

“Relationships” Ephesians 6:1-9 4/30/17

Today, we'd like to see the title of "Relationships" in the book of Ephesians 6:1-9.

To Online Word's people on the earth, we'd like to suggest 3 Questions.

Q1. In verse 4, "And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord," why don't fathers provoke their children to wrath? And how could the fathers bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord?

Q2. In verse 8, "knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether *he is* a slave or free," what does it mean?

Q3. In verse 9, "And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him," what does it mean? And how should masters do good things to bondservants while the bondservants do good services as to the Lord, not to men

(Background)

Life involves relationships, such as between humans and God, humans and humans, & humans and natures.

In the last time, the relationship between wives and husbands were taught by Paul.

(Eph 5:22-23) Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

(Eph 5:25) ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

Today, it regards:

(1-4) Relationship between Children and Parents

(5-9) Relationship between Servants and Masters or Employees and Employers

(Text)

¹Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

¹= obey your parents in the Lord (obey your parents unless they are contrary to God's word, e.g. If a parent asks a child to steal or to be a prostitute, the child should not obey because of the contrary to God's word)

<p>²“Honor your father and mother,” which is <u>the first commandment with promise</u>: ³“that it <u>may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.</u>”</p> <p>⁴And you, fathers, <u>do not provoke your children to wrath</u>, but bring them up in <u>the training [nurture] and admonition of the Lord.</u></p> <p>⁵<u>Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity [singleness] of heart, as to Christ;</u></p> <p>⁶<u>not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart,</u></p>	<p>2= the 1st commandment with promise (1st commandment in our relationship to each other, i.e. 10 commandments divided into 1^s table of stone – no other God before me, no make idols, no misuse God’s name, keep the Sabbath (our relationship with God)—and 2nd table of stone – honor parents, no murder, no adultery, no steal, no false testimony, no covet (our relationship to each other) <i>Exodus 20:1-17; Deut 5:1-21</i> ¹Ex 20:12; Deut 5:16)</p> <p>4=Q1 do not provoke your children to wrath (make your children angry – e.g. tease them to anger for fun; force them against their desire, beyond their ability, or beyond their perseverance— their wrath – they are discouraged ²Col 3:21; <i>Phil 2:13</i> – breakdown of children-parents relationship, not for His pleasure); bring them in the training (care) and admonition (correcting; scolding kindly) of the Lord (training and admonition belonging to the Lord, i.e. the Word of God in the Bible or parents’ testimonies about God, because children is God’s heritage for His pleasure or God’s glory ³<i>Psalm 127:3; Psalm 71:17-18; Psalm 78:4-5; 1 Kings 2:1-4; 1 Cor 10:31</i>; breakdown of children and parents is one mark of the breakdown of society ⁴<i>Romans 1:30; 2 Tim 3:2</i>)</p> <p>5= Bondservants (Employees) be obedient to those who are your masters (Employers); according to the flesh (on the earth, as masters or employers, but brothers in the Lord) with fear and trembling (holy fear), in sincerity of heart (singleness of heart; undivided heart; loyalty), as to the Lord (obey employers as to the Lord ⁵Col 3:23)</p> <p>6= not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers (word or deed for God’s glory, not for a big show, e.g. only hard work before a boss); but... doing the will of God from the heart (hearty, sincere, or loyal service)</p>
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¹ Ex 20:12 “Honor your father and your mother. that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you; Deut 5:16 ‘Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may be well with you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

² Col 3:21 Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.; *Phil 2:13* for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

³ *Psalm 127:3*Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD. The fruit of the womb is a reward.; *Psalm 71:17-18* O God, You have taught me from my youth: And to this day I declare Your wondrous works. ¹⁸ Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, do not forsake me, Until I declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to everyone who is to come.; *Psalm 78:4-5*We will not hide them from their children, Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. ⁵ For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers, That they should make them known to their children: *1 Kings 2:1-4* Now the days of David drew near that he should die, and he charged Solomon his son, saying: ²“I go the way of all the earth; be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man. ³ And keep the charge of the LORD your God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn: ⁴ that the LORD may fulfill His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, ‘If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul.’ He said, ‘you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.’; *1 Cor 10:31* Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

⁴ *Romans 1:30* backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents.; *2 Tim 3:2* For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

⁵ Col 3:23 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,

<p>⁷ with <u>goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men,</u></p> <p>⁸ knowing that <u>whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free.</u></p> <p>⁹ And you, <u>masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven, and there is no partiality[respect] with Him.</u></p> <p><i>Note: You as an employee, do whatever you do heartily as to the Lord for His pleasure. Also, You as an employer, do whatever you do as to the brother in Christ for His pleasure. The secular job place would be a sacred job place for His kingdom.</i></p>	<p>7= goodwill doing service, as to the Lord; not to men (bondservants or employees do good services to masters as to the Lord; how about master or employers?, see verse 9)</p> <p>8=Q2 whatever good anyone does (whatever good things anyone does in the sight of God ⁸Mat 19:17); he will receive the same from the Lord (the good reward for good doing from the Lord; bad punishment for bad doing); whether he is a slave or free (whether your position is either employee or employer given by the Lord on the earth or according to the flesh or in the flesh ⁷John21:21-22)</p> <p>9=Q3 masters, do the same things to them (employers do the same good things to employees ⁸Col 3:25); giving up threatening... your own Master also is in heaven (the Lord is the master of employers); no partiality with Him (regardless of employers or employees ⁹Acts 10:34; even if they are your employees on the earth or according to the flesh or in the flesh, you should do good things to them as brothers in the Lord for His pleasure e.g. Onesimus as Philemon's slave stole something and later became a Christian by Paul ¹⁰Philemon 1:10,16, 20;)</p>
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⁶ Mat 19:17 So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, *that is*, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments."

⁷ John21:21-22 Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, what *about* this man?"²² Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is *that* to you? You follow Me."

⁸ Col 3:25 But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.

⁹ Acts 10:34 Then Peter opened *his* mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality.

¹⁰ Philemon 1:10,16, 20¹⁰ I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten *while* in my chains, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave—a beloved brother, especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have joy from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in the Lord.