

Daddy's Example

Author Unknown

A mother related the following incident which forcibly illustrates the importance and power of parental example:

"As I was about to enter the nursery to look after my little ones, I observed the youngest, a boy of three years of age, looking over a book, which he had taken from the shelf. It resembled the family Bible that was used before morning and evening prayer.

"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 and singing, and kneeling for prayer. He was imitating his father's daily example. His father's manner, voice, and gestures were perfectly copied. After watching this imitation, I realized how deeply our example could mold our children.

"Never, till that moment, had my mind dwelt upon this momentous fact; that the future characters and eternal destinies of our children are usually, at a very early time, stamped into them by parental example. Now I feel how important it is to be the right influence over our children's spiritual life by our proper example."

Have a Biblical Example

T. Hughes

There is at the top of the Queen's staircase in Windsor

Castle, a statue from the studio of Baron Triqueti. The statue depicts Edward VI, marking with his scepter a passage in the Bible, which he holds in his left hand, and upon which he earnestly looks. The passage is that concerning Josiah: "Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign ... And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in all the way of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left." II Kings 22:1-2

The stone reminder was erected by the will of an earlier prince, who intended it to convey to his son the divine principle by which the future governor of England should mold his life and reign on the throne of Great Britain.

What Kind of Example Are You?

G. Mogridge

A man was once boasting of his constant church-going. "Give me one that is faithful in going to church, for he is the only one to be trusted through the week. I never neglect going to church myself. Hail or shine, wet or dry, winter or summer. Do you not always see me there in my pew?"

"I have," replied the other, "and always you seem to be sleeping so soundly."

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Evil in God's Eyes

Bill Brinkworth

Reading through the Bible, one similar phrase occurs over 49 times, particularly in the Old Testament. It is a phrase that indicates someone, or a nation, was doing "evil in the sight of the Lord" or "evil in the eyes of the Lord".

Perhaps, the people committing the sin did not recognize their transgressions as wrong or angering God. Maybe it was the farthest thing from their minds; but while they were doing wrong, God was watching, and His hammer of judgment would shortly pound down and shatter their plans and intents, and others also would suffer. Perhaps they even thought, as they do today, "Oh, everyone is doing it, too", or "I've done this before and nothing ever happened, so why should it now?"

What was it that was so wicked in God's eyes? Their offenses included complaining, idolatry, not giving God the attention and respect He deserved, casting spells, witchcraft, killing inno-

cent people (including children), observing of the times (similar to what we would call astrology), and not obeying God's commandments. Gulp! Reading through that list does not sound any different than what is happening today.

Continued on Page 2

Dad's Influence

Ted Camp

I remember a story that greatly impressed me years ago. A man was walking through the snow to go to a local bar for another drink. As he was walking, he heard a voice from behind him. His young son yelled, "Dad, don't walk so big because I am following in your footprints." He turned to see his son taking giant steps trying to step where he had stepped in the snow.

This touched the man's heart, as he knew where the footsteps were leading his son. Tears flowed down his cheeks as he

Continued on Page 3

“The wages of sin is death – there is no minimum wage.”

Evil in God’s Eyes

Continued from Page 1

Discontentment is shown by what is uttered from many lips today. Not many are happy with what they have, or who they are. They had hopes that “things” would fill the empty spots in their lives, but their lives were even more empty.

God is certainly not getting the respect He should be getting, as many mock Him and live contrary to how His Word instructs us. Sin is on the rise, but it is not a time when people as a whole, are happy. Current statistics indicate many are suffering from depression, and many had so little hope that they took their own lives.

Witchcraft and occult practices are also increasing. Many of today’s popular movies have these practices in the movie’s theme, and are even watched by Christians.

Life has less meaning to many, which explains the rise in murders and even the taking of unborn babies’ lives through abortion. Too many are ignorant of what God’s commands are. It is quite evident evil, by God’s standards, is rampant today.

Many more are affected in the 49 uses of the phrase than just the committers of sin. Examinations of the phrase show that:

- ◆ 12 of the usages of the phrase were remarks about individuals that were not leaders.
- ◆ 16 of the usages referred to national sin; usually the nation of Israel.
- ◆ 33 of the usages referred to a leader, such as a king. They are the ones we remember as doing “evil in the sight of the Lord.”
- ◆ 23 of the usages indicated that the person committing the sin was following someone else’s example, as: “as did his father”, or “walked in the way of his father”.
- ◆ Six of the usages made it clear that the one doing evil was forcing others to do likewise.

Interestingly, we see that only 12 of those seen by God as doing wicked were common folk, like you and me. God sees everyone’s sin. This wickedness rated serious attention by God to be stopped, and to teach others not to continue committing the wickedness.

The highest offenders against God were the leaders of the country. 33 times the leader was recalled as doing “... evil in the eyes of the Lord” Their influence, quite often, caused the

“Give sin an inch, and you will have to retake a mile!”

entire nation to sin against God.

If our leaders today would only see this! If they would only see how their laws and leadership are no different than those that God judged in the Bible, and change their leadership to one that God would bless rather than discipline all of us for. Many kings in the Bible have a testimony recorded forever in the Word of God as one of those that did “evil in the sight of the Lord”. What a terrible epitaph on one’s life to be remembered for doing wrong! Unfortunately, many of today’s leaders will also be remembered for evil leadership.

In many of the phrases, another frightful reality is apparent. Much of the parents’ wickedness was copied by their children. Over 23 times, those that did evil were doing just like their parents did. “... walked in the way of his father ...” explains where the wicked-doer got their instruction. A parent’s sin cannot only ruin his own life and his children’s, but the wages of his sin can affect future generations (Ex. 20:5, Ex. 34:7, Num. 14:18).

In a time when it is not important to many what God thinks about them, we need to realize that our feelings and opinions have nothing to do with how God deals with our sin. No one

gets away with sin. There is always a price tag on wickedness (Romans 6:23). In most of the verses talking about doing evil, God’s judgment and punishment on the people was not far behind. In many of the cases God allowed wars, famines, loss of freedom, and captivity to teach that there is always a price for doing wrong. No one gets away with sin! Payday is always someday!

What a chilling thought it would be to be remembered as doing “evil in the sight of the Lord.” If God were to write something to describe you right now, what would He write?

By doing right, according to God’s commands in His Word, one can have a completely different testimony. It does not have to be he “did evil in the sight of the Lord.” It could be the God-approved testimony of “... Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things ...” Matthew 25:23.

Dad’s Influence

Continued from Page 1

slowly bowed in the snow and asked God to save him and change his life. Always remember that your children will follow in your steps. Do not seek to teach them what you do not practice.

“Sin causes the cup of joy to spring a leak!”

***“Sin’s wages = Death
God’s wages = Peace and everlasting life!”***