

Educating Parents

May 18th & 19th, 2013

Malachi 2:15

“... And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. ...”

Malachi 2 presents the Biblical goal of raising children!

Godly: (Greek) “... characterized by a Godward attitude ... [used] in 1Tim.6:3 ‘the doctrine which is according to Godliness’ signifies that which is consistent with ‘Godliness,’ in contrast to false teaching; ...”¹

Proverbs 22:6 “Train up a child in the way he should go; ...”

“The Hebrew expression includes the idea of inauguration, or starting a child’s life along a particular way. This way is the way of wisdom ...”²

“The stress is on parental opportunity and duty.”³

Ephesians 6:4 “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”

“The Greek suggests the idea of nurturing and helping to flourish.... Parents are entrusted with the minds, feelings, and bodies of tender bearers of the divine image. ...”⁴

“Discipline. The shaping of the will through training.

Instruction. The shaping of the mind through teaching.”⁴

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.”

❖ This great insight from Scripture emphasizes that Parents must first take God’s Word seriously before training children!

Parents today are faced with many challenges in educating their children

Deuteronomy 18:9 “When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominable practices of those nations.”

Today, most children in the U.S. are educated in public schools, state colleges and universities. However, the landscape of education is changing rapidly! “Reading, Writing, Arithmetic” have given way to a focus on environmentalism, global warming, diversity training, tolerance, relativism, multiculturalism, revision history, the devaluing of the sacredness of human life through the teaching of evolution, and an anti-traditional family attitude among many educators.

“The Affordable Care Act includes the provision of \$75 million annually to fund so-called comprehensive sex-education programs. These programs are designed to indoctrinate young people in the kind of relativistic morality that creates so many problems in families, businesses, and schools. ... While the program claims that it teaches abstinence, it defines ‘abstinence’ as avoiding activities that carry the risk of pregnancy or STD’s.”⁵

“Last week, a federal judge ruled that the so-called ‘morning-after’ pill must be made available over the counter to girls as young as 11 – without parental supervision.”⁶

“A person’s worldview colors everything he does, whether he knows it or not. Ideas are not just interesting thoughts to be tossed around. Ideas have consequences. One’s ideas about how and why the world operates – one’s worldview – will impact a person’s decisions concerning abortion, evolution, marriage – all areas of life, personal and in community.”⁷

❖ Education should be instruction in truth!

John 8:31-32 “So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, ‘If you abide in my Word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’”

📖 Ephesians 4:11-16

❖ The church family is working together to grow in the knowledge of Christ and in His truth!

Endnotes:

¹ Vine, W.E. *Vine’s Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words*. Nashville: T. Nelson Publishers, 1997. Print.

² Sproul, R.C. *The Reformation Study Bible*. Orlando: Ligonier Ministries, 2005. Print. p.907.

³ Kidner, Derek. *Proverbs: An Introduction & Commentary*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1984. Print.

⁴ Sproul. p.1714.

⁵ Metaxas, Eric. "The 'Saturation Process'." *www.BreakPoint.org*. Chuck Colson Center for Christian Worldview, 17 Apr 2013. Web.

⁶ Minnery, Tom. "The Value of Life." *www.focusonthefamily.com*. Focus On The Family, 12 Apr 2013. Web.
<http://link.focusonthefamily.com/email/CRM/04/gpp_20130412.html>.

⁷ McFarland, Alex. "Equipping Youth to Study the Bible for Themselves." *www.thetruthproject.org*. Focus On The Family. Web.
<<http://www.thetruthproject.org/about/culturefocus/equipping-youth-for-bible-study.asp&xgt;>>.

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