

How to Destroy the World with Your Children

I. The most important reason to be a biblical parent is God's glory.

- The primary reason to be a biblical parent is the glory of God. We don't parent out of fear. We're not to be reactionary parents. We're to be biblical parents who parent the way God commands simply because He deserves our obedience.
- Thinking we should parent our kids the right way simply because we need to keep them from descending into darkness or protect the world from burning. That's not a Christ-honoring focus. It's a good secondary motivation, but it shouldn't be our primary motivation, or it becomes very humanistic.

II. You can assume that whatever amount of biblical truth you're using to parent your kids today, your grandchildren and future generations will likely be parented with less truth.

- By the miraculous grace of God there are exceptions to this.
- However, history has taught us that the character of a nation de-evolves over time because the character of its individuals becomes less mature. Time and time and time again in the Bible we read how the current generation experienced God's blessing, miracles, and truth, and they responded in true belief and repentance and submission . . . but then a couple generations later the children and grandchildren of those exact same people turn away from God. (Judges 2:6-13)
 - This is how Germany, the center of the Reformation, is so godless today.
 - That's how America has declined from being a "Christian nation" to a nation of people who want nothing to do with the biblical roots of their nation.
 - This is how Harvard, once a seminary for equipping biblical pastors has become the liberal cesspool that it is.
 - The generational descent of man—barring an act of God—is a real, observable, and traceable trajectory.
- As hard as it may be to imagine, the chances are actually greater that your kids won't parent their children as well as you have. This potential is greatly multiplied if your kids have not been born again. And then just as they won't parent their kids in the same amount of biblical truth (if at all)—barring an act of God—their kids will do no better.

III. The more time that passes, and the more of your descendants who move away from truth to lies, the greater the impact you will have had on the nation.

- Most of us don't really care about this point the way we should because we don't think about it the way we should. We're most concerned with our kids—the people who are standing right in front of us—we may give some thought to our grandkids (maybe even before we have any), but I don't know how many of us are even planning to see our great grandkids.
- It's that superficial mindset that is part of the problem. When my ancestors came over on the Mayflower, William and Mary Brewster brought their sons, Love and Wrestling. According to FamilySearch.org, there are over 35 million Mayflower descendants in the world. Of only 26 Mayflower families who left descendants, there are 35 million of them! That means if over the last 400 years all 26 families had the same number of descendants, William and Mary Brewster are the ancestors of 1.35 million people.
- And in another 400 years, if the Lord tarries, your descendants may account for millions of the population. And those millions of people are going to play a significant part in the overall spiritual temperature of the nation in which they live.

- And we all know that in the 6,000 or so years since the Creation of the world, every single man, woman, and child descends from Noah, his wife, and their three sons. And when Cain or Ham is your child, the smallest slide over time leads to a world full of pagans.
- We have to be wise. We have to realize that choices have consequences. We need to understand that our parental influence in one way or another will play into the spiritual maturity of future generations. And though we have a responsibility to God, we also have a responsibility to our kids and our grandkids and great grandkids to love them by being salt and light for Christ here and now in our metaphorical Jerusalem.

IV. The highest responsibility you have is to rear your kids in as much of the nurture and admonition of the Lord as humanely possible.

- If you want your kids to walk away with only 60% of the material from the book, you need to make sure you teach all 100% of the material. You never know what's going to stick and why. All you can do is passionately unfold the curriculum, strive for those "AH Moments," and trust God to do the rest.
- But if you only teach 60% of the material, one thing is for sure, unless they have another teacher or tutor, or they're motivated to take up the book and learn the other 40% for themselves, they will never learn more than the 60% you've taught them.
- And it's also a very good possibility they won't actually walk away with much more than 35% of the information you taught.
- In the same way that even though biblical parents can't control their kids, we try to make it as easy to do right and hard to do wrong as possible, so too we make it easier to learn more and become more when we teach them more.
- Your kids will always need more truth spoken into their lives. We're all sinners who—like dogs—return so often to our own vomit and do what's right in our own eyes.
- And all our kids are the same. They need us to be a consistent, passionate, convincing biblical parent who presents the truths of Scripture in teaching, reproof, correction, and training, and calls on them to not merely learn and understand it, but to believe it because that's what their Creator deserves.
- And the more we do that, the more we're a Gospel Parent who weaves the eternal truths of God into every fiber of our day, the more they'll learn, and—Lord willing—the more they'll be changed by it.
- Now, you have no control over whether your kids and grandkids and great grandkids will submit to Christ. But you do have control over how you will live and parent. And you know that the whole course of human history has taught us that nations generally decline as the individuals in that nation decline. And you know that it's statically probable that your children won't be as mature as you are. Therefore, you want to set them up for as much success as possible by bringing them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
- And if God doesn't return in the next 400 or 4,000 years will your lineage will be one that not only follows Him, but also has a Christ-honoring impact on the world. Who knows; all you can do is your part, and you know that God deserves for you to parent to the best of your ability for Him.