

INTRODUCTION: FIRSTBORN

A. BIBLICAL BACKGROUND & APPLICATIONS (12/16/18)

B. PERFECTION IN CHRIST & ADORATIONS (12/23/18)

C. SYNONYMS: BIRTHRIGHT; PRIMOGENITURE (all or most)

I. THE BIBLICAL TESTIMONY

A. PATRIARCHAL EVIDENCES (Gen.10:15, etc.)

1. Adam: birthright over creation (Gen.1:26f; 3:17f; see 4:25; 5:3)
2. Esau: sold birthright (Gen.27:19 /Gen.25:31f; Heb.12:16 /Gen.29:26; note: our covenant children)
3. Joseph: and his brothers (Gen.43:33; see 49:3,4; 1Chr.5:1,2; see Gen.48:14f,17f,22; Jer.31:9)

B. MOSAIC LEGISLATION

1. Israel: My firstborn/your firstborn (Ex.4:22; Amos 3:2; see Ps.78:51,etc.)
2. Consecration/Redemption of the Firstborn (Ex.13:2f (1Cor.6:20; 7:23); see Num.3:2f)
3. Rights of Firstborn Protected (Dt.21:15-17 (18-21); see levirate, Dt.25:6)

C. HISTORICAL CASE STUDIES

1. Nadab & Eleazar (Num.3:2-4; 20:25f)
2. David & Solomon (1Chr.3:1-9; see 2Sam.13:1f; 1Kngs.1:11f,30; 1Chr.28:6 (2Sam.12:24))
3. Elijah & Elisha (2Kngs.2:9-15; see Dt.21:17)

D. USAGE IN THE PSALMS & PROPHETS

1. firstborn in Egypt (Ps.78:51; 105:36; 135:8; 136:10; see Ex.4:22; 13:2f; etc.)
2. David: made firstborn (Ps.89:27; see Ps.2:7; see 1Sam.15:28; 16:11f)
3. our Father: His firstborn (Jer.31:9; see 1,6,7; 30:22; see Gen.48:14f,17f)

E. USAGE IN THE NEW TESTAMENT (for Jesus, see next week)

1. firstborn of His mother (Lk.2:7)
2. firstborn of Egypt (Heb.11:28)
3. firstborn in the church (1Tm.5:17)

II. PRINCIPLES SUMMARIZED

A. CREATION ORDINANCE (Gen.1:26f; 2:18f; 10:15,etc; see 1Tm.2:12-14; Ex.20:12f; *LC,5th*)

B. NATURAL OFFICE: HUSBAND, MOTHER; ELDER/OLDER; EMPLOYER; GOVERNOR
(1Tm.2:12-14; Tt.2:2,3; Eph.5:22-6:9; Gen.4:20f; 2Kngs.5:13; Ps.89:27; see *LC* 124-132 on 5th commandment)

C. DIVINELY ASSIGNED ORDER THAT PRESUPPOSES EQUALITY (Gen.1:27; 2:18f; 1Pt.3:7&1;
see 1Tm.2:12-14; 1Cor.11:8f; see *LC* 124,126; i.e., *super-ordinates, sub-ordinates, co-ordinates*)

D. CORRUPTIONS OF THE FALL REGULATED WITH PROTECTIONS & REMEDIES
(Dt.21:15f&18f /Chr.5:1,etc.; Rom.9:4(Ex.4:22); 11:17f /Dt.21:15f,18f; 1Cor.6:1f; Acts 15:1f /Eph.5:21-6:4)

III. APPLICATIONS PROCLAIMED

A. GRASP THE PRINCIPLE OF THE FIRSTBORN: A CREATION ORDINANCE FOR ORDER AMONG EQUALS! (Gen.1:27; 2:18f; 1Cor.11:8f; 2Tm.2:12,13; see Ex.20:12f; see *LC* 124-132)

B. AUTHORITIES: HONOR THE FIRSTBORN WITH A DOUBLE PORTION! (Dt.21:15f; see Gen.48:22; 2Kngs.2:9; 1Tm.5:17)

C. FIRSTBORN: USE YOUR DOUBLE PORTION TO SERVE! (Gen.50:21; 2Kngs.2-13; 1Tm.5:17,18; 1Pt.4:1,7; Eph.5:21-6:4; 1Pt.5:1f; see Phil.2:5f; Mk.10:45)

D. SOCIETY: HONOR THE FIRSTBORN WITH SUBMISSION! (Eph.5:21-6:4; see 1Tm.5:17; 1Th.5:12f; 1Pt.5:5)

E. ALL: REASSIGN RIGHT OF FIRSTBORN FOR CAUSE AND BY DUE PROCESS!
(Dt.21:15f&18f; see 1Chr.5:1f; Gen.50:20,21; see Eph.5:21-6:4; Dt.21:15f,18f; 1Cor.6:1f; Acts 15:1f)

F. DEAR YOUNG PEOPLE: DON'T SELL YOUR BIRTHRIGHT! (Gen.27:19; see Gen.25:31f; Heb.12:16; see Gen.29:26; see Acts 2:42; Gal.5:22f; i.e. our covenant children)

Brethren, what shall WE DO? (see Acts 2:37f)