



## CHILDHOOD REBELLION

By **Bill Subritzky**

I often receive calls from distraught parents who find that their children have become rebellious. They feel that there are wrong spiritual powers around the children and believe that perhaps a quick prayer will resolve the situation.

As children come into puberty, they will want to assert their own independence and sometimes this is interpreted as rebellion whereas in fact it is not the case.

When children have been brought up with a sound knowledge of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour in a godly home where both parents love the Lord and actively practice their faith by prayer, church attendance and their own conduct, there is every possibility that they will have godly children.

There can be many reasons for childhood rebellion, some of which are as follows;

### **1. Environment.**

(a) **Children not raised** with a full knowledge of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

Parents who say that they are Christians but rarely go to church, have never had a born-again experience, do not read the Bible and do not pray with their children do not provide a good foundation for them.

(b) **Marital disagreements** which bring fear and rebellion in the hearts of the children. Children need love and security and without this rebellion will occur.

(c) **Divorce.** God says He hates divorce for it covers one's garment with violence. The anger and bitterness, resentment, hatred disappointment and other issues which arise from divorce have major effects on the children.

(d) **Children born outside of marriage.** In New Zealand, 40% of the children are in single family homes. There is no father present but often a succession of men.

(e) **Sexual abuse.** This occurs in many families especially where there are casual relationships and children are abused.

## **2. Inherited rebellion.**

When either or both of the parents have a poor relationship with their own parents then the curses of previous generations will affect the children.

Children who are conceived outside of wedlock will as a matter of course have inherited a spirit of rebellion. In the New Testament God has designed marriage for the reproduction of children within marriage.

Medical doctors are aware of the fact that we can inherit disease and sickness from our parents and their ancestors.

The Bible requires us to honour our parents.

"Cursed is the one who treats his father or mother with contempt". (Deuteronomy 27:16).

To honour our parents then we must absolutely forgive and respect them no matter what they may have done to us otherwise the curses of the previous four generations will come upon us and our children. These curses include rebellion and sickness of every kind.

The Bible says, "You shall beget sons and daughters, but they shall not be yours, for they shall go into captivity." Deuteronomy 28:41. Today this occurs frequently as children and their rebellion turn to drugs.

If either or both of our parents are alive, we should write to them and ask them to forgive us for any wrong attitudes we have ever had towards them and tell them that we forgive and love them. We should do this no matter what they may have done to us.

If our parents or either of them are dead we should go before the Lord and confess any wrong attitudes we have had towards our parent or parents, tell the Lord that we honour the memory, and ask His forgiveness.

We then can claim deliverance for ourselves and our children at the cross of Jesus Christ from the curses of the law in accordance with Galatians 3:13 and 14. The Bible says. "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree," that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."

Our children should also be told about the above scriptures, so that they understand that they must honour and forgive us.

## **3. "Evil company corrupt good habits". (1 Corinthians 15:33.)**

We must warn our children not to keep bad company.

**The answer:**

There is usually no quick answer to the above problem of childhood rebellion. It has not occurred overnight, it has taken years to develop.

However, if the child can be persuaded to commit or recommit their life to Jesus Christ and they are shown the effect of not honouring their parents then, but not otherwise, there can be a great change.

The parents should pray with their children on a daily basis and encourage them in every way.

Always remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 18:18-19. "Surely, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

"Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven."

As you pray believing with another person then any demon powers will be bound and loosed from your child and they will be more open to the work of the Holy Spirit in their life.

If the child's heart really softens and they are open to the Lord then a prayer of deliverance can command any spirit of rebellion to leave the child and this will have a great effect. However, if the child is not prepared to listen a deliverance prayer will have no effect.

If the parents feel that they have failed in the child's upbringing then they should work through with the child about any issues that are involved.

If either of the parents, are absent because of divorce, separation or death, the child should be encouraged to honour and forgive that parent.

If we have anger or rage against the former partner this will be transmitted to the child and they will be cursed unless they in turn repent and change from this attitude.

The Bible says, "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." (Matthew 6:14-15.)

If we don't forgive, God does not forgive us and we are outside of the protection of the cross of Jesus Christ and cannot claim to be the heirs of the kingdom of God.

Prayer can accomplish miracles, when it is accompanied by love and a forgiving heart.

If you feel your child is ready for deliverance, then you should go to the elders of your church and ask them to pray for the child in accordance with James 5:13-18.

Finally, always remember the Scripture, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6.)

Never forget that God's hand will always be upon your child as you continue to pray.

**Compiled by Bill Subritzky and produced by Dove Ministries**  
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