

## THE ORIGIN OF THE HUMAN FAMILY

The book of Genesis teaches that the HUMAN FAMILY is the third oldest institution of the four Divinely Established Institutions (DI) designed by God in the world.

DI#1	Freedom	(Gen.1)
DI#2	Marriage	(Gen.2-3)
<b>DI#3</b>	<b>Family</b>	(Gen.4)
DI#4	Nation	(Gen.10-11)

Today, the world's view of the human family differs from that of the Bible. Here are five examples of the world's view of the family as a human institution.

- **Evolution** views the human family along with plants and animals (kingdom, phyla, class, order, genera, and species).
- **Sociology** views the human family as a kinship group providing for the welfare of children and certain other kinship needs.
- **Anthropology** views the human family as a social grouping united by bonds of kinship with a sense of belonging.
- **Psychology** views the human family as a kinship grouping that develop personality and interaction of personal relationships.
- **Webster English Dictionary** defines the human family as a basic unit in society having as its nucleus 2 or more parents living together and cooperating in the care and rearing of their own or adopted children.

**This lesson will study SIX aspects of the biblical Origin of the Human Family in order to understand its purpose and function in the plan of God**

### **1. The fourth chapter of Genesis introduces the human family as a divine institution with laws of divine establishment to give it structure for communal society (Gen.4:1-2).**

We will mention seven divine laws of establishment that give structure to the family for communal society.

- One divine law is that parents are responsible for the godly training of children (Prov.1:8; 6:20; 22:6).
- Second divine law is that parents are not to crush the spirit of their children (Eph.6:4; Col.3:21).
- Third divine law is that children are to obey their parents while living at home (Eph.6:1; Col.3:20).
- Fourth divine law is that children are to honor their parents after leaving the home (Eph.6:2-3; Deut.5:16; Prov.31:28-30).
- Fifth divine law is that authority entrusted with the care of children must not victimize them (Matt.18:3-6).
- Sixth divine law is that grown children are responsible to care for their aged grandparents and parents (1 Tim.5:4-8).
- Seventh divine law is that grown children are not to neglect or abuse their responsibility or to abuse their aged grandparents or parents (Matt.15:1-9).

The home is the first place to live godly and not the last place. The story of Noah teaches that the family that puts God first will be the family God puts first (Gen.6-8) "By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith." (Heb.11:7).

**2. Children are a grace gift from the Lord entrusted to parents and grandparents.**

“Sons are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from Him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons born in one’s youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them. They will not be put to shame when they contend with their enemies in the gate.” (Ps.127:3-5)

**3. DI#3 (human family) was given the first commandment of God with a divine promise (Deut.5:16; Eph.6:3).**

- Write this divine promise on this line\_\_\_\_\_.

“Praise the Lord. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who finds great delight in His commands. His children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever.” (Ps.112:1-3)

- Write four additional promises given in Ps.112:1-3\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and\_\_\_\_\_.

Based on what you have just read, “Should Christian parents be willing to temporarily set aside their personal happiness for the welfare of their children’s wellbeing?”

- Do you think that this is a problem in our society as well as in the church of Jesus Christ today?
- What do you think our church could do to help correct this problem?

**4. Much of our communal family problems are directly related to the spiritual decline and rejection of the divine laws of establishment of family as DI#3.**

- The family is the child’s **first impact learning experience**. It effects the child’s sense of belonging and relating intimately to others.
- The family is the child’s **first phase of personality development** such as self-esteem and worth.
- The family is the child’s **first stage of soul development** such as self-consciousness and conscience and mentality and emotions.
- The family is the child’s **first place for experiencing** OSN lust patterns as well as developing OMCD core patterns of thinking.
- The Christian family **should be the child’s first place of introduction to God consciousness** and gospel hearing.
- The Christian family **should be the child’s first place of encouraging spiritual growth** development and life of faith in God’s word.

**5. God designed parents to hold the divinely delegated position of authority in the human family (Eph.6:1-4; Col.3:20-21).**

After reading 1 Cor.11:3, write the chain of divinely delegated authority of the family

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**6. DI#3 will be a main source of evangelism in both the First and Second Coming of Jesus Christ (Mal.4:5-6; Mark 9:11-13; Luke 1:17; Acts 16:30-34; 2 Tim.1:5; Rev.11:3).**