To the Law and to the Testimony

Isaiah 8:20

The Prophet Isaiah draws a comparison between the Zion of his day and the future Zion church through the first twelve chapters of his book. During the days of Isaiah people were seeking "familiar spirits and unto the wizards, that chirp and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God?" (Isaiah 8:19). The prophet then writes, "To the law and to the testimony!" (Isaiah 8:20) Isaiah explains that New Testament Christians living in the days of the established church and kingdom of God will look to God's laws and testimony for answers to all life's questions. These people will have a "thus saith Jehovah" approach to life.

The apostle Peter makes a similar statement saying, "If any one speaks let him speak as the oracles of God" (1 Peter 4:11). The apostle Paul writes, "Whatsoever ye do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the father through him" (Colossians 3:17). Mankind as a whole ought to turn to Jehovah for answers to all life's questions. Peter said, "sanctify in your hearts Christ as Lord: being ready always to give answer to every man that ask you a reason concerning the hope that is in you, yet with meekness and fear:" (1 Peter 3:15). The universal sovereignty of Jehovah over all the earth and for all eternity is depicted in the oracles delivered against the nations of the world found in Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel. All who disregard God's laws shall meet his divine wrath. God is the Lord of all flesh (see Jeremiah 32:27).
Local News:

Welcome to all our visitors:

We pray that you will be edified by our service and that you will ask questions if things are not as you are accustomed to seeing. Please do come back at your every opportunity!

Baptism!
Robert Norris and Adam Littleton were baptized into Christ for the forgiveness of their sins this past Wednesday evening. We rejoice with their families and pray for a long life in service to the Lord.

Gospel Meeting:
Remember to mark your calendar for July 10-15, 2011. Doug Hill of Tennessee will be conducting our meeting this year.

Estelle Sims has been released from Health South Rehabilitation and will be living with her niece. If you would like to write her remit correspondence to:
Estelle Sims
C/O Pam Bush
4900 Rio Vista Dr.
Granbury, Texas 76049
817-219-0301

Robertson family will be traveling to Houston this coming friday for the funeral of John's Dad.

Shut-ins:

Stella Davidson
696-1030 (Home)

Calvin York
692-0489 (Home)

Ila Belle Windham
At home but request no calls

Jesus explains that he is the bread of life that will sustain man into all eternity (John 6:34ff). When the Lord revealed his flesh and blood to be the meat that sustains man eternally many were moved to disdain the Lord. "Many of his disciples, when they heard this, said, This is a hard saying; who can hear it?" (John 6:60). John writes, "Upon this many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Jesus said therefore unto the twelve, Would ye also go away? Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life" (John 6:66-68).

Peter realized that there was no where else to turn for hope in this life nor in the life to come. Peter's disposition was, "To the law and to the testimony." Where do you turn for answers to life's questions? Let us all recognize the supreme and universal sovereignty of God and proclaim, "To the law and to the testimony."

God's Message to David

"When thy days are fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, that shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever"

2 Samuel 7:12-13
Proverbs on Parenting

Introduction:

A newborn child is a source of great joy in a young family. The idea of your own flesh and blood offspring existing by the blessings of God are too great for words to express. After the joy of a newborn settles in one begins the parenting process. There will be days of great joy and days of great sorrow. Parents, above all else, desire to see their children succeed in the eyes of God. Such a task will take time, attention, and patience.

I. Proverbs on Parental Responsibility:

A. Develop love for Child's soul and be willing to teach them (Proverbs 22:6):
   1. Tenderness in parents (Proverbs 4:10-12; Ephesians 6:4).
   2. To teach is to give hope (Proverbs 15:22).

B. Teach Children the Value of Spiritual Wisdom.
   1. Wisdom is "the principle thing... she is thy life" (Proverbs 4:7-9, 13).
   2. To succeed in instilling the value of wisdom is to succeed as a parent (Proverbs 8:18-19; 16:16).

C. Discipline at appropriate times.
   1. Discipline and wisdom go hand in hand (Proverbs 29:15).

II. Proverbs on Child's Responsibility:

A. Love, Respect, and honor parents (Ephesians 6:1-3).
   1. Know that your words and actions identify what you really are (Proverbs 20:11).
   2. Know that the friends you choose may bring shame to your family (Proverbs 28:7; 29:3).
   3. Know that disrespect and rebellion against parents is sinful and will not go unpunished (see Proverbs 17:30; 2 Timothy 3:1-2).

B. Learn the value of instruction and be willing to diligently search after it.
   1. Develop a willing heart that listens to instruction (Proverbs 1:8-9; 15:31-32).
   2. Grasp the idea that destruction of the soul awaits the rebellious (Proverbs 13:13; 15:11-12).

III. Happiness in the Home:

A. A wise child makes a happy home.

B. A foolish child: brings grief to the home.

Conclusion:

Parenting is not an easy task. Being a parent involves great joy but there will also be times of great sorrow. Our objective, as parents, is to minimize the days of sorrow for the family and child. To succeed in parenting is to teach your children the value of spirituality in contrast to the things of this world.