

Accountability for Sin

Message for 02/07/2026

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Ezekiel 3:18 If I say to the wicked man, 'You will surely die,' but you do not warn him or speak out to warn him from his wicked way to save his life, that wicked man will die in his iniquity, and I will hold you responsible for his blood.

Ezekiel 33:8-9

If I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you will surely die,' but you do not speak out to dissuade him from his way, then that wicked man will die in his iniquity, yet I will hold you accountable for his blood. / But if you warn the wicked man to turn from his way, and he does not turn from it, he will die in his iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Related verses can also be read in; **Jeremiah 6:17-19** , **Acts 20:26-27**, **Isaiah 56:10-12** , and others.

At what age is one accountable for their sin's, their actions?

By Jewish traditions a boy is considered accountable at the age of 13 and a girl at age 12.

Girls mature faster than boys. And those of us that have both sons and daughters know this to be true.

Where is a child to learn responsibility, and accountability, on how they are to act in both public and private situations and whom is accountable for their action's or their behavior or sin, if they are below the age of reasoning and understanding of what is right or wrong?

Now I ask this question because of a recent observation of the behavior of children in a public restaurant while having lunch with others.

One family, had a child of a very young age, I'm not sure how young but the child defiantly was not happy and was crying, which I'm sure disturbed others. Is that young child or infant sinning, certainly not, the child has no idea of what proper etiquette is and really does not care. All the child wants is what it wants. The parents could be said to be discourteous but other than that.

Than there were some other children that I would say were between 9 or 10 years of age acting like the restaurant was their own personal playground but, here again it is not what one would consider a sin. Or is it. It could be a neglect in the child's upbringing, due to the actions or neglect in the teaching (from the children's parents) of proper behavior of their children.

Now there was a time when children were expected (when they could reason) to conduct themselves accordingly while out in public with or without their parents present. More times than not infant children were placed in the care of what we called a baby-sitter which now for some weird reason parents seem to have forgotten that they exist. Older children up to around 11 were also in the care of a sitter so that mom and dad could have a little alone time together.

And if you were the eldest child in your family, you got the honor of being the sitter, didn't matter what your plans were for that day. Some of you have been there.

Now someone may be asking, what does this have to do with God's word, sin and accountability.

Lets look to the role of the parents. The father is responsible for setting the pattern for the child's obedience in and outside of the family. Any disciplining the mother does is an extension of the father's authority in the home. Recall from my last message when I stated that the father, was to be the disciplinarian not the mother. And in a household that has no father, is where problems with children begins. That's not to say a single parent mother, cannot raise her child in the ways that God expects them to be obedient.

The husband and father must take leadership in this area of the family, and the wife and mother must be in submission. The father's responsibility is set forth in two ways; first, what the father is not to do; “do not provoke your children to wrath.” He is not to over – discipline them or reign, in-terror, with the result that the child can only react in a blind outbreak of rage. Second, what the father is to do - “bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”

To “bring them up” involves three ideas:

1. it is a continuous job. As long as a child is dependent, the father is to be responsible for providing for the child so that he and or she becomes what God wants him or her to be. And that is to be obedient and walk in the ways of the Lord.
2. it is a loving job. To “bring up” means literally to nourish tenderly; children should be objects of tender loving care. By both Father and mother.
3. it is a two fold job involving nurturing (child-training) all that a child needs for his or her development physically, mentally, and spiritually, and admonition (corrective discipline) of the Lord, so that the child might not fall into a sinful nature.

Proverbs 22:6 [Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.](#)

The father is God's constituted home authority who is to discipline the child when he or she does not obey as God intends. The father who does not discipline his children is a father who is undisciplined himself and disobedient to God's will. A child's disobedience is not to be tolerated in or outside of the home.

Even the youngest child can be trained up to act appropriately.

Proverbs 23: [14 Strike him with a rod, and you will deliver his soul from death.](#)

Note: This verse does not give a parent the right to physically abuse their child with a beating until the child submits to them, that's called torture.

Proverbs 19: [18 Discipline your son, for in that there is hope; do not be party to his death.](#)

Note: This is also and more important to do with ones daughter also.

Proverbs 29:15-17

15 A rod and a reprimand impart wisdom, but a child left undisciplined disgraces its mother. **16** When the wicked thrive, so does sin, but the righteous will see their downfall. **17** Discipline your children, and they will give you peace; they will bring you the delights you desire.

God by His word, instructs us what we are to do as parents. Pastor Don has at many times stated, “if you don't think the children are watching everything we say and do, your mistaken”.

When my wife and I were blessed with children we had no idea where to start in rearing the children.

We were told that there isn't any one perfect way or manual for raising a child, that it was a shot in the dark on how they would turn out to becoming adults. Just love on them and hope for the best.

Bad advise, maybe, or was it because others had no more an understanding of the ways of God than we did.

God knew how children were to be guided in this world, He gave us the Bible; Basic, Instructions, Before, Leaving, Earth. On everything on how we are to conduct our lives. Some parents picked it up quick and others realized it later on. The answers were always there.

During our generations time from adolescents to adulthood we were taught, by either the commandments of God by parents whom had such understanding, or by rules of proper behavior within polite societal norms. The key word here being polite. Sometimes that didn't work out so well.

The rules given to children within society norms from non-Christian parents were; “Do as I say, Not as I do”. Sadly, many Christian parents were saying the same thing to their children. And so the children watched and waited until their time came. They either became what God wanted them to be or they became what the world wanted them to be. Monkey see, monkey do.

We see the result of that today with the way others are. Romans 1:18 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness.

So where does the blame fall on both children (whom are of age) and adult parents today.

Just saying, I hope to God you learn all His ways and walk in them, won't hold water if they see their parents neglecting the things of God, or compromising His word.

Do what I say, not as I do.

One might as well just tell them, stay in God's good graces until you become an adult, and than walk away from Him if you want too. It's the same as telling someone in a rough marriage, just get a divorce, everyone does it. It's not a big deal.

It's a big deal.

We as parents looking to God to guide us in all that we do, and also our children might seem to some (non-believers) silly when it comes to giving our children guidance for their lives. Even when our children are adults they still need guidance

Let them go through the school of hard knocks, let them figure things out on their own, they will either fail or succeed. Life is hard and sometimes they have to suffer.

As a parent and grand parent, I don't want to see them fail or suffer, I want them to flourish and succeed in life and have greater abundance than I have had. But not at the cost of their souls.

But as we are given free will, so are our children. What we do and what we say is of great importance for our children. As parents if we compromise with the word of God when we're faced with doing what is good and acceptable to Him, it will show a child that it is acceptable to compromise with being in disobedience to His ways also.

If we compromise with others of this world to acquire that which we desire, fame, money, pleasures of the flesh, and or power over others, and that which is evil, that same child may also do the same.

We see the fruit, bad fruit as it may be, given 24/7 attention everyday. On all platforms of communications around the world. When was the last time you woke up in the morning and saw that everything was sunshine and lollipops.

When has the word of God been seen celebrated by thousands including young children, teens and adults in the public's sight everywhere for even 15 minutes with any of the reporting news agencies. I can tell you that it doesn't. Ever.

They will report on the evil things such as what happened at the Cities Church in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Don Lemon and the group of rioters he led into the service violating the congregations right to worship.

The church called the protesters "agitators" who "accosted members of their congregation, frightened children, and created a scene marked by intimidation and threats". Some here today would be shocked if they knew what I would have done, God willing.

What do you think would have happened if it had been a Muslim service, in a Mosque.

Don Lemon's remarks to the pastor were, and I quote, "I'm a Christian too, and I pray everyday.

Truly, a neglect in the man's upbringing from his father.

Don Lemon has spoken about the influence of his parents on his life, particularly his mother, who raised him and his siblings as a single parent. He has emphasized the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation. He was full of forgiveness and reconciliation that day. Not

Don Lemon has described his relationship with his father as strained and distant. He learned about his biological father at the age of five, which added complexity to their relationship. Throughout his life, Don had little contact with Wilmon, and he has openly discussed the challenges he faced growing up without a strong paternal presence. That was the absence of a father.

Now some may think I'm nit-picking on Mr. Lemon, but I'm not, my intent is to show the importance of a strong God fearing, Christian believing father in a committed relationship with one wife.

[Don Lemon](#) revealed in 2011 that his father was married to another woman while in a relationship with his mother.

On the other hand, Don's mother was also married to another man but divorced him because he "wasn't treating her right."

<https://www.the-sun.com/news/2904307/who-don-lemon-parents-katherine-and-wilmon/>

Not a good start for any child. Choices and actions have consequences when it comes to living in reality.

Sin, cuts deep. And I'm just saying, if he doesn't turn from his path as all the others should do whom were with him that day. Well, it's on their heads not mine or others attending service that day.

Whose accountable for what will happen to another that refuses the gift that God has given, and under what circumstance. Neglect of a father or mother, conditions that one had growing up, refusal of the word of God that you were given and decided it wasn't for you.

We've all had things happen in our lives. Many of us have questioned our faith a time or two and some of us have had to walk through hell itself due to some circumstance. But we survived, we picked ourselves up even after shaking our hands at God because things didn't go our way, and asked Him to forgive us of our sin. But we survived without rioting, without committing murder. Without stealing, harming others or blaming them for our sins or actions. We survived.

I will still pray for all those that are continuing to reject God, I will pray for all those that continue to deny the redemption that our Lord and Savior died and gave us the opportunity to come before God and ask for His forgiveness and make a genuine choice to walk in obedience to God and to instruct our children to do likewise.

I will pray that ears will hear and eyes will be opened for those whom continue to sin of their own free will. And I will pray with all my might that parents and grandparents will take the time to instruct their children and grandchildren daily in the ways of God.

They are the future of mankind and this world. God Bless, Shabbat Shalom.

