

October 26, 2015

Dear Reader,

Thank you for allowing me the privilege to share with you the truth about corporal punishment. You are correct in stating that this matter is very controversial. The reason it is contentious is due to one simple fact; it is Biblical. From the very beginning of time Satan has put questions in the mind of man concerning God's Word. Had Adam and Eve listened to God's Word, we would all be in the Garden of Eden enjoying the sweet life and walking with God in the cool of the day:

(1) Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? (2) And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: (3) But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. (4) And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: (5) For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. (Genesis 3:1-5)

Had the leaders of America chose to keep Biblical principals in practice, the prisons would not be overpopulated. Today, in America 25% of teenagers are in some form of trouble with the law. Many of these kids had to wait until they woke up in prison to see that they could not get away with doing wrong forever. I remember the day when corporal punishment was removed from our hometown school. My brother was a bus driver at the time. He would tell me story after story of how the condition of the school was getting out of hand. He finally had enough when a young

man stood in his face, cursed him, and said, "You can't touch me!" That ended the bus-driving career for my brother. Now look at our schools, what a mess! If children were still sent to the principal's office to receive whacks from the paddle, there would not be the bullying and out of control situations that daily arise in our public schools. Fear of the paddle, fear of embarrassment, and fear of facing a parent that would take care of matters at home would keep our public school in line. Forty-years ago when I was in school, the most critical crime being committed in school was chewing gum! Remove the paddle and look what we have today!

The first thing I would like to establish with you is the simple fact that my personal thoughts are based on the fact that I have chosen to believe by faith that God has preserved His Word for us in the Authorized King James Bible. Yes, I am one of those and proud of it! God is not the author of confusion: "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints" (1 Corinthians 14:33). I have made the choice long ago to take the stand to "...Let God be true and every man a liar..." (Romans 3:4). As we have recorded for us in the life of our dear Brother in Christ, Job, it is not a popular stand.

But Job answered and said, (2) Hear diligently my speech, and let this be your consolations. (3) Suffer me that I may speak; and after that I have spoken, mock on. (4) As for me, is my complaint to man? and if it were so, why should not my spirit be troubled? (5) Mark me, and be astonished, and lay your hand upon your mouth. (6) Even when I remember I am afraid, and trembling taketh hold on my flesh. (7) Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power? (8) Their seed is established in their sight with them, and their offspring before their eyes. (9) Their houses are safe from fear, neither is the rod of God upon them. (10) Their bull gendereth, and faileth not; their cow calveth, and casteth not her calf. (11) They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance. (12) They take the timbrel and harp, and rejoice at the sound of the organ. (13) They spend their days in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave. (14) Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. (15) What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him? (16) Lo, their good is not in their hand: the counsel of the wicked is far from me. (17) How oft is the candle of the wicked put out! and how oft cometh their destruction upon them! God distributeth sorrows in his anger. (18) They are as stubble before the wind, and as chaff that the storm carrieth away. (19) God layeth up his iniquity for his children: he rewardeth him, and he shall know it. (20) His eyes shall see his destruction, and he shall drink of the wrath of the Almighty. (Job 21:1-6) (Emphasis added by author)

The rod of correction Job talks about in this passage will take place when God passes final judgment on those who did not receive it while alive on earth.

The truth of the matter is, I have absolutely nothing to loose by choosing to live by God's standards only rewards from my Heavenly Father! No doubts, no fears, no shame, no questions, only the peace that God gives and obedient child:

(7) For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. (8) Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; (9) Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, (10) But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. (2 Timothy 1:7-10)

Satan has attacked God's Word to the point that just last year, old slew foot published a version called the Queen James Bible.¹ These people want to justify their sin, so they removed or rewrote the Scripture God recorded to make it say what they wanted it to say. Do you think that God would actually leave us hundreds of versions and allow us to choose which one fits our life the best, I think not. As a young Christian, I choose by faith to believe that the King James Bible, the only Bible translated entirely from the Received Text, does not contain God's Word, but is God's Word! "In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion. (2) Deliver me in thy righteousness, and cause me to escape: incline thine ear unto me, and save me" (Psalm 71:1, 2). This has been my prayer too! Please get a copy of *Final Authority*, by Bill Grady and study for yourself the power and preservation God has for us in the King James Bible. It has been said that a man who will not stand for truth will fall for anything.

3

¹ http://queenjamesbible.com

I remember having a conversation with a lady at a restaurant about this very topic you have chosen for you paper. She proceeded to tell me that spanking was cruel and she did not use it in her home. I explained to her what the Bible said about spanking, her remark is where we are today in America: "I don't care what that Bible says!" End of conversation: a person will either believe God or do it their own way. One comes with rewards and the other consequences.

I have been married to the love of my life for 33 years this coming April, 16, 2015. We have two wonderful children, Joshua and Jessica. Jessica is our youngest. She is 23 years old with an earned bachelors' degree from Pensacola Christian College in graphics design and working fulltime in a graphic design firm. Joshua is 28 years old, married to his lovely wife, Sarah and has given us two wonderful grandchildren. Mark twain once said, "Grandchildren are your reward for not killing your kid!" Joshua is the General Manger of a car dealership in Illinois. My children are far from perfect, but due to the fact that my wife and I both agreed to raise our children according to God's design, we do not have grandchildren out of wedlock, drug addicts, or lazy government dependent reprobates for children! Joshua has a good job and is supplying the needs for his own family by working hard, loving his wife, and taking his family to church regularly. He tithes on all of his earnings, gives over and above to missions, and is applying the rod of correction to my grandchild! He too sees the need to allow God to control his life. I am in no way bragging, but Josh has told me over and over thank you for raising him the way I did. I can still see the face of the young inmate with tears in his eyes as he said, "I wish I had a dad like you!"

Early in my Christian life God showed me a verse that would revolutionize my life: "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success" (Joshua 1:8). Great success was the promise and great success is the result! I told the Lord that when He shows me a truth, with His help, I would follow it. I have no regrets!

Ok, now let's look at what God has to say about the topic we are discussing. Many of the Scriptural teachings on corporal punishment are found in the book of Proverbs, commonly known as the Book of Wisdom. Thirty-one chapters, one for each day of your life: I have been reading Proverbs through every month for 15 years. I must be reminded every day what God thinks about morality!

"Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him" (Proverbs 22:15). You do not have to teach a child to misbehave; it just comes natural. This rod of correction is a devise designed to bring pain that will be associated with the disobedience. God chose to call it a "rod." This rod is a tool that is used to bring a stinging pain to the flesh of the butt of a child. The backside of a human being was designed to receive this chastening application; there are no vital organs, only soft fatty tissue. It will not cripple or cause physical damage, but will simply bring pain. "In the lips of him that hath understanding wisdom is found: but a rod is for the back of him that is void of understanding" (Proverbs 10:13). Not the face, not punching in the stomach, but the application of a rod to his backside. It must be consistent and never applied out of anger! Lovingly explain to the child why he is receiving this punishment and tell the child if he does it again, the same thing will happen.

It is best to start very early! How much of your life do you remember when you were six months to two years old? If you are like me, absolutely nothing! As the rod of correction is applied this early, obedience is then established in the heart of the child. Do it early and you will not have to do it often or hard. The slight pain inflicted to their backside will cause them to associate pain with disobedience at a young age. They will not develop anger towards you due to the fact that the child is completely dependent on you for survival and the love they need. Always explain why they received their punishment and that you love them.

For 16 years now I have been working with teenagers locked up in the prisons around the world. Most of these teens have never had someone love them enough to teach them that there is punishment that comes with disobedience. If a child has to take a time out when he just hit his sister in the face, what will that accomplish. On the other hand, if a loving father tells him that hitting his sister is

wrong and he must be punished, then he will think different when the urge to hit comes again. With the urge to hit will come the remembrance of the pain related to disobedience!

Think of this; say your child has an overwhelming desire to play with the oven. You tell him not to touch the oven because you love him and do not want him to get burned. He continues to play with the oven over and over without any punishment. Then the dreaded day comes when the oven is red-hot and your boy reaches up and fries his hand. Whose fault? Now take the same instance and apply Biblical training. Mom sees junior touch the stove; she tells him not to touch the stove because it could hurt him. Junior, because foolishness is bound in his heart, goes for the stove again. This time, a loving mom or dad takes him into another room, explains to him that sometimes the stove is hot and will burn him, and then spanks his butt. You then tell the child that you love him and do not want to see him get burned, so you will continue to spank him until he quits touching the stove. The next time he touches the stove, you do the very same process over again. If you are not consistent with your chastisement the child will be confused, but if every time he goes for the stove he gets spanked, he will soon learn that the stove is off limits. He can either learn by a few sore butt experiences, or a fried hand. One seems a bit more loving than the other. "(8) My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: (9) For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck" (Proverbs 1:8, 9).

The Bible is clear that love is the foundational purpose of chastening a son:

(5) And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: (6) For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. (7) If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? (8) But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. (Hebrews 12:4-8)

Wow, the love of a parent is the driving factor of corporal punishment. The Word of God teaches us that only a child receives this punishment, if no spanking is

taking place, no real father is in the life of the child. Now listen to the results recorded for this loving procedure applied to the child:

(9) Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? (The most valuable truth taught to us in this passage is clear. How will a child be subject to the teachings of God if he does not understand that God will punish the unbeliever with eternal judgment, Hell!). (10) For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. (The Scriptural teaching for spanking is profit not loss) (11) Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. (Hebrews 12: 9-11) (Emphasis added by author)

Neither the application of the rod or the receiving end of the rod is joyous at the time, but the end results are peace and righteous. Most of the chastening a child will require will be in the very early stages of his/her life. How much do you remember about your first three years of your life? These are the years that are so very important to establish who is in control. We have a generation today that allows the child to dominate the decisions in the home. If they do not get their way, they throw a fit embarrassing the parent to the point that they do what the child wants: "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame" (Proverbs 29:15). Will this produce a productive adult, not so:

(11) There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother. (12) There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness. (13) There is a generation, O how lofty are their eyes! and their eyelids are lifted up. (14) There is a generation, whose teeth are as swords, and their jaw teeth as knives, to devour the poor from off the earth, and the needy from among men. (Proverbs 30:11-14)

Remembering back to how the devil changed God's Word and deceived Eve, lets look at a saying that has been coined concerning spanking; "Spare the rod spoil the child." This is the watered down version of the truth. The actual Biblical statement is found in Proverbs 13:24 says, "He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes." *Betimes*—as many times as it takes

to drive, yes drive the child to see the need to submit to authority, and not to do wrong. A child's will must be molded by breaking the disobedient spirit.

Now listen to the advice given to us by the Creator of children: (13) Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. (14) Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell (Proverbs 23:13, 14). The value of spanking goes far beyond the home of a toddler. When the toddler learns the principal of associating pain with disobedience, they will learn to obey those in authority. If a child does not have this principal in the home, then due to the liberal world he will not learn it at school, so, many times they will be forced to learn that he cannot disobey the law without punishment—prison. Then, how could he believe that God would ultimately punish him eternally? God is bound by every Word uttered in the King James Bible: "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:15).

Parents are entrusted with the children God gives them. He then expects the parent to raise them according to His Word. This will result in a generation that loves and serves God. Due to the respect to God's Word, God will then keep His end of the deal and give you a successful and prosperous life.

I will now show you the progression of raising a child by God's Word as described for us in the Bible:

(1) Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. (2) Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) (3) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. (Notice that God describes the benefits for obeying His design for raising children) (4) And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. (It is the father's duty to establish Biblical principals in the home. The problem is, in many homes today, there is no father, or the mother is the spiritual leader.) (5) Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; (6) Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; (7) With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: (8) Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free. (Now that the child has learned to obey his parents, he will not have a problem with obeying his/her schoolteachers, resulting in good grades, and finally, he/she knows

how to have good work habits resulting in a prosperous career.) (Ephesians 6:1-8) (Emphasis added by author)

God does not only leaves us with instructions to use the rod of correction, and where to apply the rod, but He also is clear on how long one should continue with the correction process:

(18) Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying. (19) A man of great wrath shall suffer punishment: for if thou deliver him, yet thou must do it again. (20) Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end. (21) There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand. (Proverbs 19:18-21)

Sometimes a child can be very stubborn. This child is referred to as the strong willed child. God also gives us instruction how to deal with him: "The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the gray head. (30) The blueness of a wound cleanseth away evil: so do stripes the inward parts of the belly" (Proverbs 20:29, 30). His will must be broken and brought into subjection to the parent or the end results will be horrific. God will give you the grace to apply this correction, which can be grievous at the time, but the end results are grand!

The Lord gives us many places in His Word that describes that the rod is designed to mold the disobedient child into one that is profitable:

(30) If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments; (31) If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments; (32) Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes. (33) Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail. (34) My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips. (35) Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David. (36) His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me. (37) It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah. (Psalm 89:30-37)

God only chastens His children; He punished those who are not His children with eternal damnation. Most believe that we are all children of God, but the truth of the Bible is clear. Jesus was talking to the religious leaders of His day when He said: "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a

murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44).

Any loving and caring father or mother, who would be willing to see what God has to say in the matter, would use corporal punishment in the training process of raising a child.

(15) Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (16) But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. (17) And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; (18) Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some. (19) Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. (2 Timothy 2:15-19)

As you can see, knowledge from God on the subject has been clearly stated in His Word. The Prophet Hosea tells us the horrible results of disregarding the knowledge given to us in the Bible:

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children. (7) As they were increased, so they sinned against me: therefore will I change their glory into shame. (8) They eat up the sin of my people, and they set their heart on their iniquity. (9) And there shall be, like people, like priest: and I will punish them for their ways, and reward them their doings. (Hosea 4:6-9)

I hope this little Bible study has shown to you the need to use corporal punishment when raising children. Truth is absolute when it is located in His Word: "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17). I have enclosed at the end of this study a Gospel tract that I have written and have distributed around the world. It is the Ultimate Truth of what God says about eternity. With so many versions of the Bible and the confusion the devil has created by the vast number of religious beliefs in the world, I felt the need to include for you the truth of what God's Word says about salvation. I hope you

are truly a follower of Christ and if not, I pray you receive His knowledge instead of rejecting it.

You are free to give my organization and me credit for this article. God bless! You can find a statement of faith on my website www.vanhornroa.com

The Ultimate Truth

TRUTH: "exact accordance with that which is, or has been, or shall be." **TRUTH ALWAYS EXPOSES ERROR!** The definition of "ultimate" is: "Final; being that to which all the rest is directed, as to the main object. The ultimate end of our actions should be the glory of God, or the display of His exalted excellence. The ultimate end and aim of men is to be happy, and to attain to this end, we must yield that obedience which will honor the law and character of God" (Definitions quoted from Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary).

We live in a society that has asked God, the LORD Jesus Christ, to stay out of its business. Society has even tried to take Christ out of Christmas by saying, "Happy Holidays" instead of "Merry Christmas." By doing this, they think God will simply go away or perhaps He will not execute His judgment upon them. Not so! Hell is a real place designed for the devil and his angels. TRUTH: "...Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41). The Bible teaches us that in the last days there will be many false teachers. TRUTH: "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction" (2 Peter 2:1). These false teachers are represented today by the many different ways people believe will get them to Heaven. Sad to say, they have been deceived! Does believing a lie give you an excuse with God? Not so! TRUTH: "That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (2 Thessalonians 2:12).

TRUTH: Jesus Christ teaches us that the only way to be assured of spending eternity in Heaven is through "…repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord"...

Jesus Christ" (Acts 20:21). Repentance is the willingness to leave sin behind, which is simply anything that goes against God's Holy Bible, and turn to **THE TRUE AND LIVING GOD**, **JESUS CHRIST**. Faith toward Jesus is believing that God the Son, Jesus, became flesh through the virgin birth, dwelt among us, was tempted like we are, endured all temptation without sin, paid our sin debt on the cross of Calvary, was buried, rose up from the grave on the third day, and is at the right hand of the Father waiting to come back and receive His children into Heaven with Him.

It is the Holy Ghost of God that reveals this to you as you put your faith in Christ. **TRUTH:** "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:" (Romans 8:16). The Bible teaches us in John 4:24; "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." As you put your faith in what Christ did for you and call upon Him for salvation, God's Spirit will confirm in your heart that you have become a child of the King.

Many believe that God is "a God of love" and He would never damn anyone to Hell. This is wishful thinking! **TRUTH:** The Bible teaches us in John 1:12; "But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." When you put your faith in Christ and the perfect work of Calvary, with the willingness to turn from your sinful ways, you will "become" a son of God. If we are not all children of God, then just who is "your" father? Once again let's look at what the Bible says: **TRUTH:** "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar and the father of it" (John 8:44).

My friend, the devil knows his eternal destination. He will not be the ruler of Hell, but an occupant. **TRUTH:** "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" (Revelation 20:10). He knows his days are numbered and is doing his utmost to deceive you into believing a lie: **TRUTH:** "... Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time" (Revelation 12:12). His plan is to take as many as he can with him to Hell!

TRUTH: Jesus said, "...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). Please put your faith in Christ before it is eternally too late. Faith is simply believing that God will do exactly what He has said He would do. The Bible teaches us: TRUTH: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:9, 10). TRUTH: "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13). Your name will then be written in the Lamb's Book of Life. TRUTH: "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:15).

TRUTH: You can be saved and your name recorded in the Lamb's Book of Life today by simply praying and asking the LORD Jesus Christ into your heart to save you from Hell and to help you fight the war against sin in your life.

PLEASE COME TO CHRIST TODAY! You will have eternity to live with your decision! TRUTH: "...behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation (II Corinthians 6:2). Please do not put this decision off! The devil will tell you that you have plenty of time. This is his favorite lie! TRUTH: YOU MUST DO IT NOW!

Pray: Dear LORD God, I know that I am a sinner condemned to Hell. I am sorry I have sinned against you. Please forgive me of my sin, come into my heart, and help me to live a life pleasing unto You. I accept You as my personal Lord and Saviour. Thank You for writing my name in the Lamb's Book of Life; in Jesus name I pray, Amen.

If you sincerely asked Christ into your heart, He has promised you eternal life. **TRUTH:** "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God" (I John 5:12, 13).

If you prayed and asked Christ to save you, please write us at the Rock of Ages Ministries so we can rejoice with you! We would like to enroll you in our Discipleship Institute so you can learn more about your new life in Christ. May God bless you and keep you!

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