

Spare the rod ?

For some two thousand years Western Christian civilisation has raised its youngsters on the biblical understanding that (Deuteronomy 8:5) “You should know in your heart that as a man chastens his son, so the LORD your God chastens you.”

Just as God corrects us, Christians have believed God’s words in Proverbs 13:24 “He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him.”

God loves us and chastises us with patience and great mercy. Anyone who has studied the bible recognises that God teaches us by rewards for good behaviour first, and punishment only when that fails. Read Deuteronomy 28 to see that principle revealed. However every child needs to learn right from wrong, and if this principle is applied from infancy, patiently and consistently, there will be little need for chastisement when the child is older. Failure to provide discipline can have bitter fruits, Proverbs 19:18 “Chasten your son while there is hope, And do not set your heart on his destruction.”

The New Testament continues, Hebrews 12:11, “ 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.”

Those who have reared stable, productive and law abiding children know these scriptures are true and valuable guides to child rearing, but where are the church leaders now when these biblical principles are under serious attack by the forces of darkness through national, European and world governments ?

Where is the voice of the Church of England, standing up for the word of God and other important issues? All we hear is silence. Meanwhile the bleeding heart liberals jump on the UN bandwagon condemning the parents’ right to discipline their children because of those who abuse that responsibility, by failing to discipline with patient, firm but consistent standards. Since when do we ban anything because a few abuse it ? We have already seen teachers lose control of their classrooms because corporal punishment is banned, so that disruption now makes successful teaching doubly difficult, but this most recent attack on education within the family takes away one more brick from the foundation of our society. Who can deny the downward spiral we are caught up in where we are no longer safe in our own homes, let alone the streets ?

Sadly most have rejected the way of God as revealed in the bible and the results for our nation are prophesied to be severe chastisement by a loving God – defeat by foreign nations in war and punishment such as we have never before experienced.

Ezekiel 38:16 “You will come up against My people Israel [Britain and its Commonwealth plus America] like a cloud, to cover the land. It will be **in the latter days** that I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me, when I am hallowed in you, O Gog, before their eyes.” [Gog is Russia and its Eastern allies.]

Ezekiel 39:23 “The Gentiles shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity; because they were unfaithful to Me, therefore I hid My face from them. I gave them into the hand of their enemies, and they all fell by the sword.”, Ezekiel 39:28-29 ‘then they shall know that I *am* the LORD their God, who sent them into captivity among the nations, but also brought them back to their land, and left none of them captive any longer. ‘And I will not hide My face from them anymore; for I shall have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel,’ says the Lord GOD.”

Only then will we begin to live as God requires.

