

Raising Up Children

Part 7

Handling Wicked Children-To Send Them To Exile

“18 If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son, which will not obey the voice of his father, or the voice of his mother, and that, when they have chastened him, will not hearken unto them: 19 Then shall his father and his mother lay hold on him, and bring him out unto the elders of his city, and unto the gate of his place; 20 And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard. 21 And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear.” (Deuteronomy 21:18-21)

Parents who has wicked uncontrollable children, the word of God provide help and healing to them. Jesus Christ died for our sins, and in receiving Him we have eternal life. Jesus love and welcome children, **“14 Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” 15 When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there.” (Matthew 19:14-15)**

Deuteronomy 21:18-21 it shows us that in the Old Testament there was no place of wicked children in the family or in the society. If they will not be responding to the discipline of the parent they will be getting rid of them by stoning them to death. The elders of the city will be the one who will take part and supervise the process of execution. In the New Testament the family after they had done their part, then they will take the help and the advices from the church. Each and every family is a congregation in the Church of God and their children are the members of that congregation, therefore when they are unable to deal with their children after the manner of **Matthew 18:15-16** then they can ask the help of the church, **“15 “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. 16 But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ 17 If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.” (Matthew 18:15-17)**

After the case referred to the church, then the responsibility of the church will start by directing the parents toward Christ and training them using the Scripture explaining to them spiritual truth about what is the reason behind their children wickedness and assisting them and helping them to apply useful measure in disciplining their children:

1- Demons are behind children wickedness: Parents should draw near to Jesus and ask Him to help them and deliver their children from demons and demonic influences. The following event is a good example for that, **“21 Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. 22 A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.” 23 Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.” 24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.” 25 The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said. 26 He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.” 27 “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.” 28 Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at**

that moment.” (Matthew 15:21-28) Part of the parents drawing near to Christ is to remove the demonic influences from the life of their children (TV, electronic games, bad friends, the internet, parties, pornography, etc.).

2- Teaching the parents and challenging them to commit their lives with their children to serve Christ: **“14 “Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. 15 But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.” (Joshua 24:14-15)** The church should instruct the parent to commit themselves to follow Christ, by cleaning the atmosphere of the house from TV, video games, free access to the internet, the bad influence of friends and relatives: by reading daily God’s word in the bible, and to kneel down and pray daily with their children at the feet of Jesus.

3- Instructing them how to chasten their children with rod: We instruct parents to put rules and limitations on their children and to use the rod when the children abuse, transgress and show foolishness, **“Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far away.” (Proverbs 22:15)**

4- To send uncontrollable kids to exile: Those children who will not respond to the discipline of the parents then they will be taken from their comfort zone at their homes and kept in custody with the church under the care of a family: **“1 The word of the LORD came to me: 2 “Son of man, you are living among a rebellious people. They have eyes to see but do not see and ears to hear but do not hear, for they are a rebellious people. 3 “Therefore, son of man, pack your belongings for exile and in the daytime, as they watch, set out and go from where you are to another place. Perhaps they will understand, though they are a rebellious people. 4 During the daytime, while they watch, bring out your belongings packed for exile. Then in the evening, while they are watching, go out like those who go into exile. 5 While they watch, dig through the wall and take your belongings out through it. 6 Put them on your shoulder as they are watching and carry them out at dusk. Cover your face so that you cannot see the land, for I have made you a sign to the Israelites.” 7 So I did as I was commanded. During the day I brought out my things packed for exile. Then in the evening I dug through the wall with my hands. I took my belongings out at dusk, carrying them on my shoulders while they watched. 8 In the morning the word of the LORD came to me: 9 “Son of man, did not the Israelites, that rebellious people, ask you, ‘What are you doing?’ 10 “Say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: This prophecy concerns the prince in Jerusalem and all the Israelites who are there.’ 11 Say to them, ‘I am a sign to you.’ “As I have done, so it will be done to them. They will go into exile as captives.” (Ezekiel 12:1-11)** Taking the child from his fortress and putting him away from his family is the same of what the Lord did to His people when He took them from Jerusalem and placed them in Babylon. The children will be treated as captive or prisoners with rations of food and water to eat and to drink. To sleep on uncomfortable couches or even on the ground if it is needed: to be tied and controlled: their movements and actions will scrutinized with the word of God. **Ezekiel 4:1-17** is a good lesson on that: **“1 “Now, son of man, take a block of clay, put it in front of you and draw the city of Jerusalem on it. 2 Then lay siege to it: Erect siege works against it, build a ramp up to it, set up camps against it and put battering rams around it. 3 Then take an iron pan, place it as an iron wall between you and the city and turn your face toward it. It will be under siege, and**

you shall besiege it. This will be a sign to the people of Israel. 4 "Then lie on your left side and put the sin of the people of Israel upon yourself. You are to bear their sin for the number of days you lie on your side. 5 I have assigned you the same number of days as the years of their sin. So for 390 days you will bear the sin of the people of Israel. 6 "After you have finished this, lie down again, this time on your right side, and bear the sin of the people of Judah. I have assigned you 40 days, a day for each year. 7 Turn your face toward the siege of Jerusalem and with bared arm prophesy against her. 8 I will tie you up with ropes so that you cannot turn from one side to the other until you have finished the days of your siege. 9 "Take wheat and barley, beans and lentils, millet and spelt; put them in a storage jar and use them to make bread for yourself. You are to eat it during the 390 days you lie on your side. 10 Weigh out twenty shekels of food to eat each day and eat it at set times. 11 Also measure out a sixth of a hin of water and drink it at set times. 12 Eat the food as you would a loaf of barley bread; bake it in the sight of the people, using human excrement for fuel." 13 The LORD said, "In this way the people of Israel will eat defiled food among the nations where I will drive them." 14 Then I said, "Not so, Sovereign LORD! I have never defiled myself. From my youth until now I have never eaten anything found dead or torn by wild animals. No impure meat has ever entered my mouth." 15 "Very well," he said, "I will let you bake your bread over cow dung instead of human excrement." 16 He then said to me: "Son of man, I am about to cut off the food supply in Jerusalem. The people will eat rationed food in anxiety and drink rationed water in despair, 17 for food and water will be scarce. They will be appalled at the sight of each other and will waste away because of their sin." Children in exile everything they will do is through asking permission. Permission to go and urinate, defecate or brush their teeth. They will be asked to sleep less and trained to have the manner of saying, 'please,' when they ask for something, and to say 'thank you,' when their request granted. That will help them to further humble down and be grateful to what they are receiving. Thankful attitude can be a sign of their beginning of repentance. While the children are in exile every discipline and punishment they will receive it need to be explained and expound from the word of God.

5- Beating: *"Blows and wounds scrub away evil, and beatings purge the inmost being." (Proverbs 20:30)* Every child has a predominant sin or sins. These needs to be identified and need to be dealt with using rod to beat and inflict blows and wounds; this will help to cleanse the wicked and rebellious child from evil.

6- Tying: Abraham tied his son Isaac on the altar in the process of offering him to God as burnt offering, *"9 When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son." (Genesis 22:9-10)* God bound Ezekiel to control him and restrict him so he will accomplish what God wanted him to accomplish, *"8 I will tie you up with ropes so that you cannot turn from one side to the other until you have finished the days of your siege." (Ezekiel 4:8)* Tying the whole body and fixing it on a board or table is painful and may help the wicked children to repent. Tying the hands and the feet can also help to impart discipline and humiliation to humble them. Samson was tied when he was arrested, *"21 Then the Philistines seized him, gouged out his eyes and took him down to Gaza. Binding him with bronze shackles, they set him to grinding grain in the prison." (Judges 16:21)* King Zedekiah was bound with shackles in the prison, *"11 Then he put out Zedekiah's eyes, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon, where he put him in prison till the day of his death." (Jeremiah 52:11)*

7- Put the child in a cage as his prison: Samson was put in prison when he was arrested, *"21 Then the Philistines seized him, gouged out his eyes and took him down to Gaza. Binding him with bronze shackles, they set him to grinding grain in the prison." (Judges 16:21)* King Zedekiah was put in prison, *"11 Then he put out Zedekiah's eyes, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon, where he put him in prison till the day of his death." (Jeremiah 52:11)* Such kind of punishment for children in exile is used for further restricting their movements and further they will be publicly humiliated.

8- Closing the eyes: Samson and Zedekiah both their eyes were gouge out, *"21 Then the Philistines seized him, gouged out his eyes and took him down to Gaza. Binding him with bronze shackles, they set him to grinding grain in the prison." (Judges 16:21)* *"11 Then he put out Zedekiah's eyes, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon, where he put him in prison till the day of his death." (Jeremiah 52:11)* Temporal closing of the eyes over several hours can has humiliating effect and may bring the fear of God in their lives.

9- Closing the mouth: *"3 Set a guard over my mouth, LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips." (Psalm 141:3)* To control children speaking, an appropriate thick plaster over six to eight hours will do the job as a door over the mouth to control it.

10- Reducing the food to bread and water: *"26 and say, 'This is what the king says: Put this fellow in prison and give him nothing but bread and water until I return safely.'" (2Chronicles 18:26)* Less food and food without taste has a disciplinary effect on the children. Their mind will be more attentive to the word of God and their eyes will be open and will show more respect and honor to the word of God. Plain bread or rice with salt and water will do the work: *"20 Although the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, your teachers will be hidden no more; with your own eyes you will see them." (Isaiah 30:20)* Children in exile and under discipline of less food and less sleep and no playing and wasting of time their ears will be more open to the voice of The Holy Spirit and good number of them will hear the voice of God that will lead them to repentance and will help them to take the right decision to be back to God the Creature and finally to amend their ways, *"21 Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it." (Isaiah 30:21)*

11- Session of bible study educations: Children in exiles are more receptive to the word of God and we need intelligently to direct our bible studies to them against their particular sins, and finally to challenge them to through away their idols of pride, boasting, laziness, disrespect to their parents, gluttony, greed, jealousy, telling lies, cheating, fooling, making troubles, etc. *"22 Then you will desecrate your idols overlaid with silver and your images covered with gold; you will throw them away like a menstrual cloth and say to them, "Away with you!" (Isaiah 30:22)* We ask the children who are in exile and as The Holy Spirit leading us to write their sins and their wrong doings and their testimonies as they are repenting. You need also to be careful with children for they are good in fooling and pretending that they are changing.

12- Sessions of expelling demons: We instruct the parents to pray and fast for their children who are in exile, and for the children who are repenting we ask them to renounce their sins and send away the evil spirits that are enslaving them, like the spirit of lies, greed, laziness, naughtiness, etc. We also expel the demons out of them, *"14 And when he came to his disciples, he saw a great multitude about them, and the scribes questioning with them. 15 And*

straightway all the people, when they beheld him, were greatly amazed, and running to him saluted him. 16 And he asked the scribes, What question ye with them? 17 And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit; 18 And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not. 19 He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me. 20 And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming. 21 And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child. 22 And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us. 23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. 24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief. 25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him. 26 And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead. 27 But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose. 28 And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out? 29 And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.” (Mark 9:14-29)

13- Starving: Those kids who are obstinate in their sin and has a big pride they might need such discipline of cutting the food from them, “16 He then said to me: “Son of man, I am about to cut off the food supply in Jerusalem. The people will eat rationed food in anxiety and drink rationed water in despair, 17 for food and water will be scarce. They will be appalled at the sight of each other and will waste away because of their sin.” (Ezekiel 4:16-17)

14- Drinking their own urine: “27 But the commander replied, “Was it only to your master and you that my master sent me to say these things, and not to the people sitting on the wall—who, like you, will have to eat their own excrement and drink their own urine?” (2Kings 18:27) During siege due to war, the scarcity or lack of water may lead the people to drink their own urine. God allowed that his rebellious people in the cities of Israel to pass through such humiliating experience of eating their own stool and drink their own urine. For the child to drink his own urine is not harmful. The effect of that action is a painful experience, but physically it is neither painful nor harmful. This might be tried for one or two times, that the child might be scared, and ultimately chose to revert from his doing wrong, than to pass through that experience of drinking his own urine.

15- Spitting on the face: This can has a humiliating action on the wicked and rebellious child and might lead him to repentance, “14 The LORD replied to Moses, “If her father had spit in her face, would she not have been in disgrace for seven days? Confine her outside the camp for seven days; after that she can be brought back.” (Numbers 12:14)

16- Pulling the hair: It is another painful disciplinary action with beating. Nehemiah did that to impart discipline to the people, “23 Moreover, in those days I saw men of Judah who had married women from Ashdod, Ammon and Moab. 24 Half of their children spoke the language of Ashdod or the language of one of the other peoples, and did not know how to speak the language of Judah. 25 I rebuked them and called curses down on them. I beat some

of the men and pulled out their hair. I made them take an oath in God’s name and said: “You are not to give your daughters in marriage to their sons, nor are you to take their daughters in marriage for your sons or for yourselves.” (Nehemiah 13:23-25)

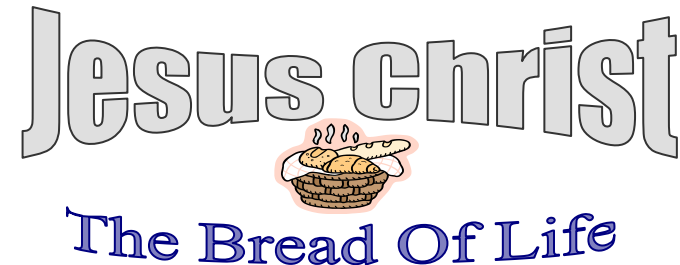
17- Eating their own vomit: Some children under discipline will pretend they are sickly and they may even try to vomit. We use to say to them, ‘If you will vomit then you will be asked to ingest your own vomit.’ “As a dog returns to its vomit, so fools repeat their folly.” (Proverbs 26:11)

18- Parents education: Parents can be equipped and trained with all the above methods and would be asked to do some of them within the realm of their family before they refer their stubborn and wicked child to the church. We give bible studies about all the above methods using supportive Scriptures, “16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” (2Timothy 4:16-17)

My Dear and Beloved: About Jesus the following was said, “Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;” (Hebrews 5:8) All the above methods of disciplining wicked children are painful either physically or mentally, and that suffering that they will pass through will help them to learn and be obedience. All the above measure we do only after we are directed by The Holy Spirit, “For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.” (Romans 8:14) You need then to “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.” (Proverbs 3:5) God’s ways are different from your own ways. Therefore you need to trust, learn and put into practice the word of God as The Holy Spirit leads you in training and disciplining your stubborn children as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God thank for your word that you sent to me. Thank you for your Son Jesus Christ, who brought me hope in you and who saved me from my sins and gave me eternal life. Lord I commit myself to raise up my child/children _____, in a godly way and doing in accordance with your word to deal with my stubborn kids. Lord upholds me with your grace to overcome my own emotions, feelings and my own understanding. Lead me Lord with your Holy Spirit to do what is right in your sight, this is my prayer in Jesus name. Amen.

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