Leaders of the Bible

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Words to Find: Aaron Abraham Asa Belshazzar Daniel Darius David Deborah Eleazar EliGideon Herod Isaiah Jehoshaphat Jesus Korah Moses Melchizedek Nebuchadnezzar Pilate Reuel Samuel Saul Solomon

A Father's Example

Author Unknown

A mother relates, "As I was about to enter my children's room to look after my little ones, I observed the youngest, a boy three years of age. He was looking over a book, which he had taken from a shelf. It resembled the family Bible used for our morning and evening prayers and devotions.

Struck with the unusual solemnity of his manner, I watched his movements. With great precision and apparent devotion, he went through the exercise of reading, singing, and kneeling for prayer in imitation of his father's daily example. Never was manner, voice, or gesture more properly copied. Trifling as was this circumstance; so deep and solemn was the impression made upon my mind, that to this day, I am more careful about my behavior and example around my little ones.

Are you reading your Bible every day? Sign-up at www.OpenThouMineEyes.com/blogsignup.html. Read a chapter a day and a short commentary on a portion of the day's reading.



A Godly Example?

Bill Brinkworth

"And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the Sabbath day; that they might accuse him." Mark 3: 2

Here the Son of God came down to man, and healed many that were sick and possessed. Instead of lining the streets and having a ticker-tape parade to show their gratitude, they watched him carefully to see if they could find Jesus doing something wrong. The crowd that usually was looking for Him to

fail was composed of "religious" folks.

Today is no different. If it happened to the Son of

God, then Christians can certainly expect similar treatment today. When someone hears we are a Christian, they carefully observe our lives. If they find us doing something wrong in their eyes, they gleefully point and sneer, "Some Christian he is," or "Hypocrite!"

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What Kind of Example Are You?

H. Melvill

Be mean and vicious, and those character traits may be an heirloom to hundreds of future families. Be inconsistent in serving God, and that behavior may be copied by many in your church. Offend people and many may fall, and those who are entering in the narrow way may be discouraged, and those who are trying to live for the Lord may stumble and quit.

You live not for yourselves; you cannot live just for yourselves. A thousand fibers connect you with your fellow men, and along those fibers, as along sympathetic threads, run your actions as causes, and return to you as effects.

"Live so you wouldn't be ashamed to sell your parrot to the town gossip."

A Godly Example?

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Well, they can look all they want, and if they look long enough and carefully enough, they will find us doing something wrong. A Christian certainly is not perfect, just forgiven.

We surely are not perfect and will make mistakes; nevertheless, we should try our best to always be a good example of Christian behavior. There will always be some that are watching how we go through hard times; how we react when others do us wrong; what we do when we are tempted, and how we live.

We have a tremendous weight on our shoulders. The scorners and scoffers should be reading their Bible and examining their own lives in comparison to what God requires of us all, but they are not. They scrutinize our testimony for the Saviour, instead.

Quite often they look for us to fail; so that they can write off any conviction they may have for their ungodly lifestyle, or for even attempting to obey Scripture. When they think we have failed, they feel justified for living the way they do. However, they are usually not aware of the biblical principle, "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Romans 14:12 (Also: Matthew 12:36). Everyone will ultimately give an ac-

count of himself. No one's shortcomings can ever be a valid excuse for another's wrongdoing.

Not only can our life-style not be an excuse for someone to not live a godly life, but rather it should be an example as how to live a godly life. The world is confused and distraught. They are looking for a way to live a better life. Are you being the example they would want to follow to have a closer relationship with God and to have that better life?

A Christian Home

D. L. Moody

A godly house should be the best proof of true Christianity. It is not my church; it is my house that knows me best. It is not my pastor; it is my home-companion who can best judge me. It is the servant, the child, the wife, and the friend that can discern most of my real character.

A good man will improve his household. Rowland Hill once said he would not believe a man to be a true Christian if his wife, his children, the servants, and even the dog and cat, were not the better for it. That is being a good Christian.

If your household is not the better for your Christianity; if men cannot say, "This is a better house than others", then be not

"I have ever deemed it more honorable and more profitable, to set a good example than to follow a bad one." —Thomas Jefferson

"Behavior is a mirror in which everyone shows his image."

deceived, ye have nothing of the grace of God. Let not your servant on leaving your employ, say, "Well, this is an odd sort of a Christian family. There was no prayer in the morning, and I saw there was no prayer at night. I was kept at their home all Sunday working. Once a fort night, perhaps, I was allowed to go out in the afternoon, when there was nowhere for them to go; so I could hear a gospel sermon. My master and mistress went to a place where, of course they heard the blessed gospel of God; as for me, I had to work." Surely, Christian's should not act that way. Carry out your godliness in the heart of your own family.

Won by His Wife's Faith

Spurgeon

I have read the story of a man who was converted to God by seeing the conduct of his wife in the hour of trouble. They had a lovely child; their only offspring. The father's heart doted on the child constantly, and the mother's soul was knit up in the heart of the little one.

One day the child lay sick upon its bed, and the parents watched it night and day. At last the youngster died. The father had no God; he pulled his hair. He rolled upon the floor in misery, cursing his being, and defy-

ing God in the utter casting down of his agony.

There sat his wife, as fond of the child as ever he could be, and though tears would come, she gently said, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

"What," said he, jumping to his feet, "you love that child? I thought that when that child died it would break your heart. Here am I, a strong man; I am mad; here are you, a weaker woman, and yet you are strong and bold. Tell me what it is that possesses you? How can you behave so peacefully?"

She said, "Christ is my Lord, I trust in him; surely I can give this child to Him who gave Himself for me."

"There must," said he, "be some truth and some power in the Gospel. What else could lead you to believe in such a manner, under such a trial?" From that instant, the man became a believer, all because of how the wife was observed when she went through a very hard time.

"A young minister, when about to be ordained, stated that, at one period of his life, he considered not becoming a Christian. "But," said he, "there was one argument in favor of Christianity which I could never refute — the consistent conduct of my father!" — Unknown