

Spoiling Your Children? (part one of a two part series)

Have you ever been exposed to Evangelical fund raising efforts? We all have. Many are designed to meet a genuine need. One of the most unique promotions in recent years involves the fabricating of a connection between one's inheritance and the spoiling of our children. In order to avoid such a negative outcome, the authors of this rationale encourage the withholding of some of those funds designated for your family, in order to support various worthy ministries. Make no mistake, we should contribute financially to Christian ministry, especially that of our local church.

However, I decided to fact check that apparent cause and effect connection between an inheritance and its supposed adverse effect upon those who receive it. This is what I discovered in Proverbs 13:22 –

“A good man leaves an inheritance to his children’s children, and the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.”

Based on Proverbs 13:22, leaving an inheritance to your children, and even your grandchildren, is a good thing. If you haven't spoiled your children prior to the reception of their birthright, it's very likely that their character won't be ruined in the process of obtaining it. Instead, that financial benefit can and will be used by God to be a blessing in their lives.

Just remember, fund raising campaigns can be very persuasive, especially when they are able to create a false sense of guilt about something contrived by an individual, rather than derived from Holy Scripture. So be on the alert! There is only one infallible source of truth free from the taint of man-made propaganda: The Word of God. So fact check, fact check and fact check some more. It's the only way to be certain of knowing God's will for your life.

In next week's segment, we will consider a text from the New Testament which gives strong confirmation to what we have learned from Proverbs 13:22.