

Child Training – The Soul’s Authority

Where does the human soul get its authority to command the body? It is delegated authority from the spirit. The spirit controls the whole man. The spirit needs to be taught the word of God and trained to obey first. If the word goes into the soul and not the spirit, you will not obey – you can’t. Christianity can’t obey because the word has only gone into their soul. Some people’s minds only are taught the word. They can only externally obey.

The New Covenant is the covenant that God will write His word on our heart. It is written first there and then on our mind (Heb 10:16; 8:10).

This is important. There are people in this room for whom it has gone to the mind first. You can’t command obedience if it is only in your mind. Christianity is only in people’s minds; it can’t go into the spirit. The New Covenant makes way for the New Age. We must renounce our past salvation.

We’re to love Him first with all our heart, then all our soul and mind. Our spirit is to be sanctified first, then our soul, then our body. There is no way to offer our body as a living sacrifice without our spirit and mind.

Jn 6:45 – All those drawn by the Father will be taught by God in their spirit. You need no one to teach you, for the Spirit teaches you.

The mind will try, but has no authority to really command the body. The soul’s authority is delegated from the human spirit.

Rom 8:7 – Some can, some can’t. The mind set on the flesh, those who are of the soul, *can’t* please God. The word of God ministers to our spiritual ears. Some people hear in such a way that 30, 60, or 100 measures are given back (Mk 4).

They are given according to how we love our Master. Some love more; some love less.

It is according to how we *qashab* or *hearken*. To *hearken* (*hear-ken*) is to hear with zeal. What is better, the fat of rams or to hearken (1 Sam 15:22)? How we *qashab* is what is important – what you take in and do.

Don't think too highly of yourself, but only according to how you *hearken*. Our Master doesn't show partiality but He does have favorites according to who hearkens to Him (Jn 14:21). (Which of your children *hearkens* to you?) The seats at His right and left have been reserved for those who hearken. There's no way you can get there without loving Him.

To those who know and love Him, His commandments are not burdensome (1 Jn 5:2-3). They consider their flesh dead. We reckon it dead. The more we love Him the more we consider the flesh dead. The less we love Him the less we consider the flesh dead.

Training or Teaching

Pr 22:6 – One of the first things we taught in child training is the difference between training and teaching. What does *train* mean in Pr 22:6? It is to *dedicate* (1 Kng 8:63; Gen 18:19).

Pr 1:8; 22:15. In Pr 1:8, the word *hear* is hearken, *qashab*. Pr 22:15 speaks of foolishness. If we are training them up in the way they should go, they won't have foolishness in them when they grow up. The way of wisdom (Pr 4:18) is the right way. Unless this happens to the whole nation, there will be no fulfillment of Gen 15:18.

Although the covenant God made with Abraham is unconditional, it is going to be done by those who train their children in the way they should go. Every child should go in the way of the Sovereign (Gen 18:19; Pr 3:4-6).

We must remove every obstacle in the way of Messiah. This is what John the Baptist did. We must do the same thing. He will make our paths straight.

Someone who really dedicates his child when he comes before the Body does so that he can train him up for a specific purpose. He is set apart for a definite purpose. (We've got to be committed to the purpose that we were set aside for, say, for being a teacher.) If you dedicate your child you are given over to the specific purpose of training him up in the way he should go. 1 Sam 1:28 is the basis of child training.

Kharash: We are at the place where our children will go the way of Eli's sons or David the shepherd boy.

It is self-sacrificing to train a child up. You start him on the right course and he won't depart from it. Without a good start you will have trouble. The one with a good start usually wins the race. You train the child's spirit. Child training consists of spirit, soul, and body. The parents have the sole responsibility and authority to do this.

The family is a spiritual unit. We know, however, that communion is not just union (being in the unit). This is the same as with the Holy Spirit and us. The husband and wife must be in both union and communion. If the husband is the authority in the family, then the family will be in communion. If the father is not in authority, then the self-life of every member will be evident.

Children, like plants, need sun, water, and pruning or they will grow up disfigured. Children without proper guidance, rebuke, encouragement, and discipline will depart from the way. So we know parents who are not disciples themselves cannot discipline their children and can't teach them anything. Training is not instruction. Children are told what they can do and what they cannot do. This is essential in the child's development, at least up until the youth years. They love this. They thrive on it. It makes them secure and not frustrated. This is right training, one of the *essential* things.

You can't *teach* a child to obey on the first command. This is only done by *training*. If a child disobeys, you are to discipline him. Why was Abraham chosen for Gen 18:19? Because his seed must be superior to the nations. The Abrahamic covenant was to express the rule of God through men.

We train our children to obey on the first command, spoken in a normal tone of voice (1 Sam 1:9-11,24-28; 2:12,22-25,29). When you allow a child to disobey you, you are training him to disobey God. You are training him to dishonor God. This is what Eli did and he was humiliated for it and lost the priesthood. Sometimes you allow your child to disobey you. What evil spirit seduced you to allow you to do that? If the child is disobedient, then the parent is also disobedient to the word and how do you not expect to die? Those who don't heed are cut off from Israel. Acts 3:23. God expects you to obey Him and train your children.

1 Sam 3:1,13,14 – Eli's sin was unpardonable. You can imagine why the lamp of Yahweh was growing dim. The iniquity which he knew was the result of not training his children. There was no restraint. There was no atonement for his sin forever. This should mean something to us.

1 Sam 2:27-36 – This is where Paul got his understanding about ruling the Edah (1 Tim 3:1-5). Eli's sons were corrupt; they didn't know the Lord (1 Sam 2:12,22-25,29). The law that will be worked out with absolute finality is that you reap what you sow (Gal 6:7). Eli's ministry became increasingly less effective. He produced less and less fruit. He was disconnected from the vine. Israel lost the ark before Eli and his sons died (1 Sam 4:11-18). His heart trembled in fear and guilt for the ark of God. This is written down for our instruction, that we wouldn't harden our hearts. This happened to Eli because he didn't train his children (1 Sam 3:1-3).

Prophecy was rare in those days. (Is prophecy rare here? What is prophecy? It seems like it shouldn't be rare. We can say the same things over and over again.) Eli didn't show love and control to his children. We need 100 percent of each. You cannot control a child you do not love. You can't love a child you can't control. You won't love a child if you cannot control him. We've got to come to know our children as Abraham knew Isaac. He knew what Isaac would do. We must know our children like God knew

Abraham. God knew what Abraham would do. We must develop a relationship of mutual trust with our children so that they will trust us.

Abraham didn't withhold anything. I know him; I know Abraham will command his children (Gen 18:19). Chosen and know are the same in Hebrew.

Do's and Don'ts of Child Training

Let them know you trust them. Give them a reason to trust you.

Gen 22:2 – Even in the same way Abraham trusted his Father, your child has to trust you. The child must know you are walking close to your Sovereign. Isaac knew Abraham was walking close to his Father, therefore he could trust him. They are then free to seek you out for counsel. They trust you or they don't trust you. They may go somewhere else if they don't. (Our Father knows whether we trust Him or not. He doesn't make a mistake in choosing those whom He gives the Holy Spirit to.)

Don't treat your children as inferior beings. Don't talk down to them. Look in their eyes and make sure they look into yours. That is where your Sovereign would look and that is where He would make you look. It is important when you are disciplining them to look into their eyes. You must talk to your child directly. Then they will start believing they are made in the image of God. Sometimes we do and sometimes we don't just hug them after discipline.

Don't wait for a special occasion to show affection to them. Don't just hug them after they have done something for you. You will teach them performance then. Kiss or hug them just because you love them or you'll have them thinking they have to earn your love. Most of our children have a hard time believing God loves them, especially those who have parents who have a hard time showing that they love them. We must be quick to show our children physical assurance of His love.

We must learn the proper way of complimenting or affirming them. It is for sure many of us were raised by having our bad points pointed out to us. We have done this to

our children, trying to make them perform better. Tell them you have faith in them to do better next time in their weaker points. They will fulfill our expectations. *Your child will become what you say he is.*

We've got to give our children assurances of our love. (The same is true of each other also. *Smile at each other!*) Don't emphasize weak points and faults. Instead, emphasize the good and that we have faith about them. That will keep them from trying to win our favor by strife. We must take time with our children.

Don't spank your children for having a messy bed when you also have a messy bed. You're just as messy. The faults of your children reflect the parent's faults. If your child tells white lies, you probably are also.

Controlling Your Child

You can't train a child you can't control. You can't love a child you can't control. You can't control a child you don't love. In many homes you find two-year-olds running the whole entire family. If she doesn't want to go somewhere, no one goes. If the child steals from a neighbor, the parents lie about it.

The rod is made for her bottom. *He who spares his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him diligently* (Pr 13:24). You must *spank* a child, not *Spock* them. Brow-beating is mental abuse. Faith comes from hearing. Your negative words will plant faith that he is a failure in his heart. A child who is on the way he should go will want to be disciplined because the rod and reproof give wisdom.

Pr 29:15 – Some children hate discipline and seek to avoid it by deceit, manipulation, reasoning, etc. They know how to get out of it. We must admit our mistakes. We come from a great deficit.

Kharash: Our hope is that our Father would communicate the urgency of Gen 18:19. There is no salvation apart from the reality of this verse.

Gen 18:19 is what we are doing. Our children will want to be disciplined and live free of condemnation. The rod expiates guilt from the child. The rod removes the guilt.

Their guilt piles up on them and the rod erases it. They will want to live free of condemnation. Spanking both clears the child's conscience and frees him from condemnation by the enemy. He can look back to the time of forgiveness and restoration. This makes him happy. The child remembers it and can rest.

The rod will be regarded as an instrument of love and not punishment. We never use our hand. You aren't able to love and discipline with the same hand. Spanking ministers to the whole child. They are spirit, soul, and body. The soul and body come into subjection by training. The word of God ministers to our spirits. The Spirit reveals spiritual truth to us. Our children must hear the word of God. (I don't believe any more now than I did as a child. Our children believe as much as we do.)

When you discipline or train your child, train to submit his selfish will. He needs to submit that. A person with a selfish will will not make Yahshua sovereign. A child who knows how to submit his selfish will to his parents will know how to submit it to Yahshua. A child who knows his parents love him and who has been trained to obey them will find it easy to be controlled by the loving God of his parents. It transfers over.

The rod must be used to correct wrong thoughts, words, and deeds. Thoughts are powerful – they determine a person's actions. Before we sin, we have thoughts about it. Isn't it good that sin doesn't just overtake us? Train your child to think on good things. We haven't been trained to think on good things. Sometimes you know your child is having bad thoughts. Tell him he is thinking bad thoughts. 2 Cor 10:5 He can learn to cast them down.

More Do's and Don'ts

Don't provoke your child. How do you provoke him?

By being inconsistent;

By not being diligent;

By not having your spirit under control;

Disciplining by mood.

Disciplining by mood makes us inconsistent and not diligent. Diligence is a man's most precious possession, better than wisdom and knowledge. A child who does not know any specific boundaries will rebel out of frustration.

And he will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the land with a curse. (Mal 4:6)

There is nothing greater that will be done. (Dan 2:44 speaks of abeyance.) We must have single-minded devotion to love our children. Selfish love finds an easier way but true love finds a way to obey and it will maintain the level of consistency that His word commands.

Do not discipline in anger or wait until you are angry to discipline.

Treat all your children equally (don't have scapegoats). How do you trust and teach and treat all your children equally? Teach them to respect all authority God has placed over them in the community. Always stand on the *side of authority*. Once you go against that you have ruined them.

Discipline them for all disrespectful attitudes. Do not allow them to rebel. (If they see you drive 65 mph when you are in a 55 mph zone, you are teaching them to break the law.)

Never defend your child in front of them. Do not let an injustice stand either.

There should be repentance if there has been injustice.

Savav: When the children experience injustice and it is not dealt with, then they feel like they can't be heard. So they turn to one another, because they'll listen. This is how the underground gets started among our children.

Yoneq: It is amazing the children's underground still exists.

Don't allow your child to complain. You can just spank them for it if you want. But if I were you, I'd take my child right to Numbers 11 and use the very word of God to illustrate the point. 1 Cor 10:7-11 tells why they failed to enter the promised land because of complaint.

It is the rod *and* reproof that give wisdom.

Don't allow your child to be *bitter, slothful, or wasteful*. Some parents can't see these things. Show your children Pr 18:9 about slothfulness; then they will understand what it is. They can't see it without the word and illustrations. Point it out to them. Talk briefly to them; don't wear them out with long talks.

Don't ridicule, belittle, scorn, or embarrass your child. We were raised on this. Work crews treat the children like this as a mode of communication.

Don't expect too much, too soon. A six-year-old can't perform like a ten-year-old.

Be reasonable and understanding and get them to admit what they did wrong and tell you why they are receiving their discipline. Make sure they understand the teaching on confession. Go into detail about sin and how you need to understand you can be forgiven and cleansed. They should sense their forgiveness. Have them tell you the nature of the offense so that their guilt will be removed by the discipline.

1 Jn 1:9 – They should be able to tell you where it came from and where they came in contact with it, etc. (Some new disciples don't know they are to confess their sins so that they can be forgiven.)

Train your child to submit to their discipline willingly. Tell them to bend over when they are being spanked. Make sure they bend over submissively, not wriggling around, not in a way that shows they're not ready to receive their discipline or guilt will not be removed and it will strengthen their rebellion. Train them not to look back, but to look down or ahead.

Be consistent every time they are disobedient. Discipline them the first time they disobey a command. If they disobey in the same area more than once, treat the offense as though it was the first time it happened. Don't bring up past offenses to their memory as the devil does. If you bring it up, the child knows you didn't forgive him before. (Just think of how our Father disciplines us. Do we ever do things more than once?) Children are going to do the same thing over again. It is a worthless man who digs up evil (Pr 16:27).

A child who has been forgiven of his past transgressions needs to know his boundaries. If we don't stay in the boundaries of His kindness then we'll be cut off. Rom 11:22.

When we come to the knowledge of the truth on a sin, we know we can be severed from Messiah for it. This is *wonderful* to know. Our children need to learn their boundaries and limitations.

Don't shame your child.

Don't express your anger in an uncontrolled way. Express it in a controlled way. Don't lose your temper – you may never find it again.

Lk 12:49-50 – Our Master was pressed. He had a fire He was constrained to get going, but He had a death to go through first. We have to do that. Our suffering must correspond to His suffering. Isa 53: *His* soul went into torment to pay for *our* guilt. Try to imagine the suffering He went through in death. That fire can't get going in Christianity. It has got to begin outside of it and call all the sincere out of it.

Havah said (Gen 4:1), "*I got a child by the help of Yahweh.*" She gave the glory to our Master.

Havah: I saw how important it is for us to overcome. I saw how we just can't assume that everything is okay. We don't want them to be messed up.

Savav: We may not fully know how to answer their questions, but it is better we fill the vacuum than their peers.

Lo-Nekar: I saw I missed it with my son by not speaking to him. I really failed; it seemed like he was beyond hope. I'm thankful for the Body. I see I didn't communicate forgiveness. I'm still learning myself what it mean

Cephas: The hope for our children is that they would find someone to open up to. It should be their parents. If they can express themselves and find out their feelings are normal, then they can be instructed to deny themselves for the sake of His purpose. They can learn to take their thought captive and learn to sublimate them. [Dictionary definition of sublimate: to express (socially or personally unacceptable impulses, specifically sexual impulses) in constructive, acceptable forms, often unconsciously.]

The salvation of teenagers is going to come from their being able to express themselves. It should be the foremost thing on our heart that our children would be saved. If we admit we have a lack then the Body can help us. We have to humble ourselves. I'm really thankful for this.

Korem: Lately in Island Pond we have seen that we have failed miserably to encourage our children seven times more than we discipline them. It is directly related to how we are with our Master, whether we have our first love and our communion. This is how we encourage our children. When I have a springtime love for our Master, I don't see my children's problems in the same light. I don't want situations to diminish my love for my Master and diminish my encouragement for my children.

Almah: Everyone knows if you are walking close to our Master. Our children or others feel free to come to us then. I don't want to be moody so that my children can come to me. They need us.

Amittai: We really need the spirit of Simeon that we would be gaping, longing for salvation and consolation. We have heard Dan 2:44 in our heart and we know that Isaiah 49 is our chapter. We need to be gaping for these things like he was.

Shiphrah: I have many weaknesses when it comes to my children. It is painful for me to come to child training teachings because I see all my failings. But I remember once we were asked to search our rooms for decorations for the Areopagus. We were asked to look for our fatted calf. Zadok and I both could only think of Jeremiah. He was the most valuable possession we had. I know that I desire my children to come into salvation.

Hakam: When our Father walked between the halves of those animals of the sacrifice it really affected me so deep. And Abraham heard Him and he obeyed. I really know that our Father has brought us into that same covenant. I know that He loves us enough to discipline us. I know his discipline is that we would really hear His word and obey.

I'm really thankful because I sense his discipline is reaching my heart. I'm so sorry for my sin of neglect, so much neglect with my children. I know something is coming into my heart to obey. I want to receive His word in order to be saved and not always be disciplined after the fact. I know He wants us to be doing His will and not always be reaping what we've sown dealing with things in our own strength.

Maybe my children have so much deceit in them because when the Holy Spirit starts reaching the center of my heart I want to run and deal with things myself. I am really thankful I'm in the Body. I believe our Fa-

ther will get what He wants – an obedient people. We *are* the most scarred people.

I take total identity with Eli. I couldn't see because of how perverse I was. Our Father loves me and wants me to see. I'm thankful for these teachings, for how they reach our hearts. I'm thankful for the pain we feel because it is real and it has an effect on our life. I want it to have a total effect on my life.

Deshe: We're a favored people. It's the time of His favor. It will be right up until the day of vengeance.

Don't miss tables. This is the age of the table. We will rise or fall by this. Without tables nothing will happen.

Savav: If our Father can save Juan Mattatal's children, how much more can He save our children in the Body.