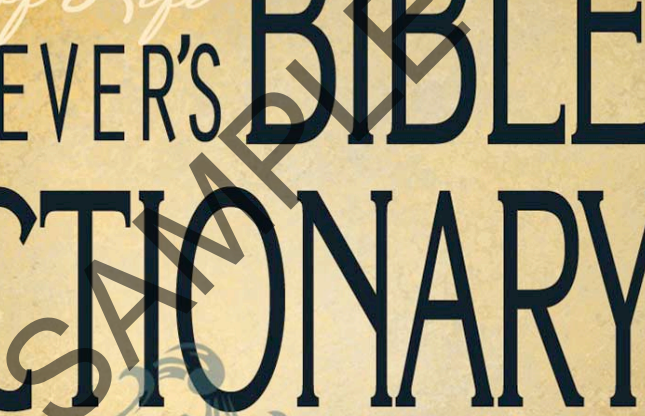


Way of Life
BELIEVER'S BIBLE
DICTIONARY



DAVID *W* CLOUD

Believer's Bible Dictionary
Copyright 2015 by David W. Cloud
This edition July 14, 2015
ISBN 978-1-58318-192-8



Published by Way of Life Literature
P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061
866-295-4143 (toll free) • fbns@wayoflife.org
<http://www.wayoflife.org>

Canada: Bethel Baptist Church,
4212 Campbell St. N., London, Ont. N6P 1A6
519-652-2619

Printed in Canada by
Bethel Baptist Print Ministry

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AARON (enlightened). The older son of Amram and Jochabed, of the tribe of Levi. He was born during the captivity in Egypt (Ex. 6:16-27). His younger brother was Moses; his sister, Miriam (Nu. 26:59). Aaron was appointed by God to be the spokesman for Moses (Ex. 4:14-16; 7:19; 17:9-13). While Moses was on Mt. Sinai, Aaron made a golden calf for the people to worship (Ex. 32:2-5). Later he was made the first high priest of the nation Israel and served in that office until he died at the age of 123 (Nu. 20:23-28; 33:39). [See also High Priest.]

AARON'S ROD. The staff carried by Aaron. It was used to witness of God's power before Pharaoh (Ex. 7:9-12, 15). In the wilderness it budded as a sign to rebellious Israel of God's approval upon Aaron and Moses (Nu. 17:1-10). It was placed in the ark of the covenant (He. 9:4).

AB (a father). Fifth month of the Jewish sacred calendar, corresponding to parts of July and August (Ezr. 7:9). The hot season (Potts). [See Calendar.]

ABADDON (complete destruction). The angel of the bottomless pit (Re. 9:11).

ABASE. (1) Lowly; humble (2 Sa. 6:22; 2 Co. 10:1). (2) Inferior; dishonorable (Job 30:8; Ac. 17:5). (3) The opposite of nobility; lowly in social standing (1 Co. 1:28). This Greek word (*agenes*) is defined by Strong as "without kin, i.e. (of unknown descent, and by implication) ignoble." [See Humble, Pride.]

ABATE. To lower, depress, diminish, weaken the force of anything (Le. 27:18).

ABBA (father, daddy, an endearing family term). The Lord Jesus called God the Father "Abba" (Mk. 14:36). True Christians also can call God "Abba" because of our family relationship through Jesus Christ (Ro. 8:15; Ga. 4:6). [See Adoption.]

ABEDNEGO (servant of expedition, servant of light). The Babylonian name given to one of Daniel's friends who was put in the fiery furnace (Da. 1:7; 3:12-30). His Hebrew name was Azariah, meaning "God has helped."

ABEL (breath). The second child of Adam and Eve. Abel was killed by his brother Cain (Ge. 4:1-10). Abel's offering was accepted by God (He. 11:4). Abel was a prophet (Lk. 11:50; 1:70; Ac. 3:21), which tells us that he received revelation from God. Ever since the Fall, God has been speaking to mankind about salvation because He is not willing that any perish (1 Ti. 2:3-5; 2 Pe. 3:9). (1) Abel followed God's Word rather than his own thinking. (2) Abel approached God through blood and death. Hebrews 12:24 tells us that Abel's offering pictured Christ. It is the death and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ that takes away our sin. The wages of sin is death (Ro. 6:23), and only by blood can sin be atoned (He. 9:22). Therefore, both death and blood were required for our salvation. (3) Abel approached God with a substitute. God's salvation is through substitution. Christ took our punishment; we take his righteousness (Is. 53; 2 Co. 5:21). (4) Abel approached God by faith, not by works (He. 11:4). Compare Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 4:3-7; 11:6; Titus 3:5. (5) Abel repented of his sin before God. Abel acknowledged his guilt and unworthiness by bringing a sacrifice that depicted the suffering of another in his place. Abel acknowledged God's curse

upon himself and the world. He acknowledged that man's sin must be punished and it can only be cleansed by the blood of Jesus Christ.

ABHOR. To detest; to hate; to lothe. The two Hebrew words most commonly translated "abhor" are *gahgal* (Le. 26:30) and *tahgav* (De. 7:26; Ps. 5:6). *Gahgal* is also translated "loathed" (Je. 14:19) and "vilely cast away" (2 Sa. 1:21). *Tahgav* is also translated "abominable" (Ps. 14:1; 53:1; Eze. 16:52). "Abhor" is only used two times in the N.T. (Ro. 2:22; 12:9).

ABIB (ears of corn). The first month of the Jewish year (Ex. 13:4). It was later named Nisan (Ne. 2:1; Es. 3:7). [See Calendar.]

ABIDE. (1) To remain; to reside; to wait for (Ge. 19:2; 22:5; 29:19). (2) That which remains (Nu. 31:23). (3) To hold out; to endure (2 Ch. 32:10; Je. 10:10).

ABIGAIL (maker of joy). Abigail became David's wife after the death of her first husband, Nabal (1 Sa. 25:3-44; 30:5, 18; 2 Sa. 2:2).

ABIHU (God is father). One of Aaron's four sons (Ex. 6:23; 24:1; 28:1). He and his brother Nadab were killed for refusing to obey God's instructions concerning worship (Le. 10:1-7). [See Strange Fire.]

ABOMINATION. Something hated; an object of disgust; detestable (Ge. 43:32; Pr. 6:16; Is. 1:13; Lk. 16:15). The O.T. law lists two types of abominations: ceremonial and moral. Leviticus chapter 11 contains a list animals that were ceremonially unclean. These were an abomination for the purpose of separating God's people from the nations (Le. 11:47). Things which are abominations to God include homosexuality (Le. 18:22; 20:13), witchcraft (De. 18:9-12); men and women wearing apparel which pertains to the opposite sex (De. 22:5); prostitution (De. 23:17-18); unjust business practices (De. 24:13-16); pride, lying, shedding innocent blood, wicked imaginations, false witness, sowing discord (Pr. 6:16-19), and idols (Je. 13:27; 32:34; Eze. 11:21). While the ceremonial abominations have been done away in Christ (Col. 2:11-14), the moral abominations remain in effect. God's hatred of these things is based upon His holy nature. No abominable thing shall enter into the New Jerusalem (Re. 21:27). [See Idolatry, Sodomy, Witchcraft.]

ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION. The term Jesus used to describe the Antichrist spoken of by Daniel the prophet (Mt. 24:15; Da. 8:9-12; 9:27; 11:31; 12:11). Daniel foretold of one who would arise and persecute the Israelites. He also said this evil one would take away Israel's sacrifices and would place in the temple an abominable thing to desecrate it. The Lord Jesus said this is yet future and will occur during the Great Tribulation just prior to His Second Coming to earth. The Antichrist will set himself up as god and will cause men to worship an idol of himself (2 Th. 2:3-4; Re. 13). It seems this will be the abomination which will cause the temple to be desecrated. In 168 B.C. a man named Antiochus Epiphanes destroyed many thousands of Jews and profaned the temple in Jerusalem by sacrificing a pig—an animal unclean by the standards of the Mosaic law. He also erected an altar to Jupiter in the Jewish temple. A great massacre followed, and the people fled the city. True temple worship was abandoned for three years while the temple was used as a place of idolatry and blasphemy. This was all a preview of the coming of the future Antichrist. Antiochus Epiphanes did not completely fulfill Daniel's prophecies any more than the earthquakes and wars of today fulfill the prophecies of the troubles which will shake the world

during the Great Tribulation foretold in Matthew 24 and Revelation. Jesus said these events will not be fulfilled until just prior to His return from heaven (Mt. 24:29-30). [See Antichrist, Double Fulfillment, Great Tribulation, Prophecy, Seventy Weeks.]

ABORTION. The destruction of children in the womb. Abortion is wrong for the following reasons: (1) Man is created in God's image and is not an animal (Ge. 1:26). (2) God is in control of conception (Genesis 20:18; 29:31; 30:22). (3) God forms the child in the womb (Psalm 139:13-16). (4) God forbids man to shed innocent blood (De. 19:10-13; 2 Kings 21:16). (5) The unborn is not a "fetus"; it is called a "child" and an "infant" in the Bible (Ge. 25:22; Job 3:16). (6) God's law requires punishment if an unborn child is harmed (Ex. 21:22-23). The Bible teaches that the unborn child does not belong to the mother; it belongs to the Creator. The infant in a woman's womb is a separate body and a separate life.

ABOVE MEASURE. [See Measure.]

ABRAHAM (father of a multitude). The man God chose to become the father of the nation Israel and the father of the promised Messiah or Savior, Jesus Christ (Ge. 12-50; Mt. 1:1). Abraham's name was "Abram" at first, meaning exalted father, and God changed it to "Abraham," meaning father of a multitude (Ge. 17:5). Abraham is mentioned more than 300 times in the Bible. He is the father of all believers (Ro. 4:11). Heaven is called "Abraham's bosom" (Luke 16:22). God created the nation Israel through Abraham to accomplish three things: (1) To give the Scriptures to the world (Ro. 3:1-2). (2) To give the Saviour to the world (Ro. 9:4-5). Jesus said that salvation is of the Jews (John 4:22). (3) To establish God's eternal kingdom through Jesus Christ, Abraham's Seed (Is. 9:6-7).

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT. [See Covenant.]

ABRAHAM'S BOSOM. It is the place of paradise where Old Testament saints rested after death (Lk. 16:22-23). In dispensational theology, it is generally believed that Jesus went to Abraham's bosom after death and took the Old Testament believers to heaven. [See Abraham, Heaven, Millennium, Paradise.]

ABRAM (exalted father). Abraham's original name. [See Abraham.]

ABROAD. (1) Beyond the limits of a certain area; outside of (Ge. 10:18; Ex. 5:12; De. 23:12). (2) To reach out; to stretch forth; to spread over (Ex. 9:29; 40:19).

ABSALOM (peacemaker). David's third son (2 Sa. 3:3). Absalom rebelled against David and tried to take away the kingdom (2 Sa. 13-19).

ABUSERS OF THEMSELVES WITH MANKIND. This phrase in 1 Co. 6:9 refers to homosexuality. The Greek word literally means "to lie with, or to cohabit with, a male." Matthew Henry, exemplifying the common interpretation of this term in earlier centuries, identified "abusers of themselves with mankind" with sodomy. [See Effeminate, Fornication, Sodomy.]

ACCEPTABLE. (1) Pleasing; gratifying; agreeable; worthy of approval (De. 33:24; Ro. 12:1; 1 Pe. 2:20). (2) Suitable; proper (Is. 49:8; 58:5; 2 Co. 6:2).

ACCEPTATION. Acceptance; the state of being acceptable (1 Ti. 1:15; 4:9).

end when Jesus returns from heaven to set up His earthly kingdom (Mt. 13:39-43).

AFFECTION. Passion; desire; inclination; propensity, good or evil; as, virtuous or vile affections (Webster) (Ro. 1:26, 31; 12:10; Col. 3:2, 5; 1 Th. 2:8; 2 Ti. 3:3). The Greek word *pathos* is translated “vile affections” in Ro. 1:26 and “inordinate affection” in Col. 3:5, referring to the evil desires of the old nature. “Inordinate” means “disorderly; irregular; excessive; immoderate; not limited to rules prescribed” (Webster). [See Sin.]

AFFINITY. Relationship by marriage (1 Ki. 3:1; Ezr. 9:14).

AFFIRM. To declare; to confirm (Lk. 22:59; Ac. 12:15; 25:19; Ro. 3:8; 1 Ti. 1:7).

AFFLICTION. Trouble; hardship; suffering (Ge. 15:13; 16:11; Job 34:28; Ps. 119:75; Mk. 4:17; 13:19; Ac. 7:10; 20:23; 2 Co. 4:17; 6:4; 8:2; Col. 1:24; 1 Th. 1:6; 3:3, 7; 2 Ti. 1:8; He. 10:32; 11:25; Ja. 1:27; 5:10; 1 Pe. 5:9). The Greek word commonly translated affliction, *thlipsis*, refers to pressure and constriction. It is also translated “trouble” (1 Co. 7:28; 2 Co. 1:4,8), “anguish” (Jn. 16:21), “burdened” (2 Co. 8:13), “persecution” (Ac. 11:19), and “tribulation” (Mt. 13:21; 24:21; Jn. 16:33; Ac. 14:22; Ro. 5:3; 8:35; 12:12; 2 Co. 1:4; 7:4; 2 Th. 1:4; 1:6; Re. 1:9; 2:9, 22; 7:14). [See Suffering, Trials.]

AGATE. A precious stone (Ex. 28:19; Is. 54:12). White with red or green grain, often used in windows. Member of the Chalcedony family (Boyd).

AGE. A period of time; generation. In the Bible, “age” refers to the various periods of time in which God is working out His plans. The Bible speaks of ages past (Ep. 3:5; Col. 1:26), the present age (1 Co. 10:11; Ep. 1:21; 2:2; Tit. 2:12), and future ages (Ep. 1:21; 2:7; He. 6:5). In this present age God is calling out a people for His name among all nations (Ac. 15:14). This age will end when Jesus returns from heaven to set up His earthly kingdom (Mt. 13:39-43). The word translated eternal or forever in the N.T. is often translated from a Greek phrase which could also be translated “into the ages” (Jn. 6:51, 58; 8:35, 51; Ro. 16:27; Re. 1:6; 20:10). As God’s plans and ages roll forward in endless succession, His redeemed people will serve Him in perfect joy (Re. 22:3). This is eternal life. [See Day, Eternal, Eternal Security, Prophecy, Times, World.]

AGUR (one of the assembly). Author of the sayings in Pr. 30.

AHAB (father’s brother). A wicked king of the northern kingdom of Israel (1 Ki. 16:28 - 22:40). His wife, Jezebel, was one of the most wicked women in the Bible.

AHASUERUS (lion-king). The title of the Persian king. Three persons are mentioned by this title in the Bible: (1) The father of Darius (Da. 9:1); (2) Ezr. 4:6. (3) The husband of Esther (Est. 1:1).

AHAZ (possessor). The twelfth ruler of the kingdom of Judah, the southern kingdom of Israel (2 Ki. 16: 2 Ch. 28).

AHAZIAH (the Lord has seized). (1) King of Israel 1 Ki. 22:51- 53; 2 Ki. 1:2-4). (2) King of Judah (2 Ki. 9:27-28).

proper boasting, which is praise to and confidence in God and in His work (Ps. 34:2; 44:8; 2 Co. 7:14; 8:24; 10:15-16; 11:16). Salvation is by grace alone through faith alone without works or sacraments so that man has no place for boasting in himself or in his religious works; our boasting is exclusively of the Lord Jesus Christ (Ep. 2:8-9; Ro. 3:27). [See Grace, Humble, Pride.]

BOAZ (cheerfulness). The wealthy man who married Ruth (Ru. 2). Ruth and Boaz were grandparents of King David (Ru. 4:13-22), thus they are in the family line of the Lord Jesus Christ (Mt. 1:1-6). Boaz was Ruth's kinsman redeemer (Le. 25:25) and as such pictures Christ. As Boaz was willing and able to redeem the Gentile Ruth, even so does Christ redeem and receive Gentiles today. As Boaz made Ruth to share his name and wealth, even so do Christians inherit Christ's glory. Ruth became Boaz's wife and friend, and Christians become Christ's bride (Ep. 5) and friend (Jn. 15:15). [See Kinsman Redeemer.]

BODY OF HEAVEN. The very substance or form of heaven; clear and lovely like the heavens (Ex. 24:10). This is a description of the clearness and beauty of the firmament beneath the Lord. In Revelation 4:6 the sea before the throne of God is described as "a sea of glass like unto crystal." This might be the same as or similar to that which was seen by Moses on the mountain. [See Glory, Heaven.]

BOISTEROUS. Strong (Mt. 14:30).

BOLLED. Swollen; podded; in pod (Ex. 9:31) (Concise).

BOLSTER. Pillow (1 Sa. 19:13, 16).

BOND MAN. Slave (Ge. 43:18; Le. 25:46).

BONDSERVICE. Enforced service; slavery (1 Ki. 9:21).

BOOTH. A temporary structure made with branches (Ge. 33:17; Le. 23:39-43).

BOOTIES. Plunder; booty (Hab. 2:7).

BOOZ. The Greek form of Boaz. [See Boaz.]

BORN AGAIN. The new birth is a sinner receiving new life from God (Jn. 3:1-16) and being born into God's family (Jn. 1:12-13). Other Bible terms that refer to the New Birth are "born of the Spirit" (Jn. 3:5, 6, 8), "born of God" (1 Jn. 3:9; 4:7; 5:1, 4, 18), "new creature" (2 Co. 5:17; Ga. 6:15), "washing of regeneration" (Tit. 3:5), "new man" (Ep. 4:24; Col. 3:9). ***How the New Birth Is Like the First Birth:*** (1) *It is a powerful event.* The natural birth is a very significant event. Many people are affected, not only the mother and father, but all of the relatives and friends and acquaintances. Births are very dramatic things. So is the new birth. (2) *It happens at one time.* A man is not born over a period of a week or month or year. A birth happens in one day. So does the new birth. There are many things leading up to the birth, but the birth itself happens in one day. (3) *Others know it when it happens.* When a child comes into this world, everyone around knows that a new life has been born. Likewise, when a person is born again, those around him are going to know it. ***The Means of the New Birth:*** This new life is received by trusting Christ to be one's Savior from sin (Jn. 3:7-16; 1:12; 1 Jn. 5:1). People are born again by hearing and believing the Gospel of Christ (1 Co. 4:15; Ja. 1:18; 1 Pe. 1:23). ***The Source of the New Birth:*** It is the

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CAB. [See Weights and Measures.]

CABINS. A vault or arched cell (Je. 37:16).

CABUL (dry, sandy). Jos. 19:27.

CAESAR. The name of the ruling family of the Roman empire from the 3rd century B.C. Cæsar was the title taken by each of the Roman emperors (Mt. 22:17, 21; Jn. 19:12, 15; Ac. 11:28; 17:7; 25:8-21; 26:32; 27:24; 28:19; Ph. 4:22).

CAESAREA. A Roman seaport city on the Mediterranean. It was called Caesarea Maritima to distinguish it from Caesarea Philippi, which was a different city located at the foot of Mt. Hermon (Mt. 16:13). Caesarea Maritima is mentioned 15 times in the book of Acts. Cornelius, a centurion who commanded 100 soldiers, was saved and baptized here after hearing Peter preach the gospel (Acts 10). It was here that Herod Agrippa was eaten of worms because he failed to give God the glory (Acts 12:19-23). Philip the evangelist lived here (Acts 21:8). After Paul was arrested in Jerusalem he was sent to Caesarea and spent two years imprisoned there until he was sent to Rome. It was here that he appeared before Felix, Festus, and King Agrippa (Acts 23:23 - 26:32). (This Agrippa was a great grandson of Herod the Great.) It was here that Pontius Pilate lived in luxury and splendor as the Roman prefect or governor of Judea (AD 26-36). Built by Herod the Great, Caesarea Maritima became the capital of the Roman province of Judea. The place was originally a Phoenician coastal station called Stratos Tower, after the name of a Sidonian king. Herod's Caesarea Maritima was one of the crown jewels of the Roman Empire and its man-made harbor was the largest artificial harbor ever built in the open sea to that time. "The scale and complexity of this project, along with the rapidity of its execution, are remarkable even if judged by modern standards. It ranks as one of the most impressive engineering accomplishments of the Augustan Age." The 100-acre harbor formed a safe shelter to anchor Roman fleets as well as quays for cargo. "It seems that the outer basin was designed to accommodate passing fleets; probably the great grain fleets sailing from Alexandria to Rome" (Zaraza Friedman, "Caesarea Maritima"). At the harbor entrance there were six colossal statues, three on each side. At the top of the harbor was a temple devoted to Caesar worship, with a massive enthroned statue patterned after the Zeus at Olympia in Greece. The Roman name for Zeus was Jupiter, and he was the empire's chief god. The city had colonnaded streets and all sorts of magnificent buildings and sprawling private villas. Many of the floors of Roman buildings were covered with beautiful mosaic patterns created with colorful tiles. The city had fountains and pools and a public bathhouse with hot, warm, and cold water. Herod's palace was built out into the sea on a causeway and featured a large indoor pool carved from the rock. Water was brought to Caesarea from miles away via an aqueduct built by the Roman Tenth Legion. A large segment is still standing 2,000 years later. When the water reached the city via the aqueduct, it was channeled into pipes to provide water and to power a sewer system. Caesarea had a 4,000-seat theater that was used for speeches, trials, plays, and gladiatorial contests. Caesarea had a 10,000-seat

from about 6:00 P.M. to the next 6:00 P.M.). OUR DAY begins at midnight and closes the next midnight (James Crumpton).

Hebrew Months Listed in Order

Abib or Nisan (corresponding to parts of March and April)

Zif (corresponding to parts of April and May)

Sivan (commencing with the new moon of June)

Thammuz (corresponding to parts of June and July)

Ab (corresponding to parts of July and August)

Elul (corresponding to parts of August and September)

Ethanim (corresponding to parts of September and October)

Bul (corresponding to parts of October and November)

Chisleu (corresponding to parts of November and December)

Tebeth (commencing with the new moon in January)

Sebat (corresponding to parts of January and February)

Adar (corresponding to parts of February and March)

[See Ab, Adar, Bul, Chisleu, Elul, Ethanim, Friday, Nisan, Sabbath, Sebat, Sivan, Sunday, Tebeth, Thammuz, Watch, Zif.]

CALNEH (fort of Ana or Anu). Ana or Anu was one of the chief objects of Babylonian worship (Ge. 10:10) (Young). [See Idolatry.]

CALVARY (a skull). [See Cross, Crucify, Golgotha, Hang.]

CAME TO HIS HAND. That which he has in possession (Ge. 32:13).

CAMEL. Camels are mentioned more than 60 times in the Bible, beginning with Abraham (Ge. 12:16). **The Arabian camel**, called a dromedary, has long legs, short hair, and one hump. This is the type of camel commonly found in Israel and Egypt. **The Bactrian camel** has shorter legs, long hair, and two humps. The name comes from ancient Bactria, on the Oxus River in northern Afghanistan. The camel was used for war (Jud. 7:12). It can run 40 MPH for short distances and can maintain 25 MPH for several hours. The camel is used as a beast of burden (Ge. 37:25). It can carry hundreds of pounds of goods. The camel is also used for transportation (Ge. 24:61). The Arabian camel is up to 7.5 feet tall at the hump, 11 feet long, and weighs up to 1,500 pounds. It kneels down to allow people to get on its back, first kneeling on its front knees, then sitting down on its rear legs. At about age five months it develops callus-like bare spots on its knees and chest to support its weight when kneeling. The camel seat is called "furniture" (Ge. 31:34). The camel can eat thorny desert plants without injuring its mouth or thick lips. It can even eat leather shoes. It can kick in four directions with each of its legs. It can spit a foul-smelling green fluid from its stomach as a defense. Called "the ship of the desert," the camel is designed by God to use water very efficiently and can go many days without drinking. The camel doesn't sweat until 106 degrees F thus preserving body fluid. Its internal thermostat can vary within a 10 degree parameter to suit the condition. Its nostrils trap water vapor which is returned to its body as fluid. Its coat reflects sunlight and insulates from heat. The camel's red blood cells are oval shaped so they can flow even when dehydrated rather than clumping as human blood cells do. The camel is the only mammal to have this type of red blood cells. The camel can lose 25% of its body fluid without getting dehydrated and being in danger of dying, whereas most mammals can lose only 15%. Its hump stores up to 80 pounds of fat and can release one

child is saved from eternal wrath (Pr. 23:13-14). (4) The disciplined child is not foolish (Pr. 22:15). (5) The disciplined child is obedient and submissive to authority (Pr. 13:1). (6) The disciplined child causes the parents joy (Pr. 15:20; 23:24-25; 29:17).

Woes of the Wayward Child. (1) Parental shame (Pr. 29:15; 19:26). (2) Disobedient children (Pr. 13:1; 15:20). (3) Sorrow and bitterness (Pr. 17:25; 19:13). (4) Financial loss (Pr. 29:3). (5) Foolish children (Pr. 22:15). (6) Eternal destruction if the child does not get saved (Pr. 23:13-14).

Bible Examples for Parents. Abraham (Ge. 17:9-11, 23-26; 22:1-18); Lot (Ge. 19); Isaac and Rebekah (Ge. 25:28); Moses' parents (Ex. 2:1-3; He. 11:23); Samson's parents (Ju. 13-16); Hannah (1 Sa. 1-2); Eli (1 Sa. 2:12 - 3:14); Samuel (1 Sa. 7:15 - 8:3); David (1 Ki. 1:5-6); Job (Job 1:1-5); Timothy's mother (2 Ti. 1:5; 3:15); the lady (2 Jn. 1-4).

Principles of Child Training in Proverbs. (1) Instructions must be repeated. Solomon was guided by the Holy Spirit to repeat the same truths almost monotonously. (2) The foremost thing we are to teach children is that God is to be preeminent in their lives (Pr. 1:7). This means trusting Jesus Christ for salvation and seeking God and His perfect will. (3) The subject of immorality should be dealt with frequently and plainly (Pr. 2:16-22; 5:1-23; 6:23-35; 7:1-27; 9:13-18). (4) Youth must be shown that only a personal appropriation of wisdom will protect from sin (Pr. 2:10-11). (5) Youth must be shown that God does not look lightly upon those who reject instruction (Pr. 1:24-32). (6) The teacher should have a serious attitude. Contrary to the philosophy and attitude so prevalent in youth ministries today, the mood of the instruction given in Proverbs is serious. Proverbs is not a party book! (7) Instruction should be plain and direct. The parent must not fear being negative; this is the style of Proverbs. (8) The law of sowing and reaping should be emphasized; this is a major theme of Proverbs (Pr. 5:22). (9) God should be portrayed as the exciting Source of every good thing, as the One who personally, urgently seeks men and desires their love in return (Pr. 1:20-23; 8:1-36; 9:1-12).

The Seven Most Important Truths to Teach to Children. Proverbs was written especially for children. The phrase "my son" is repeated throughout the book. By examining the first nine chapters of this book we can see the seven most important truths that God wants children to be taught: (1) Teach them to put God first (Pr. 1:7). (2) Teach them to submit to parents and authority (Pr. 1:8-9). (3) Teach them to separate from evil companions (Pr. 1:10-19). (4) Teach them to put God's Word first (Pr. 2:1-4). (5) Teach them to flee immorality (Pr. 2:16-22; 5:1-6; 6:23-35; 7:1-27; 9:13-18). Fleeing immorality involves the following things: staying away from every source of temptation (Pr. 5:7-8; 7:24-25); remembering that this sin will ruin the person's life (Pr. 5:8-12); waiting for the right husband or wife (Pr. 5:15-18); staying away from worldly females (Pr. 6:24-25; 7:10-13)—she will be identified by her seductive speech (Pr. 6:24), her immodest dress and the suggestive way she carries herself (Pr. 6:25; 7:10), and by her flirting eyes (Pr. 6:25); staying away from promiscuous males (Pr. 30:18-19); remembering that God hates and judges sin (Pr. 7:27; 9:13-18). (6) Teach them to receive God's free salvation (Pr. 9:1-5). (7) Teach them to love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ (Pr. 8). [See Home.]