

Scripture: 1 Samuel 2:22-30 & Job 1:1-5
Singing: 378:1-3 – 215 – 428:5 – 38:5 – 360

LD 39 #5

HONOR MY AUTHORITY (3)

I. As you exercise it II. As you respond to it

I. Honor my authority as you exercise it ... *as parents over our children*

A. God has given all parents *ambassadorial authority* over their children

1. Biblical text: *Ps. 78:1-8; Prov. 22:6; Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:21;*
a. why is it so crucial to invest in better parenting?

2. Biblical stories of failure are for our warning (1 Cor. 10:5)

a. Genesis – Judges 2:10 (Ezek. 16:20-21; Ps. 106:34-39) – 1 Sam. 2:29-30

3. Other Biblical stories of *good parents* are to inspire us

a. Gen. 18:19 – Job 1:4-5 – 2 Tim. 1:5 & 3:14-15

B. God has not given us an easy task: *we live with our sinfulness or brokenness*

C. God has not given as an easy task: *we care for that are sinners*

1. They are born ‘children dead in trespasses and sins’ (Eph. 2:1; Ps. 58:3-5)

2. Unless regenerated, they will react like their ‘father’ to God and His will

a. parenting is not just a task: *it is a spiritual battle against Satan*

D. Eph. 6:4a: *Don’t bring them down in anger*

1. Why does God address us fathers?

2. God warns us not to *provoke our children to wrath* (also Col. 3:21)
 - a. What does this **not** mean? (Lev. 26:27-28; Heb. 12:6; Prov. 13:24; 22:15)

 - b. What does this mean? (Compare Eph. 5:22-25)

3. What are some of the wrong methods that provoke a child?
 - a. any manner or method that *attacks the person instead of the sin*
 - our aim is to repentance (change) not wounding of the spirit

 - common manner of methods that wound the spirit

 - common long-term results:

 - b. forgetting that not all wrong our children do is rebellion (Ps. 103:14)

Reflection: Parenting children is God's way of parenting us!

Gems on Family Life

Home is the seminary of all other institutions. (Chapin)

Children need holy love, especially when they do not deserve it

Children have more needs of role-models than critics. (Joubert)

Where we have a tent God must have an altar. (M. Henry)

The family altar would alter many a family.