

## "God and Our Family"

1992 "Year of the Family" - declared by Governor John Waihee

DECLARATION MADE IN DESPERATION  
POLITICIANS REALIZE - FAMILY Source of PROBLEMS and POTENTIAL

PROBLEM- What do we do?? What is right and wrong?? Values? Truth?

DEFINED BY SOCIETY- Live together (w/ or w/out Marriage) SAME SEX  
Divorce, Abuse, Disrespect, Confusion of Roles - COMMON

TRUTH - Revealed in Person of Jesus and Pages of Scripture

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the  
gospel of the glory of Christ 2 Corinthians 4:4

CHURCH IN SOCIETY - "HOLD FORTH THE LIGHT OF TRUTH" - BIBLE

PURPOSE OF SERIES - PROCLAIM WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT FAMILIES

POTENTIAL - Change the Family = Change the Society

DANGER - trying to make Bible say what we want / like / condone

APPROACH - TOPICAL STUDY

Series on Luke - Textual Study of Particular Passage

EX. "What does Luke chapter 15 say to me as a Christian today?"

TOPICAL STUDY "What does the Bible say about family, marriage, divorce,.....?"

BOTH ARE VALID, NECESSARY APPROACHES TO SCRIPTURE

MANY WORDS FOR FAMILY IN AMERICA TODAY

"NUCLEAR" - mom, dad, and kids

DINK - double income, no kids OINK - one income, no kids

YUPPIES - young urban professionals BUPPIES - black urban profes

SEVERAL BIBLICAL WORDS (not just for America in the 90's)

OT - Hebrew "bayit" from those under same roof to whole nation, including those who have  
already died AKA "clan" "tribe" "household"

NT - Greek "patria" def. "lineage" "descendants" // OHANA

"oikos" def. "house" or "household"

WORDS TRANSLATED "FAMILY" might be tribe, nation, or even whole world of people  
INTRODUCE SERIES - 3 FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS (mostly in Genesis)

## 1. Creator of Families

Human Beings CROWN OF GOD'S CREATION

"No other creature can glorify God and enjoy Him forever"

Psalms 8:4-6 what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?  
{5} You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

### a. Image of God

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness...verse 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

1) Personality - unique (CONTRA PET LOVERS "you don't know Fifi")

Human Personality UNIQUE BLEND - Mind, Will, and Emotions

2) Morality - FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY, Adam and Eve

3) Spirituality - CREATED FOR COMMUNION WITH OUR CREATOR  
ETERNAL SPIRIT - HEAVEN AND HELL

DISTORTED BUT NOT ERASED BY THE FALL

NOT JUST CHRISTIANS HAVE GOOD FAMILIES  
PARENTS MARRIED 50 YEARS - LOYAL, COMMITTED, NO FIGHTING  
NO SPIRITUAL LIFE, PRAYER, CHURCH - EMPTINESS

CALLED TO BE...

### b. Fruitful Stewards

Genesis 1:28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over every living creature that moves on the ground."

NOT THAT GOD NEEDS MAN TO DO HIS WORK - OUR PRIVILEGE  
WAY THAT GOD SOVEREIGNLY CHOSE TO ORDER THE UNIVERSE

DISPLAY OF INTELLIGENCE AND RULE

Genesis 2:20 So the man gave names to all (creatures)

## CARETAKERS - BASIS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN - FOR GLORY OF GOD

### c. Dependent ON GOD - HE IS CREATOR / WE ARE CREATURES

#### APOSTLE PAUL TOLD THE PEOPLE OF ATHENS

Acts 17:25 God gives all men life and breath and everything else.

Psalms 104:24-30 How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. {25} There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number-- living things both large and small...These all look to you to give them their food at the proper time. When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things. {29} When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to the dust.

#### 1) Physical

Genesis 1:29 "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food."

#### EVEN OUR BREATH IS A GIFT OF GOD

Genesis 2:7 the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

#### GOD'S WORD TO NOAH AFTER THE FLOOD

Genesis 9:3 Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.

#### 2) Social

Genesis 2:18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

#### CURSE ON CAIN

Genesis 4:12 You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

Genesis 7:1 The LORD then said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and your whole family

#### 3) Spiritual

Genesis 3:8 the LORD God as he was walking in the garden

#### LAMENT OF CURSED CAIN

Genesis 4:14 Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence

## DENIAL OF SPIRITUAL IN TODAY'S SOCIETY // CAIN

PASCAL - "there is a God-shaped vacuum in the heart of every person which only He can fill"

Deuteronomy 8:3 man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

HOW IS THAT WE HAVE LOST TOUCH WITH HIM WHOM WE DEPEND UPON??

### 2. Judge of Families

#### a. Lawgiver

Genesis 2:16,17 And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

#### GOD DEFINED LIMITS TO THE FREEDOM OF MAN - GOD IS LORD

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

v. 4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman.

#### AUTHORITY OF GOD HAS LONG BEEN CHALLENGED BY UNBELIEVING WORLD

#### TRAGEDY - NOW CHALLENGED IN "CHRISTIAN CHURCH"

Vote of Aha Pae'aina on resolution against Homosexuality

LOST - PREFER TO REMAIN "open and affirming"

#### b. Guilt - CONSEQUENCE OF REBELLION

Genesis 3:7,8 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God...and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Psalms 36:1-4 ...the wicked: There is no fear of God before his eyes. {2} For in his own eyes he flatters himself too much to detect or hate his sin.

#### NO MORE FEELING OF GUILT - NO SHAME - UNTHINKABLE IS ACCEPTABLE

Romans 1:32 (red Bible page 1206)

Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

### c. Distortion

#### JUDGMENT OF GOD - LEAVE MAN ALONE - CONSEQUENCE OF BAD CHOICES

Romans 1:24 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts

Romans 1:26 Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts

Romans 1:28 Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.

#### 3 X's "GOD GAVE THEM OVER" -TRAGEDY OF FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

Geoffrey Bromiley "God's judgment is to let the desires and deeds of men and women run their course and be their own punishment. Distortions of families abound and carry with them the evil consequences that the Bible so honestly and graphically depicts. They cause both mental and physical pain and suffering in what ought to be the happiest of relationships."

#### DEVELOPMENT OF FAMILIES AFTER FALL INTO SIN

##### IRRESPONSIBLE ADAM BLAMES EVE -- AND GOD

Genesis 3:12 "The woman you put here with me--she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

##### EVE STRUGGLES UNDER ADAM'S RULE

Genesis 3:16 "Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

##### CAIN MURDERS ABEL

Genesis 4:8 Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

##### LAMECH BECOMES A POLYGAMIST

Genesis 4:19 Lamech married two women

##### LAMECH SINGS SONG OF VIOLENCE AND MURDER

Genesis 4:23 I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for injuring me.

#### TWO OF THE MOST DANGEROUS PLACES IN AMERICA TODAY

1) HOME - family abuse and violence, domestic murder

Leading cause of injury for women between ages of 15 & 44 in USA

BATTERED BY THEIR CURRENT OR FORMER PARTNER - 4 Million women a year

2) MOTHER'S WOMB - 4400 ABORTIONS in America Daily

#### ABRAM ABANDONS HIS BEAUTIFUL WIFE SARAI

Genesis 12:13 Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you."

#### SARAH INVITES ABRAHAM TO COMMIT ADULTERY

Genesis 16:2 "The LORD has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my maidservant"

#### HOMOSEXUAL LUST OF MEN OF SODOM - ANGELS OF GOD VISITED LOT

Genesis 19:5-8 "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them"

#### LOT OFFERS HIS OWN DAUGHTERS TO BE ABUSED

"No, my friends. Don't do this wicked thing. {8} Look, I have two daughters who have never slept with a man. Let me bring them out to you, and you can do what you like with them.

#### INCEST - DAUGHTERS OF LOT

Genesis 19:30-33 Lot and his two daughters lived in a cave. {31} One day the older daughter said to the younger, "Our father is old, and there is no man around here to lie with us, as is the custom all over the earth. (EARLY FORM OF EVERYONE IS DOING IT?)

{32} Let's get our father to drink wine and then lie with him and preserve our family line through our father."

#### CHILD ABANDONMENT

Genesis 21:9-11 Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac." {11} The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son.

#### POLYGAMOUS INTERMARRIAGE WITH PAGANS

Genesis 26:34 When Esau was forty years old, he married Judith ...and also... Basemath both Hittite's. They were a source of grief to Isaac and Rebekah.

#### DECEIVING A BLIND, ELDERLY FATHER AND HUSBAND

Genesis 27:5-10 Rebekah was listening as Isaac spoke to his son Esau. When Esau left for the open country to hunt game... Rebekah said to her son Jacob, "Look, I overheard your father say to your brother Esau, {7} 'Bring me some game and prepare me some tasty food to eat, so that I may give you my blessing in the presence of the LORD before I die.' {8} Now, my son, listen carefully and do what I tell you..."

#### SIBLING RIVALRY AND EMBEZZLEMENT

Genesis 27:36 Esau said, "Isn't he rightly named Jacob ? He has deceived me these two times: He took my birthright, and now he's taken my blessing!"

#### MARITAL DECEPTION

Genesis 29:23-25 (Laban) took his daughter Leah and gave her to Jacob, (WHO MAY HAVE BEEN TOO DRUNK TO TELL DIFFERENCE) and Jacob lay with her.

## FORCIBLE RAPE

Genesis 34:1-7 {2} When Shechem son of Hamor the Hivite, the ruler of that area, saw (Dinah, the daughter Leah had borne to Jacob), he took her and violated her.

## COVERED WITH SWEET LIES

{3} His heart was drawn to Dinah daughter of Jacob, he loved the girl and spoke tenderly to her.

## REVENGE AND MURDER

{7} Now Jacob's sons had come in from the fields as soon as they heard what had happened. They were filled with grief and fury, because Shechem had done a disgraceful thing in Israel by lying with Jacob's daughter--a thing that should not be done.

v. 25 ...two of Jacob's sons, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, took their swords and attacked the unsuspecting city, killing every male

## JUSTIFIED THEIR ACTIONS

{31} But they replied, "Should he have treated our sister like a prostitute?"

## JEALOUS BETRAYAL OF A FAVORED SIBLING

Genesis 37:23 So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe--the richly ornamented robe he was wearing-- and they took him and threw him into the cistern.

## PROSTITUTION AND DECEPTION

Genesis 38:15 When Judah saw her (Tamar), he thought she was a prostitute, for she had covered her face. Not realizing that she was his daughter-in-law, he went over to her by the roadside and said, "Come now, let me sleep with you."

## ATTEMPTED ADULTERY

Genesis 39:11 One day (Joseph) went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. (Potiphar's wife) caught him by his cloak and said, "Come to bed with me!" But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house"

JUST THE FIRST BOOK OF THE BIBLE - 65 MORE BOOKS!!

ALL THIS SHOULD SHOCK US - PROBABLY DOESN'T - SEE ON TV - CHURCH?

CAUSE - NOT TV, WORKING MOTHERS, OR TEEN-AGE DRIVERS ---- SIN!  
BUT CAN FIND EXPRESSION THROUGH MODERN LIFE

Geoffrey Bromiley "Family becomes a problem instead of a promise. The fall from God lies behind all the failure and misery in what God designed to be so fulfilling a relationships. NEW TENSIONS IN THE FAMILY TODAY ARE SIMPLY OLD TENSIONS IN NEW FORMS."

GOD REVEALS MORE OF HIS CHARACTER - CREATOR, JUDGE, REDEEMER

### 3. Redeemer of Families

BASIS FOR HOPE FOR OUR FAMILY - NOT counseling, therapy, sermons

ONLY HOPE IS IN JESUS CHRIST

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

PROMISE OF NEW CREATION MADE IN SINFUL RUINS OF OLD CREATION -

#### a. Promise of Grace

PROMISE OF SAVIOR GIVEN WITH CURSE

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

1 John 3:8 The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

WHEN GOD WAS READY TO DESTROY EARTH

Genesis 6:8 Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

FORMED NEW NATION - BLESS NATIONS THROUGH CHRIST

Genesis 12:2,3 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing...and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

#### b. Need for Faith

FAMILIES OF FAITH IN A SINFUL WORLD

Gen 4:26 At that time men began to call on the name of the LORD.

Genesis 5:24 Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.

Genesis 15:6 Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

Hebrews 11:6 without faith it is impossible to please God

ROSS PEROT "America must have a moral and ethical base"

TAUGHT BY EVERY RELIGION - Religious Pluralism in America

FAITH MUST BE CLEARLY DEFINED BY SCRIPTURE - PERSON & WORK OF X

### c. Separation for Service

GOD CALLED ABRAM TO SEPARATE FROM HIS PAGAN FAMILY

Genesis 12:1 "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you."

PEOPLE OF ISRAEL - GOD'S HOLY PEOPLE - NOT TO HAVE FOREIGN WIVES

BEFORE HIS DEATH ABRAHAM ORDERED HIS SERVANT

Genesis 24:3 "I want you to swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I am living, but will go to my country and my own relatives and get a wife for my son Isaac."

Isaac "Child of Faith" - MOST FAITHFUL MARRIAGE - ONLY MONOGAMOUS  
Patriarch

Genesis 29 - JACOB MARRIES RACHEL

PRESERVE THE TRUE ISRAEL - THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

BELIEVER IS NOT TO MARRY AN UNBELIEVER - MARRIAGE HOLY IN CHRIST

FAITH DOESN'T COME BY ACCIDENT, OR BY PATIENCE, OR BY CHANCE

Worshipped in church with kids - "WE CAN'T GET OUR CHILDREN IN CHURCH" -  
PATTERN MUST BE ESTABLISHED

FORCE THEM?? - Wash their hands before meals, brush teeth, bathe?

SPIRITUAL WARFARE RAGES IN AND AROUND OUR HOME - TAKE A STAND

St. John Chrysostom (4th Century) "If good precepts are impressed on the soul while it is yet tender, no man will be able to destroy them when they have set firm"

St. Jerome "You cannot take the dye from the wool that has been dyed"

FAITHFUL PATRIARCHS KNEW THEY WERE RESPONSIBLE TO PASS ON THE  
FAITH TO THEIR CHILDREN IN AN UNBELIEVING WORLD - WE ARE TOO!!

### d. Sovereign Purpose

former Senator AL GORE, SR. beamed as his son gave  
SPEECH TO ACCEPT BILL CLINTON'S INVITATION TO BE HIS VP CANDIDATE  
saying "This is what I raised him to become"

NOT ALWAYS THE CASE WITH SALVATION - GRACE NOT INHERITANCE

## AGONY OF CHILDREN WHO MAY NOT FOLLOW YOUR FAITH COMMITMENT

John 1:12,13 to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God--children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

### SEMITIC TRADITION - FIRST-BORN HAS THE PROMINENCE

#### GOD LOVED JACOB AND HATED ESAU

The LORD said to Rebekah, "the older will serve the younger." Genesis 25:23

### GOD CHOSE THE YOUNGER BROTHER JOSEPH - STIRRED BROTHER'S ANGER

Genesis 37:8 His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said.

### JACOB CHOSE JUDAH (FIRST-BORN REUBEN DEFILED FATHER'S BED)

Genesis 49:8-12 "Judah, your brothers will praise you; your hand will be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons will bow down to you. {9} You are a lion's cub, O Judah...The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his.

### JESUS CHRIST - LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH - SCEPTER EXALTATION

### APOSTLE PETER ON PENTECOST

Acts 2:39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call."