

Having a Good Journey In Your Family



3 John 2

- The word “prosper” means to have a good journey.
- Purpose: to help us build relationships with people so that they will be edified and strengthened.
- Goal: (1) to strengthen our relationship with God and man. (2) to make us aware how important it is for us to minister to our family and others.
- When we talk about having a good journey in relationships I am mostly talking about family.
- The family is critical because of its unique role in reflecting the unique relationship between Christ and His church.
- Dr. Tony Evans share a story about how he noticed in his home some cracks on the inside wall of their home.
- The Word of God tells us another story about the need for a strong foundation (Matt. 7:24-27).
- One man built his house on the solid foundation of rock.
- A house can refer to a person’s life, church, or even our society (Psalm 11:3).

1. We must lay a solid foundation for the family.

A. The devastation of divorce (Mal. 2:16).

- The definition of what it means to be in a family has been altered in our chaotic society.
- B. The disintegration of the family is the single most devastating internal issue facing our nation and communities.
 - When fathers abandon their families, sons learn that this is an option for them in the future, and daughters learn to fear a similar desertion by the man she marries.
 - If we are going to rebuild our communities morally, spiritually, and socially, it will have to begin by rebuilding the foundations of families.

2. The origin of the family is from God (Gen. 1:26-28).

A. The family is God’s idea.

- The word “Us” in verse 26 refers to the Triune God: Father, Son, and Spirit.

B. The family's divine mission is to mirror in the visible realm the reality of the Triune God in the invisible realm.

- **Personal and familial happiness may be the benefit of a strong family, but it is not the mission.**

3. The dominion of the family.

A. The family delegation was given to rule.

- **Along with the delegated authority to rule under Him, God also grants to us the freedom, responsibility and right to rule on His behalf as owner.**
- **God is not going to make you have a productive, fulfilling home.**
- **Many times, the well-being of a family is determined by whether the man and woman in the home are reflecting God's image in their distinct roles.**
- **What Satan tries to get us to do is relinquish our rule by handing it over to him and by deceiving us into believing that he has authority.**

B. The authority of the ruler is found in Genesis 2.

- **The word "LORD" is printed with an initial capital "L" followed by the small capital letters "ORD" for a very important reason.**
- **The main element that everything else rests upon in a kingdom is the authority of the ruler.**
- **This is important, because in doing this God is clearly establishing the absolute and authoritative nature of His relationship with us through the revelation of His character and His name.**
- **Satan did not refer to God as Yahweh, the Lord God.**
- **Religion without God as absolute Authority is no threat to Satan.**
- **So, before the family was established, God's authority was established.**