

BUILDING A GODLY HOME

0. GOD'S RECIPE FOR GODLY HOME

I.

Introduction

Home is a very special place in our life, because we share it permanently with closest members of our physical and sometimes even spiritual family. Home is a workshop where we mold human souls – our own, of our wife/husband and of our children. Many times we do it through our actions and our words. Therefore we must be careful what we do or say at home, for it will always have some consequences for our eternity, as well as for eternity of our closest ones. In other words, home is a place where we prepare ourselves and our family for entering our eternal home with God in heaven. Therefore our earthly home must be a reflection of the heavenly home. It must be a place where God is revered, His teaching is applied and spiritual sacrifices are presented to Him.

II.

What is the heavenly home like?

What is the heavenly home like? Poetical description of the spiritual reality of heavenly home is in Revelation 21:1-7.

To sum it up, heavenly home is a spiritual place, where we will live with God for ever as His people and His children and where God will take care of us.

Peter describes heavenly home with one simple phrase as a place wherein dwelleth righteousness. 2.Peter 3:13.

If righteousness dwells in our eternal heavenly home, it must necessarily dwell in our temporary earthly homes as well. Why is that? Let's ask the following question:

III.

Who will not enter the heavenly home?

Who will not enter the heavenly home? To make it short, unrighteous will not enter the heavenly home:

1Co 6:9 ¶ Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? (*Now, who are unrighteous?:*) Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

Other passage focuses on works of unrighteous and calls them works of flesh:

Ga 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Imagine children growing up in homes that are full of unrighteousness. What will become of them? I remember one time I travelled by a bus to Prague. There were some school children in the bus who spoke about their homes. One girl spoke of different men who at different times lived with her mother in their home. There are many homes like that. There are homes where spouses fight one another, bribe children with money, brand cloths and electronics, instigate their children against the other parent or grandparents, emotionally extort their children, neglect their children. There are homes where divorced and remarried spouses live together with their children from their previous marriages. There are homes where man is raising someone else's children from previous marriage, while his own children from previous marriage are being raised by some other man. There are homes where children are being trained for criminal activities. It is quite sad. Homes of fleshly people are also workshops, but of Satan that prepare young and old for similar eternal home and that is hell. That does not mean that everyone growing up in fleshly home will necessarily end up in hell, but there is a greater probability of it compare to goodly homes. Can you see an affinity between homes of fleshly people and hell? Unrighteous do not have eternal home in heaven, but in the lake of fire:

Re 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Therefore it is very important to dedicate our lives to making godly homes that are directed to heaven and prepare us and our family for entering heavenly home.

IV. Who will enter the heavenly home?

Who will enter the heavenly home? Those who are saved from their sins through Jesus, bear the fruits of the Spirit and do the will of the Father:

1Co 6:11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

Ga 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. {affections: or, passions}

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Mt 7:21 ¶ Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

To sum it up, righteous will enter the heavenly home.

Mt 13:43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Righteousness is not in perfect keeping of God's Laws that prohibit certain behaviour, for no man is able to do so perfectly. Righteousness is in all three things I have just mentioned - salvation by God through Jesus, bearing fruits of Spirit and doing the will of Father:

Php 3:9 ¶ And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

Godly homes are God's workshops that prepare young and old for similar eternal home and that is heavenly home. That does not mean that everyone growing up in godly home will automatically end up in heaven, but there is a greater probability of it compare to fleshly homes. Can you see an affinity between godly homes and heaven? Therefore once again it is very important to dedicate our lives to making godly homes that are directed to heaven and prepare us and our family for entering heavenly home.

V. Godly home

As we can see godly home is very important. How can we make such godly home? Figuratively speaking we need to cook it based on God's recipe! I will explain it. When Tami wants to cook or bake something good, she follows a recipe, which gives instructions what ingredients to take in which order and what to do with them till she gets the tasty result. However if she skipped one of the ingredients or substituted one ingredient with another one, the result can be quite the opposite. One time Tami forgot to put a pinch of salt into bread she baked in a bread-maker. One could say a pinch of salt what difference it could make in such a big loaf of bread anyway. However, it made a great difference in taste. The taste was unforgettable. I tried to beat it with thick layer of cheese or honey, but even then I could not eat it and we had to throw it away. Another time Tami cooked a chilly soup with Czech chilly powder that she mistakenly took for similar to US product. They did look similar, but while US chilly powder was a mild blend of different spices, Czech chilly powder was made exclusively out of the red hot chilly pepers. The difference in taste was great. After eating that soup, I was burning inside and Tami could not even eat it. By saying that I do not want you to feel sorry for me, what I have to go through in my marriage, but point out how necessary is to follow the recipe in all instructions. God has His own recipe for godly home. It is in the Scriptures. Let's look at ingredients it calls for and in what steps:

Eph 5:1 ¶ Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;

Eph 5:22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Eph 6:1 ¶ Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

Eph 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

VI. Conclusion

The ingredients for making a godly home are: following of God by both, husbands and wives - the first step, wives submitting themselves to their own husbands as unto the Lord - the second step, husbands loving their wives as Christ loved the church - the third step, children obeying their parents in the Lord - the forth step and fathers not provoking their children to wrath, but bringing them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord - the fifth step. The result of faithful following of this recipe is a tasty product, godly home, happy home where righteousness dwells that prepares all family members for entering eternal home in heaven with God. However, try to skip one of the ingredients or substitute it with something else and the result can be quite different.

I would like to encourage all of us to put forth our best efforts to make such godly homes directed to our real home in heaven with God.

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