

Ruling Fathers and Dominant Mothers

(Dt 6:4-9; 11:1-32; Ps 119:105)

Child training is as simple as:

- 1) Pr 1:8; 6:20; 10:1; 17:21
- 2) Eph 6:4
- 3) Pr 22:6; 29:15

He who spares his rod *hates* his son, but he who *loves* him disciplines him promptly, *early*, while there is hope (Pr 13:24; 19:18). The word *hates* means that the father treats his son as if he were a “bastard” (an illegitimate or unwanted child). Evidently he hated the idea of his conception, as if it were a mistake, and when he heard the news, his first reaction was, “Oh, no!” or maybe, “Oh, no! Not *again!*” instead of rejoicing. So he continues to regret his conception, wishing he had used contraception.¹

And so goes the story behind Heb 12:8-9 — a human father, or a so-called father who hated the news of his unwanted child’s conception. He is not even considered a human father by God (our heavenly Father), since legitimate human fathers discipline their sons for the correction of the child they love. But if discipline is not carried out in love (because they *love* their child), then they make their child to feel like what he actually is: a bastard.

Heb 1:5 tells us the only way we can be like our Creator: “I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son.” A *son* is not just a human male child, as Heb 12:8 explains. A child is either a *bastard* or a *son*, as Heb 12:8 explicitly² says. Like it or not, this is how God’s word explains it.

We know Pr 13:24, but do we understand it? *Hate* and *love* are *verbs*. A verb expresses an act, an occurrence, or mode of being (mood, feeling, disposition, predisposing one to action; a conscious state of mind; a condition). Both are expressions

¹ *Contraception* means deliberate prevention of conception or impregnation.

² *Explicit* means fully revealed or expressed without vagueness; leaving no question.

of how the parent feels toward his child. So whoever *hates* his child expresses hatred through the way he *treats* his child. It is not just a feeling. And it is the same with love.

Pr 3:11-12 — God disciplines only those whom He *loves* (Rev 3:19; Heb 2:7-10). He disciplined the Laodiceans in order that they would move away from a dangerous, lukewarm, spiritual state (verses 15-18). Love was waning in them. Their *mode of being, mood, feeling, and disposition* became lukewarm. Instead of loving each other *fervently*, they were casual, which is a *verbal expression* of hatred. The Laodiceans *became* lukewarm, and did not move away from that *disposition*, though they were warned. They did not heed His love and discipline.

We're nothing without discipline, and we are not who we say we are if we do not discipline our children, because they won't become those in Rev 14:1-5. Who would want to *set his heart* to destroying his child, as Pr 19:18 says? A parent who does not discipline on the first command could be doing so as the result of a *disposition* — but not a *predisposition of action*. The disposition of a person is formed through how he is *instructed* by his parents, which shapes the growing child's thoughts. Only if a child's wrong disposition is not addressed will he have a set *predisposition to action*. For example, many parents have a passive predisposition to *not* act. It's as if they see their child runs out into the road, but they don't act, even though they see a car coming. Passivity is a conscious state of mind. It has somehow been put into those of us who grew up in the world, and we can put that same state of mind into our children.

Rev 7:13 — Who are those youth in Rev 14:1-5 that are well developed and trained up from childhood by loving parents? These will not be bastards. The woman flees to the wilderness, but the Male Child stays within the tribulation, until the last one has been tortured to death and killed (Rev 6:9-10). Only then, after the last one of every one of those 144,000 are tortured and slain, will our Master return.

The Male Child will not just be *born* that way. They will be raised by loving parents in childhood. They will be trained up in that way (Rev 14:1-5). They are those

who will be found worthy to be sent out to be slain as a sacrifice (Mt 25:31-46). The Male Child will be well-disciplined, trained-up youth, from childhood. Will they have a *disposition* to be the way they are? I don't know if you could call it a *predisposition*, but they will be inclined that way due to the fact they have been *trained* to be that way.

The disposition of a child depends entirely upon the disposition of the parents to either love them or hate them, as Pr 13:24 says, according to whether or not they discipline the child *promptly, early, and diligently*. Maybe some parents have a passive predisposition to *not* act promptly when they see trouble. They have to repent of that. How many times do we see something going on and not do anything about it?

If we do not take action to love, we are taking action to hate. Not too many people will know someone loves them unless they SHOW it by taking action. So it is better to forget about being married if you are going to be one of those passive fathers or mothers who will raise one of those illegitimate sons or daughters. Don't bring that child into the world (Mt 26:24; Mr 14:21). It would have been better if they had *never been born*, or even were aborted, if they never surrender their life to our Master.

The purpose of marriage is to have children. Do you want to get married? Do you realize what you are doing? You are bringing a human being into the world. And he or she is going to spend eternity somewhere. So therefore we have to realize how great a responsibility it is to even have a child. You ought to pray, "*Father, don't let me have any child whom I am not going to be obedient to raise for You, to come to know You, and serve You all his days.*"

Pr 22:6 is a command for human fathers, and especially for His holy people of His holy nation in one of His twelve tribes. Pr 22:6 and Heb 12: 7-10 is a written direction for human fathers as to what they must do to be not just human fathers, but *redeemed* human fathers who love their sons. Pr 22:6 is prescribed as a rule for training up the future sons of God to rule the universe. Pr 15:10 — Refuses to listen and obey (Pr 15:12; 12:1; Rev 21:24; 22:5).

So Pr 22:6 reveals two essential things in the prescribed way children are to be raised up for Him. First, is the command to redeemed human fathers to “train up” a child in “the way” (Pr 15:10)— the way he should go. Gen 18:19 is “the Way,” if they have fathers who are of Abraham’s seed (Jn 8:39; Gal 3:26-29), to bring about the promise of God to Abraham. This is to be carried out by his children who are like Isaac and Jacob.

My son, heed the discipline³ of your father, and do not forsake the instruction⁴ of your mother. (Pr 1:8; 6:20)

Eph 6:1-2, Pr 1:8 and 6:20 presumes “Dominant Moms” — “do not forsake the law of your mother” (authority of instruction delegated to her; Pr 4:1-3; 23:22). The mother teaches through *instruction*.

Pr 4:1-27

Pr 1:1-9

Pr 1:10-19

Pr 2:1-22

Ps 34:11-14

So Pr 22:6 gives us the prescription for making our sons into the sons of God. First, “train up” and bring up a child in the way of Yahweh, the way of Abraham, so that when the child is old he will not depart from “the Way,” in order to bring about the promise God made to Abraham (Gen 13:16; 17:7-11; 18:19; 15:5,17-18; Acts 26:7; Mk 9:11-12; Rom 11:15).

Gen 13:16 prophesies the eternal propagation of the sons of God (Ps 102:28), so that there will be no end in the increase of His government (Isa 9:7) to rule the universe of men (Ps 8:3-6; Rev 21:9-12). Ps 102:26 is the universe of planets and stars. God will change them into imperishable planets and stars for the sake of Man who is made or changed into immortal beings (1 Cor 15:51-52). We will be changed into immortal

³ #4148 *musar* — discipline, chastening, correction (as also in Pr 13:24).

⁴ #8451 *torah* — law, instruction.

creatures to dwell in the changed universe, with its uncountable planets and stars which will never wear out (Heb 1:10-12).

To accomplish Pr 22:6, we and our children must both be changed to redeemed manhood, so 1 Cor 15:51-52 can change our whole being into immortal creatures to rule over restored man in the whole universe (Rev 21:3,24).

In Pr 22:6, the commandment is to parents to train up their child in the way he should go, and then when he matures into manhood, he will not depart from the way in which he was trained up (Gen 18:19). Those who belong to Messiah are the sons of Abraham and will do what he did (Jn 8:39), lest we prove instead to be sons of the evil one, as the Jews in Jn 8:44. Either Yahweh is our Father (Source), or Satan is — it's one or the other.

The word “train up” in Pr 22:6 means from infancy to manhood, from dedication through baptism to when they are sent out to serve in the Body where needed at age 20. When they grow up, having been trained up on “the Way,” they will not depart from “the Way,” and they also will do the same as their redeemed earthly fathers and mothers did (Gen 18:19). They will add their strength to do what the whole twelve tribes work to secure (Acts 26:6-8; Rom 11:12-15; Gen 15:18). The promise requires the eternal growth of the sons of God (Gen 13:16), as in Ps 102:28 where “continue” means the perpetual increase of God's government (Isa 9:7; Dan 7:27, RSV, ESV, NJB).

To “train up” is not just talking about corporal discipline, spanking when needed, but it is a process beginning with circumcision at eight days for males (Lk 1:59; 2:21-22). Then 40 days after the birth for males or 80 days for females they are brought before the Body and presented to Yahweh (presented to the Father in the name of the Son, Yahshua; Mt 28:18; Jn 15:5). This is called *dedication*, and if given to Him then they are His, but the responsibility of training them up is the parents. Remember, His promises only apply to *His* children. A dedication apart from the faith and wholehearted commitment of the parents to raise their child in the way accomplishes nothing.

Dedication

Child training must begin with circumcision (for a male) and then dedication. *Dedication* is to set apart from the world to God for His definite use, to become committed to His eternal purpose and His way of life. This is the only way that the sons of God can live so as to fulfill the covenant (Gen 17:11,14; 15:18; 18:19).

So at the end of 40 days for a boy or 80 days for a girl, they are dedicated, set apart for Yahweh, and the Spirit of Yahweh comes upon them to be trained up in “the Way of Yahweh” (Gen 18:19). This is the way they should go, and they will never depart from it if they were trained up in it (Pr 22:6).

Dedication is a sacred offering of one’s child to Yahweh to serve Him all the days of his life, to dwell in the house of Yahweh forever and ever. If the child is fully trained, the command having been kept by the parents, then the promise of Pr 22:6 can be claimed, never to depart after he is released from his parents’ training and let to serve the Body. But as long as the child is dependent on his parents, he is under their control.

So when the child leaves the parents, he or she will never depart from the Way. If the command has been kept, the promise will be kept and realized, but if the command has not been kept, the promise will not be realized. But in some cases the badly raised child, when older, may be able to repent and be saved like people of the world are saved.

When dedicated in faith, the child belongs exclusively to our Father, and is given to the parents only as a stewardship. They are to train up the child dedicated to God, to instruct and cause him to learn obedience and everything essential in pleasing God. They motivate the child, creating a taste in him so as to be internally motivated rather than externally compelled to do what God wants him to do. A child is always dependent,⁵ never independent.⁶

⁵ *Dependent* — relying on or requiring a person or thing for support, supply, or what is needed.

⁶ *Independent* — free from external control and constraint.

Why was the first church called “the Way”? Because they knew why they were formed or born (Acts 2:40-41; Gen 18:19; Mt 21:43; 24:14; 19:28). They knew due to Acts 2:42. But it was not specifically written down so that the common man could know by reading or observation, but only by Acts 2:42, which is hidden except for disciples of Yahshua (Mt 13:13,16,44; 1 Pet 1:12; Eph 3:10; Mt 21:43; 24:14; Gen 15:18; 18:19; Mt 19:28).

As for our children in Messiah, we dedicate them to the Father in our Master’s name as Lk 2:21-22,⁷ to present them to Yahweh, just as Yahshua was presented to His Father, dedicated to Him for His purpose, which He was born to do.

Our children’s only responsibility in childhood until 20 years old is to obey their parents, and after 20 it is to obey their heavenly Father in His Son Yahshua, and to walk as He walked (1 Jn 2:6,28). Between birth and when they are sent to serve wherever in the Body, they have only one responsibility in the family: to obey their parents, as Pr 1:8. Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel, said, “My son, hear/heed/obey [*shama*] the discipline/correction [*musar*] of your father, and do not forsake the law/instruction [*torah*] of your mother.” She has delegated to her the same authority over the children as the father has, and is to be dominant while he is away. Then, when he returns, he is received with open arms.

Eph 6:1-3 — Twice in the scriptures, God (the Word) stated what He would have children to do. This was two thousand years ago. He gave revelation to Paul for the Edah, which is the witness of the truth. The first time (Ex 20:12) was over 3000 years ago when He gave revelation to Moses to give to Israel. So our Father’s clear will for “our children” is that they are to obey their parents — father and mother (Pr 1:8; Col 3:20) — “in all things.” This is what God the Father, by the Word, in the Holy Spirit says for all

⁷ Lk 2:22 — The Greek says “for *their* purification” (as in ESV, Williams, NASB), while in Lev 12:2-8 it only speaks of *her* purification. Why does it say *their* when the Law refers only to the mother and not the child?

children in the new Israel (Mt 21:43) to do — “for this is right.” His Son, Yahshua, was obedient in “all things,” even unto death. He was obedient to the Word who dwelt within Him, as we are now to be also, having received after our baptism the same Spirit as also dwelt in Him (1 Jn 2:6). So we are responsible to have the same mind/attitude in us as He had in Him, the very same attitude or mind of the Word who dwelt in Him, with whom He was “one Spirit” (1 Cor 6:17; Jn 17:21-23).

Children who do not obey their earthly parents will not obey our heavenly Father, nor the Son (Jn 14:15,21). The father is the parent responsible for setting the pattern for the child’s obedience in the family. When he is away, the mother becomes the dominant one in his place, in her delegated responsibility and authority from the husband and father. Hers is an extension of the father’s authority given to him by God the Father. The husband and father must take leadership in this area, and the wife or mother must be in submission to him in her delegated responsibility and authority. The Word is also clear as to what the father is *not* to do (Eph 6:4), which is not to over-discipline his child in a reign of terror. As a result, the child can only react in a blind outbreak of rage.

What the father *must* do is to train or bring them up as is said, remembering that:

- 1) this, of course, is a continuous job
- 2) to bring them up is “to nourish tenderly” his children, which are objects of tender loving care.

Child training is corrective discipline. The father is God’s constituted authority who is to discipline the child when he does not obey as God intends. The father who does not discipline his children will bring up or raise a bunch of “bastards” — illegitimate or unwanted children — and the father is probably one himself by being disobedient to God’s will. Nevertheless, according to the Word of God, a child’s disobedience is not tolerated regardless of what kind of father he had (Ex 21:15-17; Dt 21:18-21; Pr 13:24; 19:18; 22:15; 23:13-14; 29:15-17).

So, if you are led by the one Spirit we are to be led by (Rom 8:14), that Spirit will lead you to motivate your children in the way they should go. He will lead you to raise them up to do what Eph 2:10 says — as best as we can pray and discern their gifts to do the works prepared for them to do in the Body of Messiah (Eph 4:16). How else will they be able to do the will of our Father in heaven unless we fathers train up our children in the way they should go?

Gen 18:19 is absolute, if you are Abraham's seed (Jn 8:39; Gal 3:29). If not, who is really fathering us to be able to father our children? (Jn 8:44)

Acts 26:7; Mt 21:43; 24:14; Mk 9:11-12 — The restoration of all things is Gen 18:19, and only those who belong to Messiah can bring to fruition Gen 18:19 as we all pray Mt 6:9-13. May our Father deliver us from the evil one, from Jn 8:44 to 8:39, that we would do as Abraham did (Gen 18:19; Gal 3:26-29).

2 Chr 6:16 — This is the Kingdom, when Messiah rules the world through Israel (Mt 19:28).

ha-êmeq — Curt Cobain of *Nirvana* (in the “Forever 27” freepaper) had a daughter, and just looking at that little person and thinking, “*I can't bring her any further than I have gone; I don't have any answers, so how can I help my daughter?*” simply magnified his desperation, and so then he just wanted to die. Cobain killed himself. He was already disappointed at himself for his wrong choices, and facing the responsibility of being a father pushed him over the edge.

There is weight placed upon a person when he becomes a parent. You can see how our Father wants to use that very sense of responsibility as a father to increase his character. But most people unexpectedly get pushed into that ruling position, and others are in fantasy, thinking, “*Let's have a baby... Yeah, great... Baby clothes, strollers... Whoo-hoo!*” But that is the last thing they should be feeling at moment, when considering having a child.

We have a picture of a baby goat in the kitchen. Every time I look at it, I think, “*Oh, look at that cute little thing!*” But even just the birth of an animal means commitment. It means “*up at 5 am, go to the barn, care for it, clean the stall ...*” Life changes with all those little responsibilities. So if you

are not a good shepherd, your herd ends up dying, sick, or scraggly and stinky, with rotten milk. But if you are a good shepherd, you've got an incredible potential for fruit from those animals.

How much more are the responsibilities to care for a human being! There is not an instant that a baby isn't active and needing attention. It is not about cute clothing and colorful barrettes. Some children are like little nuclear power zones. So often is the situation where the imma lets her squirming two-year-old slip out of her arms, and while she is talking, the little "power machine" takes off, and is gone. Someone mentions it to her, and off she runs, calling his name.

It is just seconds of not watching a child, and he runs off. This is a sign the parent isn't ruling. The little child slips down, runs and hides, or goes out in the yard and is running around and around in circles. Suddenly he realizes he is by himself, with no one ruling over him. This leads to the child being lost. What is he going to do with no one to rule over him?

There is not even a second that a child doesn't need to be ruled over. So this is what it means to be a father or a mother. They don't just let them slip away; a true father goes after him and questions his independent child, "You aren't doing my will. I wanted you to stay by my side, where you are protected." That is what a father does, just as our heavenly Father does for us. He never takes His eyes off of us. Bearing this responsibility is what turns us into rulers.

Gidon ben Soreph Gamaliel — I'm thankful our Father is faithful to discipline us, those whom He loves, and for faithful friends who correct us. You see those who have left and have been away for a couple of years, they can't stand on anything. This makes me thankful to be in a place where I can receive the proper training.

Abraham ben Kharash — "It is for discipline that we endure" (Heb 12:7-8). This is how we will succeed. Discipline applied to a child doesn't discourage or depress him. Discipline shows us directly the love in our Father's heart for us. Losing my daughter was a great suffering. However, Savav said, "*Remember the bigger picture... Our Father is out to end the pain and suffering of the entire world.*" What if I had given in to my own personal sufferings? I would have stayed sunken there. But instead, I had friends like Savav helping me, saying, "*Abraham, you've got to look around. The entire world is waiting for a people to overcome, to bring an end to death.*"

We heard the key: the father steps into a role of rulership, with love. For discipline we endure, and through discipline our children endure.