

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Discuss: What is the “rod” of correction referred to in Proverbs 13:24; 22:15; 29:17? What kinds of correction might this possibly include?
2. What does the word “discipline” really mean?
3. What are acceptable motives for correcting or punishing a child? What might be possible wrong motives?
4. Is the child who is given firm guidelines and parental discipline happier than the child who is allowed to literally do as he pleases? Discuss.
5. How ought we to respond to the chastening of God?

SUMMARY:

Our Heavenly Father chastens, corrects, and disciplines all His children. Though no one “enjoys” the rod of discipline, God does it all for our own good. The well-disciplined child is the happy child. Blessed are we if we live the “disciplined” life; and if we respond to His efforts to correct us. “Happy is the man that feareth (the Lord) always.” (Proverbs 28:14)

Likewise parents are charged to discipline their children, and to “bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:4) And children are admonished to “obey your parents in the Lord for this is right.” (Ephesians 6:1) “Blessed are they that hear the Word of God, and keep it.” (Luke 11:28)

NOTES:

[SoF:14] We believe in the exercise of discipline by the church in order to deal with the presence of sin in the lives of its members.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #10

September 3, 2017

Third Quarter

THE WISDOM OF DISCIPLINE [SoF:14]

LESSON TEXT: *Proverbs 3:11-12; 13:24; 15:10; 19:18; 22:15; 28:12-14; Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:20-22; Hebrews 12:9-11*

LESSON SETTING: In the vicinity of Jerusalem where his palace was located.

TIME: Approximately 980 B.C., during the reign of Solomon.

I. THE MOTIVE OF DISCIPLINE.

- A. Love for the Child . Proverbs 3:11, 12; 13:24; Hebrews 12:6-7
- B. For the Child’s Own Benefit. Ephesians 6:4; Proverbs 22:6

II. THE NEED OF DISCIPLINE.

- A. Human Inclination to Sin. Romans 3:10-12
- B. Discipline for Teaching and Correction. Proverbs 15:10; 19:18; 22:15

III. THE PRAYER RESPONSE TO DISCIPLINE.

- A. Confession and Forsaking of Sin. Proverbs 28:12-14; 29:15
- B. Implicit Obedience and Subjection. Colossians 3:20-22; Hebrews 9:11

GOLDEN TEXT: *WHOM THE LORD LOVETH HE CORRECTETH; EVEN AS A FATHER THE SON IN WHOM HE IS DELIGHTED.*

Proverbs 3:12

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Proverbs 23:1-35

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Isaiah 28:1-11; Daniel 1:8;
1 Corinthians 9:22-27;
1 Thessalonians 5:6-7

QUARTERLY THEME: Life and Writings of Solomon

TOPIC: THE WISDOM OF TEMPERANCE

INTRODUCTION:

Temperance may mean moderation, rather than excess, in the use or doing of many good things. Food, for example, is given as a blessing from God and is the very means of sustaining our physical life. But gluttony is wrong.

However, the word “temperance” implies not only moderation, but also self-control. Temperance, or self-control is the opposite of self-indulgence. And some things are to be as much avoided as a plague, or as deadly poison. The word temperance is often associated with the use of alcoholic beverages. It is also associated with tobacco, addicting drugs and sexual immorality.

The Bible is clear in condemning drunkenness; it states, “neither fornicators . . . nor drunkards . . . shall inherit the kingdom of God.” (1 Corinthians 6:9-10)

While the Bible abounds with warnings against the dangers of alcoholic beverages, there is no blanket prohibition against all use of them in all cultures, all circumstances, all times. However, believers in the United States and Canada today need to strongly consider some important facts in the light of the Bible. (1) Addiction to alcohol afflicts one out of every 10 persons who drink alcoholic beverages. The only guarantee against becoming an alcoholic is to abstain from the use of beverage alcohol. (2) Even one drink involves some loss of self-control: our God-given inhibitions diminish; our ability to think clearly or to drive is definitely impaired. (3) The traditional use and meaning of alcohol in our culture today is associated with reveling and many things totally wrong for the believer. (4) In the minds of millions in America today—both converted and unconverted—alcohol is in the same category as tobacco, narcotics, and other addictive drugs; totally wrong and unthinkable for the Christian either in public or private. Can we with a clear conscience do anything that will hinder our testimony for Jesus Christ? Or anything that will offend or be a cause of stumbling for our brother? (Romans 14:21)

CENTRAL TRUTH: Temperance in every area of living is a mark of the truly wise man.

GOLDEN TEXT: *EVERY MAN THAT STRIVETH FOR THE MASTERY IS TEMPERATE IN ALL THINGS.* 1 Corinthians 9:25

In 1 Corinthians 9:22-27, the Apostle Paul compares the Christian with the athlete—who runs for a corruptible crown. Much more than the athlete, the Christian needs self-control, or temperance, in all things. Much more ought we to keep our eyes on the goal and to run with all our might. Much more, ought we like Paul to “keep under my body, and bring it into subjection.”(1 Corinthians 9:27) “. . . let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.” (Hebrews 12:1-2)

It is by exercising the power of the Holy Spirit that temperance, or self-control, is possible. Temperance is a fruit of the Holy Spirit in the believer. (Galatians 5:22-25) “If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF September 4 – 10

- M. *Temperance in Eating. Proverbs 23:1-8
- T. *Learning from Correction. Proverbs 23:9-16
- W. *Dangers of Intemperance. Proverbs 23:17-26
- T. *Evil Results of Intemperance. Proverbs 23:27-35
- F. The Judgment on Intemperance. Daniel 1:1-8
- S. The Challenge of Temperance. Daniel 1:1-8
- S. The Benefits of Temperance. Daniel 1:9-21

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