

## Doctrine of the Family

### The Family Under Assault

1. The world is at war with the family.
2. The world has done irreparable harm to many families.
  - By redefining marriage.
  - By promoting casual sex.
  - By sexualizing young girls in beauty pageants.
  - By failing to protect the children, and permitting child pornography.
  - By failing to instill religious values, and social virtues.
  - By allowing easy divorces.
  - By promoting gay marriages.
  - By mocking fathers.
  - By encouraging single parent households.
  - By exploiting women and children for political votes.
  - By encouraging fragmenting lifestyles.
  - By isolating children within the home through the TV, and social media outlets.
3. Sometimes, the gospel itself will tear a family apart.
  - *Matthew 10:36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.*
4. The extended family has given way to the nuclear family, and then reduced to those without a family.
5. The good news of the gospel is that all families in Christ are part of the family of God.

"I'm so glad I'm a part of the Family of God,  
 I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood!  
 Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,  
 For I'm part of the family,  
 The Family of God.

You will notice we say "brother and sister" 'round here,  
 It's because we're a family and these are so near;  
 When one has a heartache, we all share the tears,  
 And rejoice in each victory in this family so dear.

I'm so glad I'm a part of the Family of God,  
 I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood!  
 Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,  
 For I'm part of the family,  
 The Family of God.

From the door of an orphanage to the house of the King,  
 No longer an outcast, a new song I sing;  
 From rags unto riches, from the weak to the strong,  
 I'm not worthy to be here, but praise God I belong!

I'm so glad I'm a part of the Family of God,  
 I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His Blood!  
 Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,  
 For I'm part of the family,  
 The Family of God.”

6. The world is assaulting all the divine institutions, especially the intermediating institutions, leaving only the individual and the state.
  - Individuals
  - Families
  - Churches
  - States
7. When the family, and the church is eliminated from influencing society, then the state will consume the individual to rule, and ruin, lives.
8. Despite the historical record of the harm that comes when the family disintegrates, the churches are forced underground, and the state dominates, people foolishly move to surrender their freedom for security.
9. The church, and the family, should unite to resist individualism, and authoritarianism.
10. The church, and the family, should relate to one another by being united.
  - The church and family should be united in worship.
  - The church and family should be united in education.
  - The church and family should be united in discipline.
  - The church and family should be united in purpose, which is to advance the kingdom of God.
  - The church and family should be united in doctrine.
  - The church and family should be united in submitting to biblical authority.
11. There should not be little tiny churches for the kids, bigger churches for the teens, and a separate worship service for the adults. This only splits the family up, and relieves the fathers of their responsibilities.
12. The other extreme is for families to become churches unto themselves. This is the danger of the Home Church Movement.

13. The church and the family must be a greater family, to the families. The church is to be, “A family above the family” (R. C. Sproul, Jr.).

- The church can be a court of appeals.
- The church can be a haven of help to those who are destitute. Widows and orphans are of particular concern.

*1 Timothy 5:3 Honour widows that are widows indeed.*

*James 1:27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.*