

Fathers Who Give Hope

Colossians 3:18-21 (v.21)

Introduction:

Hope in God – is to trust in, wait for, look for, or desire something or someone; or to expect something beneficial in the future from God.

I. The 3 Goals of a Godly Father

- a. To raise Children who are not discouraged v.21c
- b. Not to do things that discourage his children v.21b
- c. To be a father to his children like God is to him v.21a

II. The Fatherhood of God

- a. Jesus taught His disciples to call God Father Matt 6:9-13
- b. Jesus also taught God is not everyone's Father Jhn 8:42,44
- c. God is only the Father of those who have Christ Rom 8:9

III. The Task of Every Human Father

- a. Is to be for his children an image of the Father in heaven

IV. Raising Children who are not Discouraged v.21c

- a. Discouraged means – children that are losing heart, listless, spiritless, disinterested, moody, and sullen
- b. But raise children that are the opposite of discouraged
 - i. They are hopeful – in God
 - ii. Happy – in God
 - iii. They are confident and courageous – in God

Fathers Who Give Hope

Colossians 3:18-21 (v.21)

V. Happiness that Kills and Happiness in God

- a. There is a happiness that kills and it has no value in the sight of God Jas 4:9
- b. But there is another happiness that gives Joy Ps 4:7-8

VI. Self-Confidence vs. God-Confidence

- a. The world says build up a child's self-confidence
- b. God says build up a child's God-confidence 2Cor 1:8-9

VII. Do Not Provoke your Children v.21b

- a. A warning to father's about the misuse of authority v.20
- b. 2 Things Father's do to discourage their children
 - i. Fail to be happy and hopeful and confident in God
 - ii. 2nd is to discipline in an impulsive, erratic, and inconsistent way

VIII. Being a Father Like God v.21a

- a. Father's are responsible for the moral life of the family.
- b. 7 Characteristics that all fathers should emulate
 - i. Be the High Priest of his home
 - ii. Be the teacher of his children
 - iii. Love his children
 - iv. Be an example before his children
 - v. Love his wife
 - vi. And provide for his family