

## Doctrine of God as Father

1. God wanted the nation of Israel to have a sense of their relationship to Him in a special way.

- *Exodus 4:22 And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel is my son, even my firstborn:*
- *1 Chronicles 29:10 Wherefore David blessed the LORD before all the congregation: and David said, Blessed be thou, LORD God of Israel our father, for ever and ever.*

God wants the new nation of “Israel”, the church, to have a sense of His special grace.

- *2 Corinthians 6:18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.*

Application. Any father can adopt a child unto himself and love him in his heart. It is a matter of choice.

2. Because of their relationship to Him, God did not want His children hurting themselves by acts of self-mutilation.

- *Deuteronomy 14:1 Ye are the children of the LORD your God: ye shall not cut yourselves, nor make any baldness between your eyes for the dead.*

Application. Every father should make sure that his child does not hurt himself with drugs, bad company, inappropriate literature, or temper tantrums.

3. The foolish acts of the Israelites could outrage God as Father.

- *Deuteronomy 32:5 They have corrupted themselves, their spot is not the spot of his children: they are a perverse and crooked generation. 6 Do ye thus requite the LORD, O foolish people and unwise? Is not he thy father that hath bought thee? Hath he not made thee, and established thee?*

Application. There is a place for legitimate anger when our children misbehave.

3. Because God loves individuals, He keeps a close guard upon their behavior.

- *2 Samuel 7:14 I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men:*
- *1 Chronicles 28:6 And he said unto me, Solomon thy son, he shall build my house and my courts: for I have chosen him to be my son, and I will be his father.*

Application. A father will correct his children but not to excess and not without honor.

4. God takes special pity upon the fatherless and widows.
  - *Psalms 68:5 A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in his holy habitation.*

Application. As Father-God has pity in His heart so should fathers pity their children.

5. In times of distress God invites His children to cry out to Him, for a father is always someone a child should be able to turn to for help.
  - *Psalms 89:26 He shall cry unto me, Thou art my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.*

Application. Fathers are the first person, not the last that children should turn to when they have done wrong.

6. As Father-God the Lord is distressed when His people rebel against Him.
  - *Isaiah 1:2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.*

7. Jesus is a Father to us as well as a Savior.
  - *Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

8. When the intimate relationship between Father-God and His children was broken in the OT there was still the Covenant relationship to appeal to.
  - *Isaiah 63:16 Doubtless thou art our father, though Abraham be ignorant of us, and Israel acknowledge us not: thou, O LORD, art our father, our redeemer; thy name is from everlasting.*
  - *Isaiah 64:8 But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.*

Application. Ideally, every child should know there is a bond with their parents that cannot be broken.

9. Whenever Father-God disciplined His children He showed them mercy.

- *Jeremiah 3:19 But I said, How shall I put thee among the children, and give thee a pleasant land, a goodly heritage of the hosts of nations? And I said, Thou shalt call me, My father; and shalt not turn away from me.*
- *Hosea 1:10 Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, Ye are the sons of the living God.*

Application. Whatever form of discipline we administer it must not be without mercy.

9. One thing that allowed Father-God to keep on loving His people was to remember them when they were a child.

- *Hosea 11:1 When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.*

Application. It is not wrong to have a sentimental and nostalgic side to the soul.

10. Father-God has commanded His children to love their enemies as proof of a family relationship.

- *Matthew 5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.*

Application. Children should always know that their parents will forgive them.

11. Our Father-God is pleased when His children do acts of kindness for others in secret.

- *Matthew 6:4 That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.*

12. Our Father-God invites open, frequent, and one on one conversations with Himself.

- *Matthew 6:6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.*

Application. Fathers should have special times they spend with their children.

13. Our Father-God does not want His children to worry.

- *Matthew 6:8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. 9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.*

Application. Fathers should not be the reason why their children worry and should do all within their power to help their children stop worrying.

14. Father-God knows how to give good gifts to his children.

- *Matthew 7:11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?*

Application. Fathers should be remembered for the good gifts they give to their children.

15. The presence of Father-God prevails in the lives of His children and is reflected in speech and actions.

- *Matthew 10:20 For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.*

Application. Every father will see a large measure of himself in his children.

16. Our Father-God is very much aware of the details of our lives.

- *Matthew 10:29 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.*

Application. Parents should know what is going on in the lives of their children.

17. Our Father God wants us to seek to do His will.

- *Luke 11:2 And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.*

Application. It is not wrong for parents to want their children to obey them.

18. Our Father-God teaches us many things.

- *John 16:15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.*

Application. Children should learn the most valuable lessons from their parents.

19. Sometimes our Father-God will delay giving good gifts, but give them He does.

- *Acts 1:4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.*

20. Peace is associated with Father-God.

- *Romans 1:7 To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Application. Peace should characterize Christian fathers.

21. Affectionate, love, and not fear, is the over whelming relationship our Father-God wants with us.

- *Romans 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.*
- *Galatians 4:4 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.*

Application. Every child should have affectionate love and not fear towards his father.

22. Grace is associated between Father-God and His children.

- *1 Corinthians 1:3 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Application. Christian fathers should be gracious fathers. Grace is unmerited favor freely bestowed.

23. Mercy is associated with Father-God.

- *2 Corinthians 1:3 Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;*

Application. Christian fathers should be known for their mercy.

24. The love of Father-God is a sacrificial love.

- *John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

Application. Christian parents should be demonstrating sacrificial, not self centered love.

25. The love of Father-God is a generous love.

- *Ephesians 1:2 Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:*

- *James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.*

Application. Christian parents should be generous with their love.

26. Father-God is worthy of honor.

- *Ephesians 3:14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,*
- *Hebrews 12:9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?*

Application. Every Christian parent should seek to live in such a way that honor is freely extracted not demanded.

27. Our Father-God instills in our hearts an attitude of gratitude.

- *Ephesians 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;*

Application. Children should be taught to be grateful.

28. The love of our Father-God is constant.

- *2 Thessalonians 2:16 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace,*

Application. The love of parents should not be conditional nor temperamental.

28. Righteous judgment is associated with our Father-God.

- *1 Peter 1:17 And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:*

Application. Christian parents should render a righteous judgment.

29. Our Father-God wants us to love righteousness.

- *1 John 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*

Application. Christian parents should try to instill a love for righteousness in the hearts of their children.