

# GOD, OUR FATHER

## Introduction:

1. God's relationship as a Father to man might be misunderstood in our culture.
  - a. Some only know a father as an abusive, cruel tyrant.
  - b. Some only know a father as a selfish, deadbeat bum.
  - c. Some do not know a father at all! {*Promiscuity, homosexuality, etc.*}
2. In a world that glorifies "baby-daddies" and glamorizes "shacking up," we must be reminded what a father is supposed to be.
3. Compare this with Paul's statement in Ephesians 5:22-33.
4. Let us consider what the Bible teaches about being a father.
5. Then, we can learn about God, our Father.

## I. A Father Is a Parent

- A. There is more to being a parent than just genetics.
- B. As a parent, a father is motivated by love in all that he does for his children.
  1. Paul uses this description for his relationship with the church in Thessalonica (1 Thessalonians 2:1, 7-12).
  2. Every deed done is because of a father's love for his child.
- C. As human beings, we sometimes fail in this regard.
  1. We may act out of anger because we've had a bad day.
  2. We may act out of selfishness, jealousy, pride, etc.
- D. God, our Father, is a perfect Parent.
  1. He is a perfect Creator.
  2. He always acts out of love (John 3:16; etc.).
  3. Even His anger and hate is a statement of love (cf. Deuteronomy 12:30-32; 16:22; Malachi 2:16; Psalm 119:104). {*God hates beer commercials!*}

## II. A Father Is a President

- A. The father is the head of the house (Ephesians 5:23).
  1. It is this way by the design of creation (Gen. 1:27; 2:18-22).

1 Corinthians 11:3 But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

1 Corinthians 11:8-9 For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. 9 Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.

1 Timothy 2:12-13 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

2. It is dangerous to disregard God's divine order (Genesis 3:1-13).
  - a. Sin (vs. 6)
  - b. Shame (vs. 7)
  - c. Deception (vs. 8)
  - d. Fear (vs. 9-10)
  - e. Blame (vs. 11-13)
  - f. Separation (vs. 23-24)
- B. He is responsible for his household.
  1. For leading his wife (Eph. 5:23-25, 28, 33; 1 Peter 3:1-7; 1 Cor. 7:3-5)

2. Therefore, wives, be in subjection (Eph. 5:21-22; Hebrews 13:17).

Hebrews 13:17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

3. For leading his children (Eph. 6:4; Gen. 18:19; Isaiah 38:19)
  4. Therefore, children, obey (Eph. 6:1-3; Luke 2:51).
- C. God, our Father is a perfect President.
1. He rules by right of creation.
  2. He has all authority. *{We have stopped seeking authority for all we do.}*

Colossians 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

### III. A Father Is a Provider

- A. He provides for the needs and necessities of his family.

1 Timothy 5:8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

2 Thessalonians 3:10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

- B. He provides for the spiritual welfare of his family. *{See above}*
- C. God, our Father, is a perfect Provider.
1. Creation / Garden of Eden (Genesis 1-2)
  2. For Israel (Isaiah 5:1-7) *{“What could have been done more?”}*
  3. Every day He blesses

Matthew 5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Matthew 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread.

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Psalms 145:9 The LORD is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works.

4. For salvation (John 3:16 – *What more could He give?*)
5. For perfection

2 Peter 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

6. For eternity

IV. A Father Is a Protector

- A. He seeks to protect his children from harm.
- B. He seeks to protect his children from sin.
  - 1. We should learn from the mistake of Lot.

Genesis 13:12 Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.

Genesis 19:8 Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof.

- 2. In our culture, too many “fathers” choose abortion!
- C. God, our Father, is a perfect Protector.
  - 1. He provides protection (Ephesians 6:10-18).
  - 2. He provides prayer (Matthew 6:13).
  - 3. He provides power (James 4:7; 1 Corinthians 10:13).

V. A Father Is a Punisher

- A. Part of being a father is disciplining one’s children (Proverbs 19:18; 22:6, 15; 23:13-14; 29:15, 17).
- B. As humans, we often make mistakes in this regard.
- C. God, our Father, is a perfect Punisher.
  - 1. He disciplines out of love (Hebrews 12:3-13).
  - 2. He offers mercy and provides forgiveness.
  - 3. He punishes with justice (Romans 2:1-11).

Conclusion:

- 1. If you have a good and godly earthly father, appreciate him!
- 2. If not, you can have a perfect Father, God in Heaven.
- 3. He will welcome you into His family with open arms (Luke 15).
- 4. Will you come to Him in obedience?