

Two domains

God is in control of our lives or we experience chaos.

Two kingdoms. The world and the kingdom of God.

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 1 John 2:15

Two rulers. The individual and God. *I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.* Galatians 2:20

Christians have denied the world to live for the kingdom of God. *He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.* 2 Cor 5:15

Christians seek the city of God to come. *Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them."*

Revelation 21:1-3

Christians bow down to the rule of God. *so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* Philippians 2:10-11

Therefore, the home is where children first learn to deny the individual in order to fit into the kingdom of God.

Children are required to obey the godly rules of the home and not demand their individual rights to please themselves.

Where the individual rules there is chaos.

"There was no king in Israel (no authority in society); everyone did what was right in his own eyes." Judges 21:25

The home is where children learn to deny self rule, in order to fit into the rules of school and understand the way of co-operation in society.

School is the first place outside the home where the lessons of submission to the kingdom rule learnt in the home are put to the test.

Therefore the home is where children learn to fit into the rules of a healthy society.

Having learnt to abide by the rule of God in the home, and then the school, the child is best suited to be a worthwhile contributor to a healthy society.

Parents are responsible before God to teach their children to obey all the commandments of God in the home.

The underlying issue of chaos and unlawfulness in society is the disregard of God as the Authority in our lives, and this begins in the home.

Adam set the tone for rebellious behaviour for all mankind when he declared independence from the rule of God. We now live in a world where the individual rules and chaos is the outcome.

Unless we repent we will only add to the chaos of the world.

"The reward of humility and the fear of the Lord Are riches, honour and life."

Thorns and snares are in the way of the perverse; He who guards himself will be far from them.

Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:4-6

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honour your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth. Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." Ephesians 6:1-4

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23

How do we honour God in our home?

How does loving God and our neighbour His way touch our reality?

"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men.

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:13-14,16

It's a funny thing, we can see we don't actually love our neighbours as God requires, but we seem to be blind to the fact that we don't love the members of our family or our church either in a way that honours God.

Lord have mercy on us. Lord take your rod and give us a good Wack where it will do the most good. And may your grace do its work in us.

Grace is the undeserved love of God for the unlovely, like you and me, and our neighbours and friends and family.

Grace is:

God's rod and His staff. *Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*
Psalm 23:4

This is God's correction and comfort.

This is God's training and encouragement.

This is God's discipline and disclosure.

This is Christ's pain and His healing.

If we dispose with the rod that supports His love we will spoil our children and our friends.

If we neglect His staff, we will bruise our children and our friends.

If we are unbalanced everyone will have reason to hate us.

Our relationship with the physical church, the weeds and the wheat, in the home and community through the ministry of grace represents our relationship with Christ the head of the church.

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.
Romans 5:1-2