

# THE BLESSEDNESS OF HOMESCHOOLING

## Psalm 1:1-6

### INTRODUCTION

- As we speak, there is legislation before the Queensland Government that will greatly restrict homeschooling in this state
- A very troubling part of their proposed changes is that they will only permit children to be schooled at home if they decide it is in the “best interest” of the child
- Will our godless, antichrist, anti-Bible government think that Christian parents teaching Christian values will be in the “best interest” of our children?
- Furthermore, the homeschooling parents will be forced to teach their children the National Curriculum which is designed to indoctrinate kids with social justice, identity politics, gender theory and sustainability
- -there is a petition to the government that can be signed by Qld residents. At last check there were near 16,000 signatures
- With the available resources today, parents are better equipped than ever to educate their children
- Contrary to what many think, homeschooling is not an unusual practice, historically speaking – over the last 6000 years the home educating of children has been the norm, while state run schools are a relatively new innovation
- Many great and successful people in history were homeschooled, including Jesus Christ, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Edison, Queen Elizabeth II
- There are many good reasons that parents, including many unbelievers, have chosen to home educate their children
  - ✓ The ability to individualise teaching to meet the specific needs of each child

- ✓ The lower teacher to student ratio
- ✓ Better academic outcomes
- ✓ The elimination of bullying
- These are all valid benefits of homeschooling, but our interest is in the Biblical and spiritual benefits of homeschooling
- Does the Bible indicate *who* should train children and *what* they should be trained in, or is God silent on this issue?
- The Bible *does* have much to say regarding the training of children and to disregard God's counsel here will have devastating consequences
- Let us consider the Scriptural reasons to home school children

## **I. CHILDREN BELONG TO PARENTS, NOT THE GOVERNMENT**

### A. Children are a gift from God, given to parents

1. As conception is the beginning of life and God is the Author of life, every human life conceived is a divinely wrought miracle
2. It is God who closes the womb (Genesis 30:2) and opens the womb (Genesis 30:22)
3. A recurring phrase in Scripture is "the children God hath given me", showing both that God gives life to the child and entrusts it to the parents (Genesis 33:5; 48:9; 1 Samuel 1:27; 1 Chronicles 28:5; Isaiah 8:18)
4. "Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." (Psalm 127:3)
5. Government believes they own our children and have convinced many parents to hand their children over to their care and nurturing at a very young age
6. The family unit with its strong parent-child bond is a great obstacle to the communist goals of totalitarian control and collectivist mindset, therefore they seek to destroy it

7. *“We have to break through our kind of private idea that kids belong to their parents or kids belong to their families, and recognize that kids belong to whole communities.”* (Melissa Harris-Perry, 2013)

B. Parents have a duty to protect their children from the dangers and evils of this world

1. Physical violence is rampant in schools
2. Emotional torment and bullying has a devastating impact on children
3. The spiritual evil in schools

## **II. THE SPIRITUAL TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER THE INTELLECTUAL AND PHYSICAL**

A. Fathers are commanded to bring up children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)

1. “Nurture” (paideia) is “education”
2. “Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.” (Proverbs 22:15)
3. According to Scripture, children are not born pure but are corrupted by sin from conception (Psalm 51:5), and without spiritual correction they will continue into a life of sin
4. The first priority of parents is to train them spiritually in the fear and knowledge of God
5. The Proverbs is filled with instructions of a father to his children and they consist of fearing God, seeking divine wisdom and keeping God’s commandments (Proverbs 4:1-27; 7:24; 8:17,32; 22:6)

B. Our chief end is God’s glory, and child training must be geared to this

1. Academic and physical education have their place, but it is the soul that must be the priority

2. To paraphrase Mark 8:36, what shall it profit a man if he become highly educated in arts and science, or if he achieve great prowess in sports, if he lose his own soul?
3. The world's system of state education glorifies humanity and man's wisdom, not God
4. God is glorified when his truth is taught, received and obeyed (Deuteronomy 6:6-9)

### **III. THE SCHOOL SYSTEM IS ANTICHRIST**

#### **A. Its teachings are antichrist**

1. Secular education is based on a naturalistic world-view that denies the existence of God
2. Children are taught that they are the product of evolution, that we came into being by mere chance, and that our existence has no ultimate or eternal purpose
3. Subjects such as history are perverted to denigrate the Christian influence on our civilisation, and exalt pagan barbarism
  - a. True history starts with Genesis 1:1, and shows the Lord Jesus Christ to be the centrepiece of all human history
4. Sexual perversity is not taught as sin, but as an innate part of our being to be celebrated and embraced
5. Biological reality is rejected so that gender is something "fluid" that can be swapped according to one's mood
6. Earth-worship is central to the philosophy of secularism, resulting in climate alarmism with all its attendant insanity
7. Having no God and no divine law, morality is relative and subjective – there is no right and wrong, good and evil, righteousness and sin

#### **B. Its fruit are antichrist**

1. Alcohol and drug addiction
2. Fornication, sodomy, bestiality
3. Transgenderism, sterilisation, mutilation
4. Teen pregnancy
5. Immodest clothing
6. Profane language
7. Aggressive and violence
8. Emotional and mental problems
9. Rock music addiction
10. Anti-God and anti-authority behaviour
11. False religions
12. Suicide

C. The Scripture warns us to separate from all such evil

1. “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.” (Psalm 1:1)
2. “Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.” (Proverbs 19:27)
3. “Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen” (Jeremiah 10:2)
4. “I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil. (Romans 16:19)
5. “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you” (2 Corinthians 6:17)

## IV. THE OBJECTIONS TO HOMESCHOOLING ARE BASELESS

### A. Your children will be sheltered

1. This is a good thing – children should be sheltered from the filth and wickedness of the world
2. Children, especially in their younger years need to be protected against those things that will cause them harm
3. In due time, as they mature, having their values established, they will be equipped to stand against the wickedness of the world
4. Some have the view that Christian children should be sent into the schools as “missionaries” to influence the ungodly for good, but generally the opposite happens and the evil corrupts the good
5. Children are not sent into the front line of battle, adults are

### B. Your children will not be socialised

1. This is a good thing – the majority of socialisation in schools, both state and Christian, is negative
2. “Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child” (Proverbs 22:15), so immersing a child amongst a crowd of fools is not beneficial to him as “a companion of fools shall be destroyed” (Proverbs 13:20)
3. Age segregation is not Scriptural – God wants age integration where the wisdom of the aged is imparted to the young (Titus 2:4)
4. Young people should be around (the right) older people, and this does not happen in schools

### C. Children will become too dependent on parents

1. As noted previously, the school system seeks to remove the child’s dependence on parents and make them dependent on government
2. The school system encourages rebellion against parental authority through its teaching and through the popular culture (music, movies, etc)

3. The Scriptures command children to honour their parents (Exodus 20:12), and this is critical to a close-knit, stable home
4. It is preferable that children depend on their parents more, than they rebel against them

D. Homeschooled children have few friends

1. This is not true – homeschooled children have many opportunities to form friendships through church, homeschool activities, clubs and other Christian families
2. The advantage is that the parents are able to supervise and ensure that their children make the right friends who will benefit them spiritually
3. Moreover it is better to have a few quality friends than to have many bad, ungodly or questionable friends

E. Children will not mature as quickly

1. This is false – children educated in a Christian home are made aware of the difference between good and evil at a younger age than those who aren't
2. Children in schools are robbed of their childhood innocence through exposure to the filth and corruption of the world
3. If “being mature” means having one’s mind filled with the filth and perversity of this wicked world, then we are happy for our children to not mature as the school children do

F. Parents are not qualified to teach their children

1. “Qualified” teachers today who have a Bachelors degree have been indoctrinated and brainwashed by their universities with a humanist, secular world-view, which they then pass onto their students
2. Christian parents have the greatest qualifications possible to teach their children

- a. A new heart through faith in Jesus Christ
  - b. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit
  - c. The word of God as the primary textbook
  - d. Love for their children
3. Additionally, the curriculum resources for homeschoolers is of the highest quality and is formatted to be self-explanatory

## **CONCLUSION**

1. Jesus said, "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21)
2. Governments believe they own our children and have the right to indoctrinate them from the youngest age with their antichrist ideology, producing obedient slaves of the state
3. Home schooling cannot be tolerated by tyrannical government for it greatly weakens their ability to indoctrinate and control the next generation of citizens
4. God has entrusted the stewardship of children to their parents, not the state, and we must render our children unto God, not to Caesar
5. Parents have the right and duty to train and educate their own children in the ways of God – for a government to attempt to remove or weaken the ability of parents to teach their children is a direct attack on parents' divinely given rights, and must be resisted
6. The government's attempt to destroy homeschooling is just another step towards their goal of making home schooling illegal, as in other countries like Germany and France
7. This is a spiritual war between God's kingdom and Satan's, and the children are at the centre of it
8. We must fight against these evils using the spiritual means that God has provided
9. We can take comfort that with God fights with and for us