

PARENTING BY THE BOOK

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN OVERCOMING GENERATIONAL SIN PATTERNS

1. REVIEW

A. DISCUSS: SPIRITUAL DNA

1. THE REPETITION OF NEGATIVE PATTERNS OF SIN THAT ARE TRANSFERRED FROM ONE GENERATION TO ANOTHER CREATE SPIRITUAL SCARS ON OUR SOULS
2. THE PROBLEM: OUR CHILDREN NOT ONLY OBSERVE OUR NEGATIVE PATTERNS... THEY OFTEN REPEAT OUR PATTERNS AS ADULTS.
 - a. THEREFORE: THE CYCLE OF SIN IS TRANSFERRED FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION TO GENERATION.
3. THESE NEGATIVE PATTERNS CREATE NEGATIVE RESULTS:
 - a. IN OUR OWN LIVES, AND
 - b. IN THE WORLD AROUND US.

B. DISCUSS: "LAW"

1. LAWS ARE RULES, REGULATIONS, AND RESOLUTIONS WHOSE ORIGINAL INTENT IS USUALLY GOOD.
2. HOWEVER... LAWS ARE OFTEN MADE COMPLEX BY THOSE IN POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY:
 - a. THE PHARISEES AND SADUCEES TOOK THE 10 COMMANDMENTS AND MADE 613 STATUTES:
 - 1) 248 COMMANDS
 - 2) 365 PROHIBITIONS
 - b. CONGRESS (MODERN PHARISEES?) DOES THAT.
 - c. SOME RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS (CHURCHES) DO THAT.
 - d. THE RESULT: A RELIANCE ON RELIGIOUS RULES INSTEAD OF A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST!
3. NOTE: THE LAW CANNOT FIX OUR SIN PROBLEM.

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4. ALL THE LAW CAN DO IS EXPOSE THE PROBLEM = SIN

1) BUT, THE LAW DOES NOT HAVE THE ABILITY TO MAKE IT RIGHT.

2) SUMMARY: THE LAW IS GOOD TO EXPOSE OUR SIN, BUT IT CAN NOT DELIVER US FROM OUR SIN WHEN WE DO SIN.

C. THE "LAW" IS LIKE A MIRROR:

1. WHEN WE GET UP IN THE MORNING WE GO TO THE MIRROR TO SEE HOW WE ARE DOING.

2. ALL A MIRROR CAN DO IS REFLECT AND REVEAL... IT CANNOT CORRECT!

D. UNFORTUNATELY... MANY PEOPLE GO THE RULES (LAW) TO FIX THEIR PROBLEMS:

1. WE ENACT MORE LAWS

2. WE MAKE RESOLUTIONS

a. "I PROMISE NOT TO DO THAT ANY MORE"

3. WE DEDICATE... AND REDEDICATE... AND RE-REDEDICATE ON THE REDEDICATIONS!

a. THOSE MAY WORK FOR A FEW WEEKS OR MONTHS... THEN THINGS GET TOUGH, AND BAM!

1) WE'RE RIGHT BACK WHERE WE PROMISED NOT TO BE.

2) NOT SO?... THINK ABOUT YOUR LAST DIET!!

E. THE PROBLEM... IF WE PASS TO OUR CHILDREN THE SINS THAT WE SAW IN OUR PARENTS... HOW CAN WE STOP THAT PROGRESSION?

1. Galatians 3:13-14 (NASB) Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE"— in order that in Christ Jesus the

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blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

2. **NOTE: JESUS' DEATH AND RESSURECTION REMOVED SATAN'S AUTHORITY.**

- a. **BUT... JESUS' DEATH DID NOT REMOVE SATAN'S POWER.**

- 1) HIS POWER WILL BE REMOVED WHEN JESUS RETURNS TO EARTH

3. **REMEMBER: SATAN CANNOT CONTROL CHRISTIANS**

- a. **WHY... BECAUSE HE NO LONGER HAS AUTHORITY OVER US.**

4. **SO... HE HAS TO COME UP WITH ANOTHER SCHEME TO GET US TO SIN AGAINST GOD IN ORDER TO SEPARATE US FROM GOD.**

- a. *****SATAN'S SCHEME IS TO DECEIVE US IN ORDER TO GET US TO DO WHAT HE CAN NO LONGER DO TO US*****

- 1) WHAT HE NO LONGER HAS THE AUTHORITY TO FORCE US TO DO.

- F. **SATAN'S SCHEME IS TO PLANT THOUGHTS IN OUR MIND SO WE ARE DECEIVED INTO THINKING HIS THOUGHTS ARE OUR THOUGHTS ENCOURAGING US TO SIN:**

1. **ESPECIALLY IN THE AREA OF GENERATIONAL SIN PATTERNS.**

- a. **SO THAT PAST GENERATIONAL SIN PATTERNS BECOME OUR PRESENT SIN PATTERNS.**

2. **WHAT THEN... ARE WE HELPLESS AND HOPELESS TO BE VICTORIOUS OVER SATAN'S SCHEMES?**

- G. **NO!!! JESUS HAS GIVEN US THE HOLY SPIRIT... AND THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN SET US FREE!!!**

2. **THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES BELIEVERS THE POWER TO:**

- A. **LIVE LIKE JESUS,**

- B. **AND TO BE BOLD WITNESSES FOR HIM.**

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1. **John 16:5-7 (NASB)** "But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' "But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. "But I tell you **the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.**
 2. **Acts 1:7-8 (NASB)** He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; **but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;** and you shall be **My witnesses** both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."
 3. **Acts 2:1-4 (NASB)** When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And **they were all filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.
3. **HOW DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT WORK?**
- A. There are **MANY WAYS** that the **HOLY SPIRIT WORKS** IN THE LIVES OF CHRISTIANS... **BUT THEY ALL SHARE ONE COMMON GOAL: TO MAKE US MORE LIKE JESUS CHRIST.**
 1. THAT PROCESS IS CALLED **SANCTIFICATION.**
 - a. **SANCTIFICATION** IS THE **PROCESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT STRIPPING AWAY OUR SINFUL HABITS AND MAKING US MORE LIKE JESUS CHRIST.**
 - B. **REPENTANCE**
 1. THROUGH **REPENTANCE** THE **HOLY SPIRIT REPLACES WHAT WAS DIRTY IN US AND HELPS US ("THE HELPER") TO PRODUCE GOOD FRUIT.**
 - a. **Galatians 5:22-23 (NASB)** But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.
 - C. **THE WORD OF GOD**
 1. THE HOLY SPIRIT USES THE **POWER OF SCRIPTURE** TO **CONVICT US AND INFLUENCE THE WAY WE THINK.**
 - a. **Proverbs 23:7a (NASB)** For as a man **thinks** within himself, **so he is.**

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- b. **2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NASB)** All Scripture is inspired by God and **profitable** for **teaching**, for **reproof**, for **correction**, for **training in righteousness**; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.
- 2. THE HOLY SPIRIT **REVEALS GOD'S WORD** TO US
 - a. **John 14:26 (NASB)** "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, **He will teach you all things**, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.
- 3. **TRUTH**
 - a. THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDES US INTO ALL **TRUTH**.
 - b. **John 16:13-14 (NASB)** "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, **He will guide you into all the truth**; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose *it* to you.
 - c. THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL **GUIDE** US IN THE WAY WE NEED TO GO... HE WILL **NOT** LEAVE US IN **CONFUSION**.
 - d. **1 Corinthians 14:33a (NASB)** for God is **not** a God of **confusion** but of peace,
- 4. **SIN**
 - a. THE HOLY SPIRIT **CONVICTS** US ABOUT OUR **SIN**.
 - b. HE WILL BRING **SIN** TO OUR ATTENTION.
 - c. **John 16:8 (NASB)** "And He, when He comes, will **convict the world concerning sin** and righteousness and judgment;
 - d. THE **CONVICTION** CAN ALSO COME **BEFORE** WE **SIN**.
 - 1) THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL NUDGE OUR HEART **BEFORE** WE MAKE THE MOVE AND SIN... **LISTEN TO HIM!**
- 5. **OTHER CHRISTIANS**
 - a. THE HOLY SPIRIT BRINGS US **CLOSER TO OTHER BELIEVERS**
 - b. **Acts 4:32 (NASB)** And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one of *them* claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them.

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- c. **IF WE DRAW NEAR TO THE HOLY SPIRIT, HE WILL PLACE LOVE IN OUR HEARTS** FOR OTHER CHRISTIANS AND WE WILL BE COMPELLED TO **UNITE**.
 - d. **Ephesians 4:1-3 (NASB)** Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, **being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**
4. **SO... HOW IS THE HOLY SPIRIT RELATED TO HELPING CHRISTIANS AND THEIR CHILDREN OVERCOME GENERATIONAL SIN PATTERNS?**
- A. **FIRST... WE MUST KNOW WHAT THE SIN PATTERN(S) IN OUR LIVES ARE.**
 - 1. **PRAYERFULLY LIST THEM.**
 - B. **KNOW WHAT GOD'S WORD SAYS ABOUT THE SIN.**
 - 1. **LOOK UP SCRIPTURE RELATING TO THE SIN AND WRITE THEM DOWN.**
 - C. **REPENT OF THE SIN AND ASK GOD TO FORGIVE YOU.**
 - D. **TAKE THOUGHTS CAPTIVE BEFORE WE SIN.**
 - 1. **2 Corinthians 10:3-6 (NASB)** For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, or the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and **we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ**
 - 2. **"IN THE NAME, AND THE POWER, AND THE AUTHORITY OF MY SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST I GIVE NO CONSENT TO THAT THOUGHT. AND IN HIS NAME, SATAN, YOU MUST GO".**