

***Psalm 78:1-8***

*Give ear, O my people, to my law; Incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, Which we have heard and known, And our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers, That they should make them known to their children; That the generation to come might know them, The children who would be born, That they may arise and declare them to their children, That they may set their hope in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments; And may not be like their fathers, A stubborn and rebellious generation, A generation that did not set its heart aright, And whose spirit was not faithful to God.*

**Sound Home Building**

It is an alarming but not surprising fact that in today's society one half of all marriages end in divorce. What often appears to be the very best of beginnings, ends in frustration and separation. The Bible explains the reason for this, scripture says "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it." (Psalm 127:1). The importance of the home to society is evidenced in it's establishment during creation: "And the LORD God said, [It is] not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him... And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man... Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh (Genesis 2). The home is not a result of an evolutionary process necessitated by the survival of the fittest, but the purposeful design of God as the foundation for society.

The Lord, being the architect of the home, must be central in it's construction. In building up of character, in constructing plans for life and work, in framing schemes of happiness, in rearing a hope of eternal life, Christ must be the guide. Scripture states that husbands are to love their wives as the Lord loved the church; wives are to submit to their husbands as unto the Lord; children are to obey their parents in the Lord; Fathers are to raise their children in the instruction and discipline of the Lord. It is clear that the building of a home begins with a right relationship with the Lord, where each partner has personally trusted Christ as Saviour, and continues with God's principles for the home being followed.

Jesus compared the individual who hears His word and refuses to practice it to a foolish builder who builds his home on sand. "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall" (Matthew 7:24-28). When the storms come, the house is destroyed. Many homes have been crushed by the storms of frustration, financial pressure, or fear because God's principles were not followed. God's blessing is on the home only to the extent that it's members submit to His precepts. Don't labour in vain. The architect of the home is God, therefore take time to learn and adapt God's "family principles" and begin to build your home from the eternal materials of God's word.

***What is my response:***

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