

Training Children

- Seek to give them wisdom so they will avoid everything that brings bad outcome.
- We do this in two distinct ways.
- First, we teach and train, hoping they will accept the truth and our guidance.
- Second, if they reject, we use discipline and correction to help them see the truth.
- All good parents who are following God's example only want children to be obedient for their own good.

In Youth

- Parents fear physical danger.
- We don't want our children to learn the hard way about the dangers of this world.
- We take them to the road and show them a car driving past and explain what would happen if they were in the road.
- If they don't seem too impressed we might take them to the graveyard or hospital and point out what happens.

After the age of Accountability

- Parents fear moral / physical danger from evil companions.
- So many lives have been cut short diminished or ruined by drinking, drugs, gambling, fornication, other illicit activities.
- So once again, parents try using facts and information to warn their children of the terrible consequences.
- By direct teaching and giving wisdom
- By discipline if they refuse to submit
- By pointing out consequences.

God Training His Children

- Adam & Eve
- God used same two methods:
- Teaching and trying to gain wisdom:
- *“Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat,”*
- Showing the terrible consequences:
- *“for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.” Gen 2:16-17*

Both These Methods in Proverbs

- *The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel:*
- *2 To know wisdom and instruction; To discern the words of understanding;*
- *3 To receive instruction in wise dealing, In righteousness and justice and equity;*
- *4 To give prudence to the simple, To the young man knowledge and discretion;*
- *5 That the wise man may hear, and increase in learning; And that the man of understanding may attain unto sound counsels;*

Both Methods in Proverbs

- 6 To understand a proverb, and a figure, The words of the wise, and their dark sayings.
- 7 The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of knowledge; (But) the foolish despise wisdom and instruction.
- 8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, And forsake not the law of thy mother: Prov 1:1-8

Wisdom – The Easy & Best Way

- ‘*Chokmah(kokh-mah)* is the knowledge and the ability to make the right choices at the opportune time. The consistency of making the right choice is an indication of maturity and development.’
- *How blessed is the man who finds **wisdom**, and the man who gains understanding. For its profit is better than the profit of silver, and its gain than fine gold. She is more precious than jewels; and nothing you desire compares with her. Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, and happy are all who hold her fast. Pr 3:13-19*

The Right Decision – Opportune Time

- When **wisdom** enters your heart, And knowledge is pleasant to your soul, 11 Discretion will preserve you; Understanding will keep you, Prov 2:10-11
- **Wisdom** strengthens a wise man more than ten rulers who are in a city. Ecc 7:19
- If the axe is dull and he does not sharpen its edge, then he must exert more strength. **Wisdom** has the advantage of giving success. Ecc 10:10
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The Right Decision – Opportune Time

- *Happy is the man who finds **wisdom**, And the man who gains understanding; 14 For her proceeds are better than the profits of silver, And her gain than fine gold. Prov 3:13-14*
- *Get **wisdom**! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. 6 Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; Love her, and she will keep you. 7 **Wisdom** is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding. Pr 4:5-7*

Instruction

- *Mucar (moo-sawr') is discipline, but more. As "discipline" it teaches how to live correctly in the fear of the Lord, so that the wise man learns his lesson before temptation and testing:*
- *This is the word for negative learning.*
- *The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel: 2To know wisdom and **instruction**; To discern the words of understanding; Pr 1:1-2*

Instruction in the Wilderness Wandering

- *You shall therefore love the LORD your God, and always keep His charge, His statutes, His ordinances, and His commandments. And know this day that I am not speaking with your sons who have not known and who have not seen the **discipline** of the LORD your God-- His greatness, His mighty hand, and His outstretched arm, Deut 11:1-2*
- Moses used the wilderness as “**instruction. mucar**”
- The goal: “*love God and always keep His charge, statutes, ordinances, and commandments.*”
- To accomplish this Moses reminded them of the awesome “discipline - mucar” they had seen.
- Paul did exactly the same thing in 1Cor 10:1-12

The Discipline (*mucar*) of the LORD

- *And his miracles, and his **acts, which he did in the midst of Egypt unto Pharaoh** the king of Egypt, and unto all his land; 4 And **what he did unto the army of Egypt**, unto their horses, and to their chariots; how **he made the water of the Red sea to overflow them** as they pursued after you, ... 5 And **what he did unto you in the wilderness**, until ye came into this place; 6 And **what he did unto Dathan and Abiram**, ... **how the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up**, and their households, and their tents, and all the substance that was in their possession Deut 11:3-9*

Chastening – Negative leading to Positive

- *My son, do not despise the **chastening** of the Lord, Nor detest His correction; 12 For whom the Lord loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights. Prov 3:11-12 Sound Familiar: Heb 12:5-11*
- *For the commandment is a lamp, And the law a light; **Reproofs of instruction** are the way of life, Prov 6:23*
- The Easy Way: Learning it from others:
- *When I saw it, I considered it well; I looked on it and **received instruction**: Pr 24:32*

Wisdom & Instruction

- Wisdom *chokmah* – Learning from the successes of others and avoiding the need for failure and chastening.
- Instruction: *mucar*
- Learning from the failures of others and avoiding the need for personal chastening.
- Refusing to learn from others ... the chastening is sent directly to us to train and help before it is too late.

This is the Purpose of the OT - Wisdom

- All the positive examples in the OT Scriptures are written for our learning and imitation. Heb 11:1-12:3; Rom 15:4
- *Therefore we also, 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, Heb 12:1*

The Great Cloud of Witnesses

- Abel 11:4
- Enoch 11:5
- Noah 11:7
- Abraham & Sarah 11:8
- Isaac & Jacob 11:9, 20
- Joseph 11:22
- Amram & Jochebed 11:23
- Moses 11:24
- Joshua & Israel 11:30
- Rahab 11:31
- Gideon 11:32
- Barak 11:32
- Samson 11:32
- Jephthah 11:32
- David 11:32
- Samuel 11:32
- the Prophets 11:32
- Daniel 11:33
- Shadrach/Meschach
& Abednego 11:34
- Multitudes 11:33-38

This is the Purpose of the OT - Instruction

- *Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, 2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3 all ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. 5 But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. 1 Cor 10:1-11*

The Purpose of the OT - Instruction

- *6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. 7 And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play." 8 Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; 9 nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; 10 nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. 11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.*

If All Else Fails

- *Heb 12:4-11*
- *You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. 5 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; 6 For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." 7 If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? 8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers,*

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If All Else Fails

- *Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? 10 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. 11 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. Heb 12:4-11*

Which Will We choose

- Wisdom – Listen, follow and succeed
- Chastening –
- Listen take instruction from others and succeed.
- Listen refuse to take instruction – The Lord will send chastening so we can succeed.
- Listen refuse – It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.
- Our study of the OT is such a great blessing/.