

# Breaking Generational Curses

3/28/08

Exodus 34:6-7 - "And He [the Lord] passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, 'The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet He does not leave the guilty unpunished; He punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation.' "

Deuteronomy 11:26-28 - "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse - the blessing if you obey the commands of the Lord your God that I am giving you today; the curse if you disobey the commands of the Lord your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known."

Generational curses are judgments that are passed on to individuals because of sins perpetuated in a family in a number of generations. Generational curses are similar to original sin curses because they can be passed down generationally. They differ in that generational curses do not impose eternal judgment. They bring judgment or bondage during an individual's life, until that individual addresses the sin issues that put the curses into place.

Moses addressed this issue when the Israelites were preparing to enter the promised land. He told the new generation that was preparing to enter in that they would not enter unless they dealt with their own personal sins and also the sins of their fathers. The account can be found in Leviticus 26:39-42

"Those of you who are left will waste away in the lands of their enemies because of their sins; also because of their fathers' sin they will waste away. But if they will confess their sins and the sins of their fathers - their treachery against me and their hostility toward me, which made me hostile toward them so that I sent them into the land of their enemies - then when their uncircumcised hearts are humbled and they pay for their sin, I will remember my covenant with Jacob and my covenant with Isaac and my covenant with Abraham, and I will remember the land."

As I have said in other writings, curses take away the quality of life. They can bring failure, shame, sickness and even physical death. They are temporal in nature, causing much grief. They are administered to get our attention and encourage us to turn back to God. Those who are humbled by them, repent and find restoration and renewed freedom from the Lord. Those who become angry, self-righteous and rebel against what God has permitted go deeper into bondage and darkness.

The Scriptures reveal a two prong approach for dealing with generational bondage. We have to address (1) Personal sins and also (2) Generational sins (in the family).

At this point, I know that many Christians will reason, "I thought that all the past is under the blood when I received Jesus as my Savior!" As far as your salvation and eternal destiny is concerned, that is true. But our enemy loves to cause us grief when there is sin connected to our lives (personally or generationally) that has not been addressed through repentance and confession. Do you remember that time when you received Jesus into your life? You acknowledged your sin in a general way and asked Him to be your Savior and forgive you and cleanse you. The Lord was very gracious with your general confession, but later on the Holy Spirit began to convict you of sins in your past. You were led to repent of them and confess them specifically to the Lord. Why did the Spirit do that? He wanted you to be free of any legal claims of the enemy upon your life. It had nothing to do with your salvation, but the quality and freedom of your new life in Christ.

Why does God permit the enemy to do be such a hindrance? Because the Lord, in His sovereignty, can use even the enemy's activities to accomplish something good in our lives. Some of the effects

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include chastisement, testing of faith, a guard against complacency, humility, and the motivation to pursue a sanctified life.

How do we begin to address the problem of generational curses and bondages? First, you must develop two sin lists - one personal and one for your family (including parents and the members of each of their families). You must be specific and thorough. Take your time. Go before the Lord and ask Him to help you prepare those lists.

The following is a list of sin categories to help you prepare your lists. Check the following:

IDOLATRY- \_Eastern Religions (list) \_Meditation \_Chanting/mantras \_Cults (list them) \_Secret Orders/Lodges \_Material things \_Money \_People

OCCULT- \_Astrology \_Fortune telling (types) \_Ouija Board \_Seances \_Dungeons & Dragons (or similar games - board or computer) \_Hypnosis/Self-hypnosis \_ESP \_Crystals \_Psychic healing \_Occult literature \_Occult beliefs \_OOBE (Out of body experiences attempted/experienced) \_Spiritism \_Parapsychology \_Psychic beliefs and practices

WITCHCRAFT & SATANISM- \_Incantations \_Spells \_Dedications \_Rituals \_Ritual abuse \_Blasphemy/Mockery \_Literature \_Beliefs \_Murder \_Perversions \_Magic \_Santeria \_Voodoo \_Powwow healing witchcraft (Pennsylvania Dutch) \_Maloike (Italian witchcraft) \_Wicca \_Druidism

SEXUAL SINS- \_Fornication \_Adultery \_Pornography \_Rape \_Incest \_Lust \_Masturbation \_Homosexuality \_Abortion \_Bestiality \_Pedophilia \_Exhibitionism \_Abuse \_Fantasy \_Other perversions

DRUGS/ADDICTIONS- \_Illegal (list) \_Alcohol abuse \_Smoking (abuse of body) \_Prescription drug dependency \_Food dependency

BELIEVING SATAN'S LIES- \_Regarding self-image \_Regarding God \_Regarding religious beliefs \_Regarding people \_Regarding behavior

FEAR- \_Fear of failure \_Fear of success \_Fear of Rejection \_Miscellaneous fears (list) \_Anxiety \_Worry \_Despair \_Hopelessness

UNBELIEF- \_Lack of trust \_Double-mindedness \_Doubts \_Skepticism

DECEIT/DISHONESTY- \_Lying \_Stealing \_Exaggeration

PRIDE- \_Self-righteousness \_Self-focused \_Vanity \_Arrogance

REBELLION- \_Disobedience \_Disrespect \_Self-willed \_Stubbornness

ANGER- \_Hatred \_Bitterness \_Resentment \_Unforgiveness \_Rage \_Revenge \_Slander/Gossip \_Critical/Judgmental \_Blame-shifting \_Prejudice/Bigotry \_Malice

WISHING DEATH- \_For self \_For others

VIOLENT ACTS- \_Attempted suicide \_Abuse \_Murder

VULGAR LANGUAGE- \_Cursing (Lord's name in vain) \_Off color stories and jokes

MUSIC- (Regarding content of message or performers' lifestyles) \_Occultic, \_Satanic, \_Sexual \_Drug oriented \_Rebellion \_Focus on Death

UNSCRIPTURAL SEEKING OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS & EXPERIENCE- \_Priming the pump to receive tongues \_Accepting any personal experience without testing it \_Receiving personal prophecies without testing them and having them confirmed by God

This is only a guide to aid you in preparing your sin lists. It is not comprehensive. Not every sin is listed. Add whatever is applicable to your situation.

Make sure that you are truly repentant as you confess these sins. Otherwise the confession means

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very little. It is important to be repentant on behalf of your family. If you continue to be angry and bitter towards your family, your prayers will not be effective. Ask God to give you a spirit of forgiveness.

After you have confessed all sins on each list, renounce any claims of Satan upon your life in the name of Jesus Christ. Declare that you have placed all his claims against you under the blood of Jesus Christ, your Savior.

Then spend a time of worship and praise to the Lord. Thank Him in advance for the deliverance and healing that He is going to bring into your life.

Don't expect everything to come at once. The Lord will unfold to you new freedoms in the days that follow. Don't compare yourself with anyone else. His work in your life will be different than in other lives. He knows what you need and when you need it. Keep close accounts with the Lord. Stay in His Word and in prayer. Stand against the enemy. When you have new freedoms, remember that the enemy will visit you trying to steal them away from you. Keep your eyes on the Lord. The Lord loves you and He is faithful.

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