



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Passing Our Godly Heritage to Children ... By Billy

READ: DEUTERONOMY 6: 20-25

- **W**hen children grow up in a household of faith, prayer times, church meetings and Bible study will become an everyday reality.
- The time will come when that reality is questioned. Will our answer be convincing?
- One of the problems faced as parents (particularly fathers) is learning to distinguish between what is a rebellious spirit and what is a genuine spirit of inquiry among our children. (I have misjudged my own and others)
- Some children don't ask questions in the normal way but that does not mean that they are not looking for answers.
- In this household of faith, the question was asked. What does this ritual of Passover mean? Why all the rules and regulations? Why such devotion to an invisible cause?
- "When your son asks you in time to come" When they come of age and begin to question what they have been taught.
- Remember that it is ever and always in the purpose of God that the little children should not be prevented from coming to Jesus. (Matt.19:14 and Acts 2:39)
- God calls fathers to answer their children's questions regarding their godly heritage. The answer we give, whether to our children or to whoever asks, will be deeply personal. "*The Lord brought us from Egypt with a mighty hand.*"
- We were redeemed with the precious blood of the true Passover Lamb from a futile way of life inherited from our fathers. (1 Peter 1:18-19)
- We were slaves to our sinful desires and we lived for the pleasures of this world but God set us free from the bondage of sin.
- ^a This is the reality behind the ritual. This is the reason for our deep devotion to God.
- We were lost sheep going astray, we were bleeding and dying by the roadside. But God intervened. Every day we recall God's goodness, and we recount His mercies so that we may offer our lives afresh to God.
- This is much more than a label that we wear or a role that we play. This is our identity from which there is no turning back. We are the redeemed.
- Note in v.22 that the opposition to deliverance was formidable. The chains were not made from paper.
- The captives we heavily guarded as Satan knows how to guard his possessions. (Pharoah is representative of Satan)



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Week 04

- It took a mighty hand to demonstrate miraculous judgments against the powers of darkness.
- The spirit of deception was cast out, the spirit of rebellion also. The fear of death and condemnation were vanquished.
- For some it was a dramatic conversion experience but for others it was a gradual awakening.
- We must never lose the wonder of it all. God is the way maker, miracle worker and promise keeper. Our testimony to God's great deliverance cannot be easily dismissed.
- Our sons and daughters may choose a different path but they will not be able to discount or deny the workings of God. (prodigal son)
- **"He brought us out from there in order to bring us in" v.23**
- As God brought His redeemed people into the promised land of Canaan, so He brings His New Covenant people into a land of abundance.
- There is so much that we have not yet possessed by faith. Will we give in to defeatism and imagine that we are too restricted now to discover God's perfect will?
- Once more in this new day we may realize the hope of His calling as we press on to lay hold of God's purpose for us. (*Phil.3:13-14*)
- "So the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God for our good always and for our survival, as it is today." (v.24)
- Getting back to the question of why we should keep all of these statutes?
- The answer is primarily because it is commanded by God for our own good. (*Deut.10:12-13*) God did not set us free from bondage to bring us into a deeper bondage.
- Just as the current restrictions are meant to preserve life so are God's apparent restrictive statutes meant for our survival.
- **"And I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear Me always, for their own good and for the good of their children after them" (Jer.32:39)**
- "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word and My Father will love him and We will come to him and make Our abode with him." (*John 14:23*)
- The one who continues in God's word will keep standing strong against every attack of the enemy. "It will be righteousness for us." (v.25) Right standing with God, being justified in His eyes was based on man's obedience under the old covenant.(Exodus salvation (v.23) precedes the command to obey (v.24)
- Under the new covenant it is by one's mans obedience that many are made righteous. (*Rom.5:19*) See also *Rom.3:21* and *10:3-5* ■