

Is Your Home a Place of Blessing or Cursing?
(Proverbs 3:33)

I. A house that is not governed by the standards of God will suffer the consequences.
(Proverbs 3:33)

- A. **Wicked** is defined as one who is living immorally or walking in violation of biblical standards or whose lifestyle is inconsistent with God's Standards.
- B. A **curse** is defined as a pronouncement or sentence of misfortune as a result of wickedness. It can result in being hemmed in with obstacles or being placed in a bind, or being powerless to change situations or circumstances because one is continuing to sin.
- C. When the **lifestyle** of the family is inconsistent with God's Standards for the family they may experience:
 - 1. The answer of no to prayer request (Proverbs 15:29).
 - 2. Constantly stumbling into trouble without seeing the stumbling block (Proverbs 4:19).
 - 3. Confusion and disorder manifesting in the home consistently because of the pursuit of selfish ambition in the home above seeking God's ambition for the home (James 3:13-16).
 - 4. Being trapped or enslaved to sinful habits (Proverbs 5:21-22).
 - 5. Negative consequences of unrepentant sin (Proverbs 10:24).
 - 6. Insatiable desire for more of everything with a lack of contentment with what they have (Proverbs 13:25).

II. A house that is governed by the standards of God will reap the benefits.
(Proverbs 3:33)

- A. **Righteous** is defined as one who is walking in harmony (not perfection) with biblical standards or whose lifestyle is consistent (not perfect) with God's Standard.
- B. **Blessing** is defined as a bestowal of good or benefits as a result of righteousness. It can result in having vitality, or productivity in various aspects of life, or longevity, or material benefits.
- C. When the **lifestyle** of the family is consistent with God's Standards for the family they may experience:
 - 1. The answer of yes to prayer request (Proverbs 15:29).
 - 2. The ability to see danger and run from it (Proverbs 22:3).
 - 3. Harmony and peace in the home as a result of walking by the wisdom of God instead of the wisdom of the world (James 3:13-18).
 - 4. The power to resist sin and walk in righteousness (Galatians 5:16-24).
 - 5. Stability in hard times (Proverbs 10:25).
 - 6. Confidence in the presence of God because they know they are living honorably before Him (Proverbs 28:1).
 - 7. Contentment with what they have (Proverbs 13:25).

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III. We must develop and maintain a house governed by the standards of God by:

- A. Learning, accepting, and submitting to God's standards for all aspects of life and family knowing we have been empowered by God's grace with the ability to do so (John 8:31-32, Romans 12:2, Philippians 2:12-13, 2Peter 1:1-4).
- B. Confessing and repenting of all known sin to God and to others we have sinned against (1John 1:9, James 5:16, Proverbs 28:13, 2Cor.7:10-11).
- C. Forgiving and loving others as we have been forgiven and loved by God (Ephesians 4:32, Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 18:21-35, 1Corinthians 13:4-8).