

***Renewing the Covenant Household***  
***Part Three – Raising Children from the Dead***

Ephesians 6:1-9

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

**I. *Saints and Sinners – Ephesians 1:1-3; 2:1-3; 6:1***

- A. With whom the covenant is made – thee and thy seed after thee
- B. Covenant Succession
  - Acts 2:38-39; Isaiah 59:21
  - Covenant Curse – Hosea 4:6 ff.
- C. Children are IN THE CHURCH – how does one become part of the Church in the New Testament? Only one way – baptism.
  - Mark 10:14; Matthew 18:5
  - Paul, contra-culture: Sparta and Rome, no!! The Kingdom of God, yes!! Blessed are the weak.

**II. *Children Obey – Ephesians 6:1***

- A. *Hupa-akuo* – “to listen under”
  - 1. The Fifth Word, plus Leviticus 19:1-3
  - 2. Who are the “children”?
    - infancy to adulthood, “sonship” (Galatians 4)
    - “leave and cleave” at marriage (premarital sexual relations are an act of war against the father and mother, ripping the fabric of the family)
    - always “honor” in the sense of deference and respect
    - Note Leviticus 19:32.
- B. Training to Believe
- C. Training to Obey
  - Christ “learned obedience.” – Hebrews 5:8
  - Christ “submitted” to his mother and earthly father, as well as his Heavenly Father. (Luke 2)

**III. *Fathers Instruct – Ephesians 6:4***

- A. We are all Home Educators
  - 1. Don’t “provoke” – prohibition of abuse and harshness.
  - 2. Do “bring up” – “nourish” or “feed.”
- B. Discipline
  - 1. Correction
  - 2. Instruction
  - 3. Justice
  - 4. Restitution – when necessary and possible

- C. Instruction - The *Paideia* of God (Latin is *humanitas*)
1. Not simply catechesis or Christian education in the “scope and sequence” sense, though this is a necessary beginning place.
  2. Rather, it is the “enculturation” of the citizen.
    - All that is in the idea of culture – music, common language and wisdom, political life, law, morality, faith in “the gods”
    - Paul is after, then, the parents making their homes Christian cultures, making the Church a beachhead of Christian civilization.
    - Covenantally spreading that culture-civilization to all the world
- *Paideia* is not the creation of a subculture (we have this already in ubiquitous and impotent evangelicalism), but a serious “conquest culture.”
  - Protecting against the barbaric practices of the outlands
  - Cultivating the ideal of the mature
  - Demonstrating to the end that the world is converted
    - See H. I. Marrou (*A History of Education in Antiquity*).

#### IV. *Raised from the Dead*

- A. Christ alone brings Life
- B. Raise to believe in Christ
- C. Discipline for holiness
- D. Train for the whole of Life
- E. Pray like crazy!
  - Monica and Augustine