

Husbands, Fathers, Men!

Ephesians 3:14-15 (NASB95) For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name.

Derives: to take, receive, or obtain especially from a specified source

Name: 3951: ὀνομάζω (*onomazō*): be known, what you are known by...

God is the one who gives us the correct identity (Character) of a father and the structure of the family!

I. God as a Loving Father

God, through history, has tried to get the point across that He is a loving Father!

Jeremiah 9:23-24 (NKJV) Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty man glory in his might, Nor let the rich man glory in his riches; But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD.

God wants to be known as a loving Father!

1 Chronicles 29:10-13 (NKJV) Therefore David blessed the LORD before all the assembly; and David said: "Blessed are You, LORD God of Israel, our Father, forever and ever. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, The power and the glory, The victory and the majesty; For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, And You are exalted as head over all. Both riches and honor come from You, And You reign over all. In Your hand is power and might; In Your hand it is to make great And to give strength to all.

II. The order of things

1 Corinthians 11:3 (NKJV) But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.

The Father – Jesus – Man – Woman – Children "WHAT DID CHRIST DO AND IS STILL DOING?" He represents the Father to us and us to the Father!

Christ is our Priest, Prophet and King!

Priest: The Priest's job was to go to God on behalf of the people.

Hebrews 2:17 (NASB95) Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

Prophet: Goes to the people on behalf of God, represent God to the people

John 17:25-26 (NLT) "O righteous Father, the world doesn't know You, but I do; and these disciples know You sent Me, I have revealed You to them, and I will continue to do so. Then Your love for Me will be in them, and I will be in them."

King: Commander

Revelation 19:13 (NLT) He wore a robe dipped in blood, and His title was the Word of God. ... vs 16. On His robe at His thigh was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords.

III. The Father & Husbands role

I believe the Bible teaches us, as men, to follow Christ's pattern. As Christ is to the church, we as Fathers and Husbands are to be to our family.

Priest: Represent your family to God

Exodus 12:3 (AMP) Tell all the congregation of Israel, On the tenth day of this month they shall take every man a lamb or kid, according to [the size of] the family of which he is the father, a lamb or kid for each house.

Only the father could sprinkle the blood. No one can do what the man is called to do!

Job 1:5 (NLT) When these celebrations ended—sometimes after several days—Job would purify his children. He would get up early in the morning and offer a burnt offering for each of them. For Job said to himself, "Perhaps my children have sinned and have cursed God in their hearts." This was Job's regular practice.

When God gives responsibility, He also gives authority!

The Jailer: Acts 16:31 (ESV) *And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."*

Deuteronomy 11:18-19 (NASB95) *"You shall therefore impress these words of mine on your heart and on your soul; and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. "You shall teach them to your sons, talking of them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road and when you lie down and when you rise up.*

Men, you are representing God to your family. The question is, are you doing it right or wrong?

Prophet: Representing and hearing God on behalf of your family

Ephesians 5:25 (ESV) *Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her, that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,*

Ephesians 6:4 (NASB95) *Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*

Every human father's Privilege and solemn responsibility is to represent the Fatherhood of God to his family. As Jesus personified the Father to us, we, as fathers, are to personify the Fatherhood of God to our family!

Hebrews 11:7 (NASB95) *By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household...*

Genesis 13:10 (NLT) *Lot took a long look at the fertile plains of the Jordan Valley in the direction of Zoar. The whole area was well watered everywhere, like the garden of the LORD or the beautiful land of Egypt. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.)*

Lot led his household into Sodom and Gomorrah but could not get them out! He chose what was good to the eyes. Abraham sought God for his household!

King: commander and chief

Ephesians 5:23-24 (NLT) *For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything.*

1 Timothy 3:4-5 (NASB95) *He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?).*

1 Timothy 5:8 (NLT) *But those who won't care for their relatives, especially those in their own household, have denied the true faith. Such people are worse than unbelievers.*

Proverbs 13:24 (NLT) *Those who spare the rod of discipline hate their children. Those who love their children care enough to discipline them.*

The most unhappy children are un-disciplined children!

Eli: 1 Samuel 2:29 (NLT) *So why do you scorn My sacrifices and offerings? Why do you give your sons more honor than you give Me...*

Proverbs 17:25 (NLT) *Foolish children bring grief to their father and bitterness to the one who gave them birth.*

Joshua 24:15 (NLT) *But if you refuse to serve the LORD, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD."*