatred to their children, but parents who love their children will use the rod on their bottoms regardless of the evil men of the nations who are agents of the adversary, i. e., so-called *social services*.

Hate is to make one's child the object of hatred by ignoring his disobedience or rebellion, making him grow up in the way of destruction (Pr 22:6,15), feeling that no one cares about him. It is the same way a wife feels about a husband who does not rule over her, or a husband about a wife who does not express her desire for him—if he *is* a husband. Who is a husband, or who is a father, and what does it mean?

Pr 13:24 is the first of several proverbs on parental discipline. A parent's loving discipline is modeled after God's loving correction (Pr 3:11-12; Heb 12:7-10; Rev 3:19). The discipline of our Father is the other side of His grace. We cherish our Father's correction and discipline in our lives, because our Father only disciplines those He loves. Heb 12:7—"For what son...." Sons have fathers who love them. What makes for appalling behavior is to think no one cares about you—not even God. Sons are naturally disciplined by their fathers who love them, as our Father disciplines only those whom He loves.

Hate is to ignore, to allow evil to overtake good; not to love, honor, and respect is hatred. You can rationalize all you want to, but you *hate* your offspring if you don't love him enough to discipline him diligently. 1 Jn 4:20—You make him feel loved, or you make him feel the way you actually feel about his wellbeing, even his *eternal* wellbeing, according to your actions (not thoughts or emotions) toward him (Pr 13:24; 19:18; 15:10,12).