

JESUS CHRIST: THE CENTERPIECE OF THE HOME

Col. 3:18-21

Introduction:

- A. Homes without Christ at the center cannot reach its potential stability.
- B. Christ has been replaced in homes of professed Christians by:
 - 1. Agnostic "experts" in family matters: Educators, counselors, etc.
 - 2. Spiritually weak brethren:
 - a. Too young or inexperienced to know Bible principles. (fads).
 - b. Too carnally minded to care about Bible answers.
 - c. Too naive to see spiritual dangers.
 - d. Why not look to Bible first? Then mature and experienced Christians? (cf. Tit. 2).
- C. Homes must let Christ be at the center of all family relationships to be both stable and pleasing to God:

Discussion:

II. Let Christ Be At The Center Of Family Existence.

- A. Law of Christ on sex and marriage. (Heb. 13:5; 1 Cor. 7:1-3; Rom. 7:1-3).
- B. Law of Christ perversions of sex and marriage.
 - 1. Homosexuality. (Rom. 1:26-27; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; 1 Tim. 1:10,11).
 - 2. "Living Together; pre-marital; extra-marital" all=fornication (Gal. 5:6; 1 Cor. 6:9-11).
 - 3. Unlawful marriages. (Matt. 19:9; 5:32; Mk. 6:17-18).

III. Let Christ Be At The Center Of Family Order.

- A. Husbands: Head (Eph. 5:25); primary provider. (1 Tim. 5:8).
- B. Wife: Subject to head (Eph. 5:24); primary homemaker. (Tit. 2:4,5; 1 Tim. 5:14)
- C. Parents rule children (1 Tim. 3:4; 3:12; 5:14).
- D. Children obey. (Eph. 6:1; Col. 3:20).
- E. Those in authority exercise it in fear of Christ. Those under authority submit in fear of Christ.

IV. Let Christ Be At The Center Of Family Behavior.

- A. Let Christ control your attitude and actions at home.
 - 1. Meet your responsibility out of reverence for Christ. (Eph. 5; Col. 3; 1 Pet. 3:7).
 - 2. One not a Christian at home is hypocrite elsewhere.
- B. Let Christ govern your love as a parent rather than Spock. (Tit. 2:4; Eph. 6:1)
 - 1. Love enough to exercise parental authority.
 - 2. Love enough to supply spiritual and temporal needs. (Tit. 2:4; Eph. 6:4).
 - 3. Love enough to train them "in the Lord" - word and deed. Not just enough to out of trouble.
 - 4. Love enough to discipline. (Spank not Spock). (Heb. 2:5-11; Prov. 13:24; cf. Prov. 22:15; 23:13-14).
 - 5. Love enough to protect them from themselves. (Prov. 22:15).
- C. Let Christ govern you even when the world scorns. (cf. Mt. 5:11,12).

Conclusion:

- A. May be time to burn many "how to books" and get the Book.
- B. May be time to turn best "experts" - mothers and fathers of Israel who know and are experienced in Bible teaching on the home.