



Church of Christ

December 21, 2003

204 Dix Road Jefferson City, MO 65109

Heart to Heart...

This article is for our young people and young adults. I pray they will read it with an honest, open heart.

The Lord expects certain things from you, especially in the realm of attitudes in your walk with Him in dealing with your parents. Are you a wise son or daughter? Are you a scoffer or a fool?

A scoffer (mocker) is a "know it all" with an attitude that won't listen or accept correction. A fool is one who ignores right while following their own desires. They both are wicked and will come under God's judgment.

"A fool rejects his father's discipline, but he who regards reproof is sensible." (Prov. 15:5) Fathers are to keep their sons and daughters on track with the Lord's guidance. If they accept it, they are wise and sensible. "A wise son accepts his father's discipline, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke." (Prov. 13:1) Are you a wise son or daughter or a scoffer? How do you take your father's (or parents) discipline and teaching? Do you get angry and walk away in a huff? What is that telling you? "A wise son makes a father glad, but a foolish son is a grief to his mother." (Prov. 10:1) Your attitude not only reveals who you are but the hurt you cause your parents. "A wise son makes a father glad, but a foolish man despises his mother." (Prov. 15:20) Are you a wise son or daughter or a fool? "He who assaults his father and drives his mother away is a shameful and disgraceful son." (Prov. 19:26) Are you shameful and disgraceful to your parents or are you one who promotes godliness in dealing with your parents? "Cease listening, my son, to discipline, and you will stray from the words of knowledge." (Prov. 19:27) The moment a son or daughter stops listening to right when they are in the wrong will only lead them down the path of ignorance and shame.

What is the outcome of shameful, foolish, scoffing children? "Judgments are prepared for scoffers, and blows for the backs of fools." (Prov. 19:29) That is all that's left for those who refuse to listen to right. It was God who said that children are to obey and honor their parents. Why? "So that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth." (Eph. 6:1-3) Those who refuse to listen, to accept correction, and ignore right, will forfeit their own lives! Notice how the lives of the rebellious are not well. "Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God?" (I Cor. 6:9) The Lord has set before us, in relationship to our family, blessedness or judgment. It all depends on the heart. Let me ask again, are you a wise son or daughter or a foolish scoffer? Your life will show it. Think about it!!!

Brent