

The Sins of The Parents (Part 1)

Request: "I was recently asked if the sins of the fathers (parents) could be visited upon their children by God. Could you do a study on this subject?"

This is the final lesson required to answer this request.

We have spent two weeks explaining the legal details of the Second commandment of (Ex.20:4-6).

In today's lesson text, the disciples of Jesus asked this question because of the healing of the congenitally blind man (blind from birth). John devoted an entire chapter to this subject (John 9:1-41).

This lesson will study four aspects of the subject of the Sins of Parents upon their children in the age of Christ, Church Age, and New Covenant.

1. Pay close attention to Jesus' three fold answer to His disciples question on this subject (John 9:1-5) "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?" (John 9:2).

Their question was based on two different parenting laws (Ezek 18:19-20; Ex.20:4-6). We will examine Jesus' answer by the following three homiletic points (John 9:3-5).

- **Neither** Born blind was NOT an issue of sin
- **Notice** Born blind was an issue of work of God's Son
- **Night or Day** Born blind miracle was a work of the Day of Christ (Luke 4:18-19, 21, 29) (Isa.61) [Messiah] (John 12:32-36).

The Pharisee's legalistic answer was that the healing of the congenitally blind man by Jesus was proof that Jesus was a sinner - because He did it on the Sabbath (John 9:16, 24-25).

(John 9:28) "They reviled him (healed blind Nam) and said, 'You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.'"

(John 5:46-47) "For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe His writing, how will you believe My words?" (Matt.17:3; John 7:19, 23)

2. The incarnation of Christ fulfilled the Law by being the sacrificial Lamb of God that took away the sin of world (Gal.4:4-7; John 1:29).

By so doing, He made the Old Covenant obsolete (Heb.8:13; 10:9-10) and became the mediator of the New Covenant (Heb.8:8, 13; 9:15, 26-28; 1 Cor.11:25).

(Rom.3:20)"Because of the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin." (Gal.2:16, 21; 3:13, 19, 24-25)

(Rom.10:4) "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes." Matt.5:17; John 1:17; Mark 2:27; Acts 13:38-39; Gal.5:1-6, 13)

- How do we apply the Law to the Christian Way of Life (CWL)?
- How do we apply the Second Commandment to parenting?
- **How did the Apostles of Jesus Christ apply it?**

3. New Covenant parenting is by New Covenant (NC) doctrinal teaching (Eph.6:1-4; Col.3:20-21).

You will recall that, of the Ten Commandments, there were two positive commandments. (Ex.20:1-17).

- The fourth (Ex.20:8; Mark 2:27)
- The fifth commandments were the positives (Ex.20:12; Eph.6:2).

(2 Tim.3:15) “And that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” (1 Cor.15:3-4)

It is important to compare the **fifth commandment** of parenting under the NC of (Eph.6:1-4) to parenting under the OC Scriptures of (Ex.20:12). Apparently (Col.3:20-21) was an abridgement of (Eph.6:1-4).

- **NC teaching** (Eph.6:1) “Children, obey your parents **in the Lord**, for this is right.”
- **OC law with NC changes** (Eph.6:2-3) “Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.”
- **NC teaching** (Eph.6:4) “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction **of the Lord.**” **It says instruction of the Lord NOT of the Law** (John 8:53-59; Heb.3:1-6).

4. New Covenant parenting is by walking by means of the Indwelling Holy Spirit (1 Tim.1:8-11; Acts 21:27-31).

Our NC position in Christ is a higher position than any OC believer had.
(2 Cor.5:17; Gal.3:23-29; John 1:14-18).

Our walking by means of the Indwelling Holy Spirit (Third member of Godhead) is a higher law
(Rom.8:2-11) (Gal.3:2-5, 10-14; 5:16-18, 21-25; Eph.5:18).

LXX of (Ex.20:12) “Honor your father and mother, that it may be well with you and that you may live long on the good land, which the Lord your God gives to you.”

The healed blind man: “Whether He (Jesus Christ) is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I do know that though I was blind, now I see.” (John 9:25)

“Jesus said to him, ‘You have both seen Him, and He is the one who is talking to you.’ And he said, ‘Lord, I believe.’ And he worshipped Him.” (John 9:37-38)

Notice that this story opened and closed with a question regarding sin and blindness (9:1-2, 40-41) [two types of blindness] (2 Cor.4:3-4) [Jesus heals them both].