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**Bless the Children**

**By Joyce C. Lock**

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Previous generations were raised under the premise that children are to be seen and not heard. If they altered in teaching, the next generation was heard, but their words weren't taken seriously – as adults always think they know more than children do.

Following generations often have few to no guidelines, wherein children's behavior screams for someone to care enough to say, "No."

Though, what if God did that to us? When we call out to Him, can you imagine God responding with, "I can't hear you"? When we cry, what if He mocked our words, "Cry my hands full. You're nothing but a big baby"? Or, we could be given them blame for all that ails us, "All he does is wine", or even worse, "Come here and I'll give you something to cry about!"

What if God didn't care more about you than the comfort of the moment, "Sure, do whatever you want. I just want you to like me." Try some of that on church visitation and see how effective you are. But, instead, God takes great care in parenting to do it right. He looks deeper, to meet the need of the heart.

Why should God listen to our prayers when we don't listen to our children?

Doesn't God love us enough to say, "No", when it will hurt us or someone else?

Still worse were the teachings of 'spare the rod, spoil the child'. During the days of preaching 'hell, fire, and brimstone', parents showed children what they thought God was like – drawing blood in the name of the Lord. What happened to "thy rod and thy staff they comfort me"?

Is it any wonder adults think they can't come to God?

Once children "know" they have a consistent place of refuge, they can depend upon in time of need, many annoying traits of childhood disappear.

## Bless the Children

Few come to realize children are living souls first and children second. Taking God as a perfect example, we're to be spiritual parents. Only when children become willfully defiant for non-need reasons do we have the right to act in disciplinary fashions, and, still then, with God's guidance.

If God offered us grace, then why do we hold children accountable under our law (or His) without consideration of extenuating circumstances? And, when we accuse and punish children, without considering their heart or getting facts straight, we could be shedding innocent blood.

Children are an heritage of the LORD. They're not possessions, but a gift to raise for Him. The fruit of the womb is HIS reward.

Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. The relationship children have with parents will effect their relationship with God. For, however we perceive earthly parents is how we perceive God.

Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

As in everything, the only way to parent perfectly is to ask God every time (letting Him be our parent). Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock.

If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

In every way God loves us, we're to love others, in return; grace for grace.

It's our opportunity to give thanks.

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In addition to being a published author and poet, Joyce C. Lock created the religion column, "Christianity Made Simple" for Peru Daily Tribune, continues to write inspirational articles for area newspapers, and shares further in online and e-mail ministries.

**Wild Gentiles Grafted Into Abraham's Blessings?**

## Bless the Children

**By Dr. Jay Snell**

We show only sixteen of them here and healing is including in this list. See the faith building paragraphs below.

Deut 7:9&11

9 Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations; 11 Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which I command thee this day, to do them. (KJV)

Notice that in verse 9, God calls his covenant with Abraham both "covenant and mercy." He said, "Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;"

In other words, the Abrahamic covenant was a "covenant of mercy."

Next, see that the keeping of the Law of Moses enabled the Old Testament Abrahamic Seed Group to maintain the blessings given them by birth in the Abrahamic covenant.

But how did keeping the Law of Moses enable God to continue the Abrahamic blessings of healing, prosperity, family well being and salvation for them?

In the Old Testament, when a Jew sinned, Moses' law commanded that a certain sacrifice be made for their specific sin. When they made the proper sacrifice in the proper manner, God deferred judgment on the sin until Jesus came. Then He pushed that waiting sin under Jesus' blood. This way the keeping of the Law, including the sacrifices, enabled God to continue the Abrahamic blessings without interruption.

Here, we see that the law of Moses was given to maintain the blessings the Hebrews had been born with in the Abrahamic covenant, which again, is called the covenant and the mercy which he swore unto thy fathers.

Keep in mind that the law of Moses was never intended to enable the Old Testament Abrahamic Seed Group to obtain salvation and blessings by the works of the law. Instead, it was given to enable them to maintain the Abrahamic blessings they were born with in the Abrahamic covenant.

Furthermore, verse 11 above gives God's command for them to keep the commandments of Moses while the next verse, (12) shows what happens for them if they do in fact keep Moses' commandments. He keeps for them, without interruption, the list of blessings given below.

Deut 7:12 12 Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the LORD thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he swore unto thy fathers: (KJV)

## Bless the Children

Here's a list of these blessings. This list is taken from Deuteronomy 7:13–15.

God will love thee He will bless thee He will multiply thee He will also bless the fruit of thy womb He will bless the fruit of thy land He will bless thy corn He will bless thy wine He will bless thine oil He will bless the increase of thy kine He will bless the flocks of thy sheep He will do all this in the land which he swore unto thy fathers to give thee. Thou shalt be blessed above all people There shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle. The LORD will take away from thee all sickness He will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee Instead, He will lay them upon all them that hate thee.

Keep in mind, dear Gentile Christian, that although this is an Old Testament Scripture, you are grafted and transferred into the big middle of it on an equal footing with the saved Jews whom I call The Abrahamic Seed Group.

As a matter of fact, the promise of the land is exclusively Jewish. But other Scriptures give us Gentiles the rest of the world. The world is ours and the land of Palestine is theirs. But the healing, prosperity, family well being and salvation is just as much ours today as it is the Jews.

If you will take the time to meditate upon the preceding list of blessings above, the magnitude of their content will overwhelm you. They will blow your mind. Even the fear of childlessness is addressed.

Can you see anything that is not covered for you? Did God leave anything out? What else is there? No wonder God called his covenant with Abraham his "covenant and mercy!" Is there anymore that could be contained in the term "mercy" than what we find here?

In a flash, we Gentile Christians were transferred to this group. Praise the Lord! We are now in the group where the Old Testament Seed Group have been since Genesis 12. We are in the Near Group who have possessed healing, prosperity, family well being and salvation since the days beginning in Genesis 12.

Dr. Jay Snell authored eleven books proving the healing, prosperity, family well being, salvation, eternal security and pretribulation rapture provided for Christians in the Abrahamic covenant.



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