

## Doctrine of the Family

### The Family in Covenant

1. God, in His mercy has established several divine institutions.
  - Volition.  
Individual freedom.
  - The Home.  
The nuclear family and the extended family. *Genesis 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.*
  - Government. *Romans 13:13 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.*  
  
A just judge on the bench.  
A policeman on the corner.
  - The Church.  
To promote godly standards and righteousness *Proverbs 14:34 Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.*
2. The reason why the family matters is because God has established the family.
  - *Genesis 1:22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.*
3. Children born, especially into a godly family, are a blessing of the Lord.
  - *Psalms 127:3 Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.*
4. Modern society is tearing the family apart.
  - By divorce.
  - By the marketing of a targeted group.
  - By self-interests.
  - By individualism.

5. The world would focus attention on the individual and the state.
6. Between the family and the church are intimate institutions between the individual and the state. They are necessary for an orderly and stable society.
7. The devil is at war with the family and the church.
  - *Malachi 2:16 For the Lord, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the Lord of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.*
  - *Daniel 7:21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;*
  - *Revelation 13:7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.*
8. In order to be a family, the concept of covenant much prevail, for God makes covenants with individuals and their seed.
  - *Adam. Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*
  - *Noah. Genesis 8:15 And God spake unto Noah, saying, 16 Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. 17 Bring forth with thee every living thing that is with thee, of all flesh, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth.*
  - *Abraham. Genesis 13:15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.*
9. By covenant, people are kept together, and are kept in communion with God.
10. A covenant is a contract with mutual obligations.
11. While human contracts can be negotiated, Biblical covenants are not negotiable. God comes and declares what He will do, and what is expected of the person He enters into covenant with.

***Special Note.***

While God declares what He will do in covenant, there is a sense of obligation inherent in the covenant. Notice the language of Genesis 22. It was because Abraham obeyed the voice of God, his seed would be blessed among the nations of the earth.

- *Genesis 22:18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.*

12. Covenant with God is binding and is based on the faithfulness of God.

- *1 Corinthians 1:9 God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.*

13. It is incumbent upon parents to teach their children about covenant with God.

- *Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: 5 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.*