

Proverbs 20: 7

Baptism: Cole Anthony Feenstra

BLESSED ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE RIGHTEOUS

- I. The just man and his integrity.
 - A. The “just” or righteous man is a regenerated, justified believer who strives to live according to God’s standard.
 - 1. It means that he is in conformity to the law of God from God’s perspective.
 - 2. The just man is also spiritually-ethically righteous.
 - B. His integrity means he is complete or whole; translated “upright” (Prov. 2:7; 10:9) and “perfect” (Job. 1:1).
 - 1. It expresses one’s character. He lives out what he believes (10:9; 11:3).
 - 2. It is to be spiritually sound, striving to meet God’s standard for honor, pure, and good (it is not relative).
 - 3. Integrity is contrasted to being perverse (10:9), i.e. not conformed to the standard (a pervert).
- II. The righteous strive to walk in his integrity.
 - A. Your “walk” is your whole life.
 - 1. To walk in integrity means that one’s life is lived in the sphere of integrity (God’s law).
 - 2. This is true in varying degrees and no one does so perfectly.
 - B. The righteous walks, lives in his integrity (Gen. 17:1; Deut. 18:12,13).
 - C. In our text this command comes to parents.
- III. Then his children are blessed (happy) – even long after their parents are dead.
 - A. Parent’s integrity is a great blessing, because joy, meaning and purpose of life are only found in obedience to God.
 - 1. This happiness (and joy) is being right with God, having a good conscience before God, enjoying God’s friendship.
 - 2. Those who live in disobedience have only short-lived joys and then know the guilt and shame of sin.
 - B. God’s grace miraculously applies the just parent’s walk to the children of believers, using their instruction and integrity.
 - 1. God graciously uses that to bring their children to righteousness and their integrity
 - 2. If you want any hope that your children will walk in integrity, then walk before your children in integrity.