

## *How to Build A House*

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**Introduction:** There has never been a culture in our history that has neglected the home as this one.

- A. It has always been true that those who turn from God will see the moral decline that destroys the family. **(Rom 1:21-22, 29-31)**
  - 1. The key factor in the failure of our homes is pride. There are many who are convinced that God's way will not work.
  - 2. Why was the Southern Baptists proclamation on submission controversial?
- B. On the other hand God has a plan that will bless those who follow it. **(Prov 12:7; 14:11)**
  - 1. Consider these strong statements by God! Who do you want on your side?
  - 2. For God to be with us will take a living faith that will involve strong effort.
  - 3. Even if you have a tent, you will prosper in those things that really matter!

### ***I. We must choose the right builder.***

- A. Our God offers His services! **(Psa 127:1)**
  - 1. This is a blessing that words cannot describe. **(Prov 3:33)**
  - 2. If we will honestly look at his challenge, we will be greatly humbled at the task before us.

### ***A Parent's Prayer***

"Lord, you know my inadequacies. You know my weaknesses, not only in parenting, but in every area of my life. As you broke the fishes and the loaves to feed the five thousand, now take my meager effort and use it to bless my family.

"Make up for the things I did wrong. Satisfy the needs that I have not satisfied. Wrap your great arms around my children and draw them close to you. And be there when they stand at the great crossroads between right and wrong. All I can give is my best, and I've done that before. Therefore, I submit to you my children and myself and the job I have done as a parent. The outcome belongs to you." - Dr. James Dobson, Straight Talk to Men and Their Wives.

- B. Through this builder we are given His word as our foundation.
  - 1. How many are confident in their approach to parenting but have little knowledge of the Bible? This is a great foolishness.
  - 2. How do we dig deep for our foundation? **(Lk 6:48-49)**
  - 3. This is hard work than never ends. Consider the blessings in the end. **(Mt 7:24-27)**
    - a. I have never seen a divorce between two people who love God and know His word. Is God the center of you home?
    - b. Sadly many face catastrophe and never learn better.
  - 4. Do those serious about knowing God's word stop attending services? We are in great need of instruction and God has made the local church a place for that!

### ***II. We must properly furnish and maintain the house.***

- A. God's wisdom will give us a house full of blessings. **(Prov 24:3-5)**
  - 1. Look at what God gives in contrast to worldly riches. **(Prov 15:6; Psa 49:15-20)**
  - 2. Where do we put our emphasis? The role of women in the home has been greatly diminished because of poor management and/or a desire for things.

3. God's wisdom will go against this world and will seem foolish to many. In the end you will see His blessings. By faith we must see it now.
- B. We must choose a mate that will help us go to heaven. **(1 Pt 3:7)**
  1. Abraham knew this was important for Isaac. **(Gen 24:37-40)**
  2. This is the second greatest decision you will make for your home!
- C. Our home must be furnished with righteousness. **(Psa 101:1-3)**
  1. In order to have this righteousness we must not set wicked things before our eyes. When we are serious about this, what will change in our house?
  2. This home will be one that majors on discernment. **(Heb 5:12-14; Prov 1:7-10)**
    - a. Yes, there will be discussion on dress, associates, and decisions.
    - b. The home that considers their "spirituality" to be above these discussions will be one where calamity will strike.
- D. There must be men who will lead. **(Josh 24:15)**
  1. In this culture men leave this to the women. This is a cowardly act.
  2. Real men will but God first. **(Eph 6:4)**
- E. There must be women who find fulfillment in the home. **(Prov 14:1-2; 1 Tim 5:14)**
  1. What a great work a mother can do when she makes the time!
  2. There is no amount of money that can take her place.

### ***III. We must eliminate things that would destroy the house.***

- A. In our age where men deny any moral standards, the home is devastated. **(Prov 11:29; 15:25-27)**
  1. Would you bring poisonous snakes into your home to live?
  2. Many have done this very thing by becoming conformed to this world. **(Rom 12:2)**
  3. This will always happen when a man will not listen in "stubbornness".
- B. We must first build our own character. **(Prov 17:13)**
  1. In our home our family will know us for what we really are.
  2. The first step to a good home is being humbled in repentance that God might then do something with you. **(1 Pt 5:5-6)**
- C. We must eliminate strife, anger and bitterness. **(Prov 17:1; 21:9; 25:24)**
  1. This is a respectable sin in the church, but not with God.
  2. This is one of the major reasons our children do not develop faith. This is a poisonous atmosphere that Satan does his best work in. **(Eph 4:26-27)**
- D. We must hate adultery. **(Prov 6:29-32)**
  1. The world accepts this as normal, do we? Again, what do you watch on TV?
  2. What things does a person who hates this sin do?
  3. In the movement of "positive Christianity" men are left unprepared for Satan's snares. In this movement many become lazy. **(Ecc 10:18)**
- E. Who you bring into your home is important. **(Psa 101:6-8)**
  1. Who comes in by your TV set?
  2. Do you know your home needs this kind of protection?

**Conclusion:** Do you have a "pilgrim's home?" (Psa 119:54)

- A. Let us encourage one another to a greater faithfulness in our homes.
- B. Where do elders come from. **(1 Tim 3:4)**