

Corporal Punishment

By Casey Head

I just heard the other day that it is now illegal in New York to spank your children. Of course, corporal punishment (spanking) is becoming more and more unpopular in this country. Certain government agencies such as Child Protective Services (CPS) view corporal punishment as a form of physical abuse. Some have asked, "How can you expect your child not to hit people when you hit them." Because this liberal hogwash is gaining ground in this country, it is important to review what the Bible teaches about corporal punishment.

In Proverbs 13:24, God tells us, "He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes." The "rod" here is the instrument of discipline, and God says that we are to use it in chastening our children. In fact, if we neglect corporal punishment in the raising of our children, we are neglecting our children! If we love them, we better spank them!

Again, we are told in Proverbs 23:13-14, "Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell." A similar message is conveyed here. As parents, we are to spank our children. In doing so, we are not beating them to the point of death, but rather to the point of *deliverance* from death (spiritually). In other words, corporal punishment, when it is carried out properly, helps to improve our child's character.

The problem is this: when some people think of spanking, they immediately think of an enraged, out-of-control parent beating their children mercilessly; they think of the father who says "don't do that again, Johnny" about a dozen times before he finally flies off the handle and with gritted teeth strikes his son. Many condemn all forms of corporal punishment because they have seen some parents abuse their children. But I say, "don't throw out the baby with the bathwater." I certainly don't approve of, nor does God sanction physical abuse, but there is a big difference between abuse and spanking.

Corporal punishment needs to be motivated by love for one's child (Prov. 3:11-12; 13:24) NOT anger or rage. Spank them when you are calm and in-control, NOT when your blood is boiling and you want to kill them. Let them know that you are spanking them because you love them. And be consistent! Inconsistent punishment confuses children and often leads to heightened disobedience. Finally, reward your children when they are obedient, and give them plenty of positive reinforcement!

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Examples of Conversion in Acts

By Andy Mitchell

| Preaching | Believe | Repent | Confess | Baptized | Saved |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|----------|
| Pentecost Ac. 2:14-41 | | V. 37-38 | | V. 38, 41 | V. 38-47 |
| Samaritans Ac. 8:5-13 | V. 12 | | | V. 12-13 | |
| Eunuch Ac. 8:35-39 | V. 36-37 | | V. 37 | V. 38 | V. 39 |
| Saul Ac. 9:1-18 | | | | 9:18 | 22:16 |
| Cornelius Ac. 10:34-48 | V. 43 | 11:18 | | V. 48 | V. 43 |
| Lydia Ac. 16:13-15 | | | | V. 15 | |
| Jailor Ac. 16:25-34 | V. 31 | | | V. 33 | V. 34 |
| Corinthians Ac. 18:8 | V. 8 | | | V. 8 | |
| Ephesians Ac. 19:1-5 | V. 4 | | | V. 5 | |

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Hosted by the

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June 18-22, 2008

with Dan Chaney
Of Roswell, Georgia

Meeting Times

Wednesday-Saturday (6/18-6/21)

7:30 each night

Sunday (6/22)

10:00, 11:00 & 6:30

“Revive Us Again”

Wednesday, June 18.....“Revive Us Again”

Thursday, June 19.....“Contrast of the Ruler and Eunuch”

Friday, June 20.....“Finding the Disciples”

Saturday, June 21.....“The Man of God”

Sunday, June 22.....“I Come to the Garden Alone”

Sunday, June 22.....“God on the Front Porch”

Sunday, June 22.....“I Know Whom I Have Believed”

If you have any questions about the church or would like to know more about the gospel meeting, please contact us:

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Have I Become Your Enemy?

By Byron Smith

Paul asked his readers, "Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth" (Gal. 4:16). Paul certainly taught the truth and sometimes it offended and alienated his audience. But their negative response did not change the fact that he was teaching the truth. Our love and commitment to truth, or lack thereof, is indicated by how we respond when we hear it taught.

Suppose there is sin in your life. Maybe you have knowledge of that sin, or perhaps you are completely unaware of its presence. Either way it is there just the same. Further suppose that a friend confronts you about your sin. Since this person is a friend they are acting with the best intentions in mind. How would you respond to this friend? Would you become angry and say, "How dare you?" Or, would you respond with appreciation because this friend cared enough for your soul to approach you about your sin. Obviously, the latter would be the best response.

Consider another possible scenario. This time you have not intentionally done anything wrong; neither have you done anything blatantly evil in the eyes of your peers. You have simply believed and practiced religious error. Perhaps you have been affiliated with a religious group that is foreign to the scriptures. Maybe you have espoused doctrines unknown to the word of God. Either way your soul is in jeopardy because of this error.

Now suppose that a friend, an acquaintance, or even a stranger confronts you about this error. They may confront you in person, by means of a Bible radio program, or maybe even through an article written in a Bible bulletin. How would you respond to this confrontation? Would you give the truth a fair hearing, or would you in pride close your ears and mind to any consideration of what the Bible says? Would you respond with negative emotions of anger and resentment, or would you be like those who "searched the scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so?" (Ac. 17:11) Would you respond with rudeness and harshness of speech or would you, "Test all things (and) hold fast what is good?" (1 Thess. 5:21)

Sadly, people often respond in a negative way when the truth is taught. Sometimes they simply turn with indifference and go the other way and other times they regard the teacher as their enemy. Whatever the response may be, the truth must be taught and men with backbone must be willing to teach it.

How will you respond when the truth is taught?

Bible Trivia

Which Pauline Epistle(s):

1. Written to a young preacher in Ephesus.
2. Written to a slave master.
3. Paul called these brethren foolish for being bewitched.
4. Paul told these brethren to pass their epistle onto the Laodiceans.
5. Written to a church in the capital city of the dominant world empire of the first century.

Paul or Peter:

6. Preached to the household of Cornelius.
7. Had a sharp contention with Barnabas.

Challenge Question:

8. What does God mean in Romans 9:13, "Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated?" Did God literally hate Esau?

Evidence of Intelligent Design:

According to the Big Bang theory, matter should be spread evenly throughout the universe, but that is not the case at all. Instead, there are lumps of matter called galaxies! This denies the Big Bang theory and points to intelligent design.

Answers:

1. 1-2 Timothy; 2. Philemon; 3. Galatians (3:1); 4. Colossians (4:16); 5. Romans; 6. Peter (Ac. 10); 7. Paul (Ac. 15:36-41)

Challenge Question ANSWER From May 2008:

Many religious people today believe that the land of Palestine belongs to Israel today, but the Bible teaches that the keeping of the land was conditioned upon their continued obedience to the law of Moses (Deut. 5:31-33). First of all, Israel today is not obedient to the law of Moses. Second, they couldn't possibly keep the law of Moses even if they wanted to! Christ nailed it to the cross (Col. 2:14-16). So, Israel has no God-given right to the land of Palestine today. We also need to recognize that Israel is not God's chosen people today. Israelites can be saved, but only if they submit to Christ (Jn. 14:6). Furthermore, Jews and Gentiles are equal in God's sight today (Gal. 3:28; Col. 3:11).

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Do you have any questions about any of the following Bible subjects? Circle any that may apply...

The plan of salvation

Are babies born in sin?

The free-will of man

Miracles

The infallibility of God's word

Moral issues (drinking, etc.)

The deity of Christ/Godhead

The book of Revelation

Jesus' final return

The New Testament church

Raising children

Suffering and temptation

Other: _____

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Falling in Love With the Author

A young lady once laid down a book which she had just finished, with the remark that it was the dullest story she had ever read. In the course of time, she became engaged to a young man, and one night she said to him: "I have a book in my library whose author's name, and even initials, are precisely the same as yours. Isn't that a singular coincidence?" "I do not think so," he replied. "Why not, pray?" "For the simple reason that I wrote the book." That night, the young lady sat up until two o'clock reading the book again. And this time it seemed the most interesting story she had ever read. The once dull book was now fairly fascinating because she knew and loved the author. So, a child of God finds the Bible interesting because he knows and loves the author! It is his Father's message, addressed to him.

-Record of Christian Work

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Lightning Lesson

A person recently said to me, "Yes, children are born in sin; they are born of the flesh and flesh is sin." This falsehood forms the basis for the ever-popular doctrine of "Total Hereditary Depravity" which says not only that we are born in sin but also that we inherit a "sinful nature" which prevents us from doing right. To better understand the truth on this issue, we need to look at the word "flesh." "Flesh" comes from the Greek word *sarx* which can refer to many different things. It can simply refer to the physical body (Mt. 16:16; Lk. 24:39; Ac. 2:31) or it can refer to the carnal side of man (Rom. 7:5; 8:1, 8). I agree that children are born *physically*. They have skin and bones. In that sense they are "born of the flesh." But is a baby "born of the flesh" in the sense that he is guilty of carnality and sinfulness? Of course not (Eccl. 7:29)! Consider also that Jesus was "made flesh" (Jn. 1:14). Romans 8:3 even says, "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh." Jesus was born "of the flesh" just like the rest of us, yet He was without sin (Heb. 4:15). Clearly, babies are not born in sin. After all, we choose the master of our flesh (Rom. 6:19).