

Proverbs 22:6

TRAIN UP A CHILD

- I. The command.
 - A. “Child” refers to one from infancy to mid-teens, when very dependent on parents, physically, psychologically and spiritually.
 - B. God has placed parents in the position of being His most influential instrument in molding a child.
 1. The influence of a godly, believing parent leaves an impression on the child.
 2. The chief way parents train is by example, for children are most impressed by observing their parents’ conduct.
 - C. We must see this training to be not only of our children but of those who are spiritual soldiers, servants of the King.
- II. The goal of training a child is “the way he should go.”
 - A. Because every child is born dead in sin and inclined toward the wrong way, parents teach the way of obedience.
 - B. What is the “way” the child should go? Something that has direction, progress, and a destination.
 1. Godly parents emphasize that their and our destination is to be heaven.
 2. Godly parents consciously lead the children toward God in every part of their life.
 - C. A responsibility is given to believing parents in this admonition.
- III. To this calling God gives a promise: “and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”
 - A. This is given as an encouragement to the parents.
 - B. God declares that He is pleased to use parental instruction of the young to accomplish great good also when they are old.
 - C. Therefore, train up your God-given children in the way, and do so with great diligence.