

## Generational Curses

Generational curses are repeated patterns of dysfunction, sin, trauma, or spiritual bondage—such as poverty, addiction, or fractured relationships—passed down through family lines

- 1) Are generational curses in the Bible? Yes! Did God say it? Yes!
- 2) Where does this occur? In the OT.
  - a) This is quite telling. These curses were limited to the OT. You can't find any in the New Testament.
- 3) To whom was this said?
  - a) This question prompts attention to context.

In the church, we have erected many superstitions that have, in return, sidetracked us and weakened our faith. Many believe in superstitions more than they believe and commit to the Word of God. Many have built ministries on this same ground and basis.

### Old Testament

- 1) Exodus 34:6-7 And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, 7 Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear *the guilty*; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth *generation*.
  - a) This passage is one of the primary origins of the belief in generational curses:

- i) "visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth *generation*."
  
- 2) Deuteronomy 5:8-9 8 Thou shalt not make thee *any* graven image, *or* any likeness of *any thing* that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth: 9 Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me,
  - a) People have erected tendencies of the flesh as generational curses, such as alcoholism.
  - b) This was not referring to any other thing, but rather idol worship.
  - c) Generational curses are mentioned in reference to idolatry, which was referenced.
  - d) Generation Curses to 3rd and 4th —
  - e) and hate God.
  
- 3) Ezekiel 18:1-4 The word of the LORD came unto me again, saying, 2 What mean ye, that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge? 3 *As I live, saith the Lord GOD, ye shall not have occasion* any more to use this proverb in Israel. 4 Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.
  - a) Later, during the time of the prophets, God repealed the generation curses given in the law.
    - i) It was no longer to be used in Israel because it had been used before.
    - b) Generation curses do not apply to us under the NT, above all, but according to this passage, not anymore to the children of Israel.
    - c) Running with generational curses and acting as if it is that crucial in the NT covenant is ignorance of the Word or a lack of broad understanding of the Word. It is not rightly dividing the Word of Truth.

4) Jeremiah 31:29-30 In those days they shall say no more, The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children's teeth are set on edge. 30 But every one shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge.

a) Note: Not anymore were they going to die because of their father's sin. Every man was to die for his own iniquity.

### New Testament

Generation curses are used as a scapegoat due to a lack of explanation of certain behaviors, strongholds, struggles, and attitudes that many term as spiritual, even if they are not necessarily spiritual.

Over-spiritualizing everything—especially what we have no answer for makes a problem bigger than what it really is; therefore, calling it generation curses just magnifies it.

Furthermore, spiritualizing it will position you not to make the necessary physical adjustments and changes, thinking it only calls for deliverance, praying harder, prayer chains, applying the Blood, and many more spiritual gymnastics—all without a single mention or consideration for the renewing of the mind.

It is important to mention that much of what people call generational curses is a sinful lifestyle, the influence of a bad environment, an unrenewed mind, lack of accountability, cultural issues, bad decisions, and strongholds.

Parents' actions do hurt and can affect children, and they can be picked upon by children, but there are not generation curses. We need to find the issue and deal with it.

1) Galatians 3:13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree:

a) "Generation curses" were part of the law, and Christians (those who have put faith in the Lord) are redeemed from them.

- b) We have been redeemed and freed from every curse of the law. Christ took our place and was cursed in our place so that we who have put faith in Him are not cursed.
- 2) 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 18 And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;
- a) A new creature or creation.
  - b) All things have passed away. I do not believe generational curses were NOT taken care of. They were.
  - c) Generation curses were old, and God put this away, and the Lord did the same.
  - d) A new creature or creation does not have creation curses. This means they start with a new slate—clean and perfect.

### Steps to stop or counter what appears to be Generational curses

#### 1) Renewing of the mind

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

#### 2) Change of environment

- i) Proverbs 19:27 Cease, my son, to hear the instruction *that causeth* to err from the words of knowledge.
- ii) 1 Corinthians 15:33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.
- iii) Proverbs 22:24 Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go: 25 Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul.

- iv) Proverbs 13:20 He that walketh with wise *men* shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.
  - v) Psalms 106:34-36 They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the LORD commanded them: 35 But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works. 36 And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them.
- 3) Continue in the Word
- i) John 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed; 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.
- 4) Receive forgiveness from the Lord
- i) 2 Peter 1:9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.
- 5) Reject condemnation
- i) John 8:11 She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.
- 6) Use your God-given Authority
- i) Luke 10:19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

## Christian Superstitions:

### 1) Pleading the Blood—Exodus 12:1-7, 23

- a) No such thing as pleading the blood; it is not biblical. You have been taught that way, but it is not biblically sound.
- b) In the NT, you already have the blood of Jesus shed for you and applied on your heart through faith in Jesus.

### 2) Prayer superstitions

#### a) Prayer lines and chains—

- i) The heart behind it is great, but it is not biblically sound. It is no problem for people to come together and pray or pray for each other as long as they know that it is not quantity that causes God to move.
- ii) The concept or belief that God is more bound to move when the volume of people who pray is not biblically sound. Can you find examples of this? Yes, but that doesn't mean they are biblically sound.

#### b) Praying to Mary, saints, and angels

If you are born-again (put faith in Jesus as your Lord and savior, believing He died on the Cross for your sins and rose again from the dead), **you have direct access to Jesus and the Father.** You do not need a middleman.

- i) One true mediator:
  - o **1 Timothy 2:5** For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;
  - o **John 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
- ii) Ask through and in the Name of Jesus

- John 15:16 *Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.*
- John 16:23 *And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.*

c) Vain Repetition or memorized prayer

- i) **Matthew 6:9** After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
  - Did not say use and repeat these words, and you have prayed.
  - True and genuine prayer is heartfelt and comes from the heart. It is not some kind of formula or repetition
  - Emphasis should not be on the words, vocabulary, pronunciation, but on the heart. This is also revealed in Romans 10:9-10 when one believes to be saved, emphasizing that one must **believe in their heart** that God raised Jesus from the dead.
  - Luke 17 reveals two men who went to pray—A Publican and a Pharisee.
  - One prayed from the heart with fewer words; another prayed from his head and formula with many words. His prayer was not heard.

d) Volume of words

Many religious superstitions have taught people that long prayers are “the real deal.” If you want God to hear you, pray longer. If you want things to happen, the longer you pray, the better the results and chances for the same. WRONG! This cannot be Biblically defended.

- i) Luke 6:12 And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

Because of this passage, some people are encouraged to talk to God all night long, resulting in:

- The overnight prayer sessions and all-night vigils.
- Prayer mountains: The heart and point was not a physical mountain, but was **secrecy and privacy to focus on the Lord**. So, you do not need a mountain to do this.
  - The Bible tells you to go to your closet—still not a literal closet, but to go away privately.

**Long prayers are not better than short prayers.**

From the life of Jesus, we see a distinct pattern: all of His **public prayers** were very short; it was His **private prayer life** that was longer.

e) Harm and hurt others

- i) Romans 12:14 Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

f) Using demonic occult practices – Deuteronomy 18

- i) 2 Corinthians 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.
  - Calling on the dead or spirits of the dead.
  - Praying for or to the dead
  - Being obsessed with signs

g) Using objects as a source of power

- i) Please remember that no object is the source of power—Moses' rod, anointing oil, Jesus' clothes, a shadow (such as Peter's shadow), hands (used to lay on the sick), a handkerchief (Acts 19—Paul prayed over, and people got healed who it was put on).

- ii) These are all channels God uses, but are not the source of power. The Spirit of God is the source of power.
  - iii) You do not need an object to aid your prayer. Things such as candles, dolls, mirrors, herbs, crystal stones, bones, Photos, obsession with anointing oil, and not understanding that it is not the source of power, slide one into superstition and witchcraft.
- 3) We are lifting this person to you.
- a) We all care, and we are lifting him or her to You. Can you notice her or see her?
- 4) Lord, stretch out your hand? God wrapped His hand around mankind in Jesus.