

Hebrews 12:1-29 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. **v1-2**

For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." **v3-6**

If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate & not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, & we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits & live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. **v7-11**

Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed. Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears. **v12-17**

For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard it begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. (For they could not endure what was commanded: "And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow." And so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.") **v18-21**

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just

men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel. **v22-24**

See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven." Now this, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain.. **v25-27**

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire. **v28-29**

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Heb 12:6-7 For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons (children); for what son (child) is there whom a father does not chasten?

1. **Why do we endure chastening and scourging?**
2. **What does this phrase mean: "It is for discipline that you endure"?**
3. **Why is getting discipline so important?**
4. **Desiring and accepting discipline says what about a person? Not?**

DISCIPLINE: Correction; chastisement; punishment intended to correct crimes or errors.

READ Proverbs 10:17 He who keeps instruction is in the way of life, But he who refuses correction goes astray.

Proverbs 12:1 Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, But he who hates correction is stupid.

Proverbs 22:15 Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of correction will drive it far from him.

Proverbs 13:18 Poverty and shame will come to him who disdains correction, But he who regards a rebuke will be honored.

Heb 12:7 It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons (children); for what son (child) is there whom a father does not chasten?

5. **How does God deal with us?**

6. Why are we children of God? Can a child initiate an adoption? Who does?

John 1:11-13 He (Jesus) came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them **He gave the right to become children of God**, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Ephesians 1:3-6 **Blessed be the God and Father** of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as **He chose us in Him** before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, **having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will**, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

Heb 12:7 It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons (children); for what son (child) is there whom a father does not chasten?

7. What son is there whom a father does not chasten?

Proverbs 13:24 He who **spares his rod hates his son**,...

8. What's the evidence someone loves their child? Doesn't?

Proverbs 13:24 He who **spares his rod hates his son**, But he who **loves him disciplines him promptly**.

9. How do you know that you are God's child based on Hebrews 12:7?**10. What is the timing of discipline? Why?**

PROMPTLY: **Without delay: very quickly** or **immediately**.

11. Why is discipline supposed to be immediate?

Proverbs 23:13-14 Do not withhold correction from a child, For if you beat him with a rod, he will not die. You shall beat him with a rod, And **deliver his soul from hell**.

12. When should discipline be delayed?

Ephesians 4:26 "Be **angry**, and do not **sin**": do not let the sun go down on your wrath, **James 1:19-21** Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because **human anger does not produce** the righteousness that God desires.

Ephesians 6:4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God,...

13. Does a child's anger with being disciplined mean you provoked [sin] them?

14. We can provoke our children to wrath when discipline is not done how?

15. Does God have this problem of provoking His children to wrath? Why?

Heb 12:7 It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons (children); for what son (child) is there whom a father does not chasten?

16. What child of God is there whom the Father does not chasten?

17. Who are those God does not chasten? What does he do to them?

Hebrews 10:28-30 Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.

2 Peter 2:6-11 ...and turning the cities of Sodom & Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked ...—then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment, and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority.

18. Did God wait for you, to treat you as His child? Is God breaking His rules?

Ephesians 1:3-6 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,...He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,

Heb 12:9 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.

19. If you are without chastening: Are you illegitimate or legitimate (true child)?

20. What is the difference between illegitimate and legitimate? How does it happen?

LEGITIMATE: A child born to parents who are legally married to each other. Legally legitimate children carried:

- **Inheritance rights** — automatic claim to the father's estate/property
- **The family name** — full incorporation into the family line and lineage
- **Parental obligation** — the father was legally and socially bound to raise, train, discipline, and provide for them.
- **Social standing** — recognized in the community as rightful member of that household

ILLEGITIMATE: A child born outside a recognized legal marriage. Legally, illegitimate children typically has:

- **No automatic inheritance rights** — at the father's discretion.
- **No guaranteed claim to the family name/lineage**
- **Reduced or no formal obligation from the father** — since they weren't set to inherit, there is little incentive to invest in disciplining or training them for that role.
- **Lower social status** — often viewed as outside full family household, even if they lived in the household.

Heb 12:9 But if you are without chastening, in which all sons share, then you are illegitimate and not sons.

21. All children (people in general) share in what?

22. In God's reality, if someone is without chastening from Him, they are what?

23. If someone is illegitimate they have no part in God's _____?

24. How does God distinguish between His kids and not His kids?

1 John 3:9-12 Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God. This is how God's children and the Devil's children are distinguished: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother. For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother...

John 8:42-44 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God;...You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do."

25. What is the evidence that you are God's kid? What do you desire to do?

John 14:21 He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me.

1 John 4:21 And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also. **1 John 5:2-3** By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this demonstrates our love for God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not difficult,

26. If we are doing our own desires, Whose desire are we not doing?

27. If we are obeying our own commands, Whose commands are we not obeying?

28. The Question is Why? Implications? Struggle of the flesh/mind or illegitimate?

29. People are God's creation, but only certain people are His _____?

Hebrews 12:8-9 Now if you are without any discipline, in which all sons share, then you are illegitimate and not God's sons. Furthermore, we had earthly fathers who disciplined us, and we respected them for it.

30. Did you have earthly parents who disciplined you? Did you respect them?

31. Why would someone respect their parents for disciplining them?

32. Why would someone disrespect their parents for disciplining them?

Hebrews 12:9 Furthermore, we had earthly fathers who disciplined us, and we respected them for it. We should submit even more to the Father of our spirits & live, shouldn't we?

33. If we submitted to our parents what should we do in relation to God?

34. What is the benefit in submitting to God and His discipline?

35. If someone does not want discipline from people, will they want God's?

Hebrews 12:10 For a short time they [our parents] disciplined us as they thought best, but God does it for our good, so that we may share in His holiness.

36. How long do parents get to discipline their children? Why?

37. How did our parents discipline us? Were their thoughts always the best?

38. God disciplines us for our _____? Are His thoughts always the best?

39. God is disciplining us so we can share in His _____?

40. What is God's Holiness?

HOLINESS: Perfect [complete] purity. Perfect [complete] moral character.

41. What does it mean to be perfect? How does it look to live it out?

Matthew 5:43-48 "You have heard that it was said, 'You must love your neighbor' and hate your enemy. But I say to you,

- love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, so that you will
- become children of your Father in heaven,
- If you love those who love you, what reward will you have? Even the tax collectors do the same, don't they? And if you greet only your relatives, that's no great thing you're doing, is it? Even the unbelievers do the same, don't they?
- So be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Hebrews 12:11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, for those who have been trained by it, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace.

42. Is discipline pleasant? What does it seem when it is happening? Why?

43. When does discipline become pleasant?

44. Why would someone ALWAYS see God's discipline as painful?

45. When trained by God's discipline, what kind of harvest should be produced?

46. What does a harvest of righteousness and peace look like (person's life)?

47. If someone is producing thorns, what kind of harvest is that? Solution?

Mat 7:16-18 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.

Matthew 13:23 ...But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears [Good/Godly] fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

2Timothy 2:15 Study to show yourself approved unto God, a worker that does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.