



BREAKING PERSONAL AND GENERATIONAL BONDAGES Part 1 : Sunday June 12, 2005

Some of the problems we face have a root that traces back to previous generations, where some one opened the door to a sinful lifestyle, demonic activity, etc. We must also be cautious in our life that we do not give an entrance to sin patterns or demonic influence that would affect our descendants.

Examples of problems we face that could be a generational bondage:

Sinful behaviour patterns/lifestyles – lying, cheating, anger, violence, gambling, alcoholism, drug dependence, workaholic, adultery, immorality, destructive personality, abuse, suicide, etc.

Life problems – recurring sickness, divorce, financial bankruptcy, repeated failure in business, failures, depression, mental/emotional breakdown, irrational fear, insecurity, poor self-image, rejection, poverty, eating disorders, children being born out of wedlock, physical or emotional dysfunction, barrenness, miscarriages, recurring accidents, recurring unnatural or untimely deaths, etc.

This is not a cure all

Understanding and breaking generational bondages is NOT something that will solve all of life's problems. So please don't treat this as the only thing there is to know and live by! Not all problems are caused due to generational bondages.

There are other factors also involved

While certain sinful behaviour patterns are passed from one generation to another there can be several other factors involved. In addition to spiritual reasons, there could other personal, genetic, environmental, etc. factors also involved.

Why we need to know and apply this truth

However, we need to understand and apply this truth, so that in the event that this is the root cause, we will know how to deal with things and find a permanent solution. We need to apply this (a)for our own selves, and (b) in ministering to others.

Ephesians 6:12

There is a spiritual conflict involved. Hence, some of the problems we face have a spiritual root cause.

Ephesians 4:27

It is important for us to understand how the devil gains access into our lives bringing bondage in certain areas. Then we will know how to resist the devil successfully. If we don't identify the correct root of the problem, it will be like shadow fighting – fighting with the shadow instead of the real person.

Terms and Terminology

In most of Christendom the term family or generational "curse" is used. We are using the term "bondage" instead of "curse", simply because we personally feel that the term "bondage" more correctly describes the nature of the problem.

What is a generational bondage?

Exodus 20:3-6 (also repeated in Exodus 34:7 Numbers 14:18 Deuteronomy 5:9 Jeremiah 32:18)

God forbids the making of any idol or image for worship and tells us not to bow before such. What's wrong with bowing before an idol/image?

1 Corinthians 10:19-22

According to the Scriptures, the worship of idols/images essentially leads one into fellowship with demons and gives demonic powers an entrance into ones life.



(A word of caution – Proverbs 16:21. Speak the truth with love and meekness)

Deuteronomy 7:25,26

Bringing in an accursed thing into ones home, causes one to be held in bondage by the powers associated with it.

Psalm 115:8

When we bow down and serve an idol, the spirit that operates through that idol gains a foothold (an area of influence) in our lives and holds us in bondage, making us bow to it again and again. Then this passes on from us to our children and to their descendants, on down through our family tree, making them to bow to it.

This iniquity that is passed on down from generation to generation is what we refer to as family bondage.

The iniquity to which you have opened the door to in your life, which is affecting you today and which potentially will pass on to your succeeding generations we refer to as personal bondage.

We know that covetousness is also a form of idolatry. Colossians 3:5 Ephesians 5:5

An idol is anything that takes God's place in our lives.

The other side of the coin – generational blessing

Genesis 17:7

A covenant made with the true and living God brought generational blessing.

Isaiah 59:21

We can be the initiators and propagators of either generational blessings or generational bondages.

Iniquity and sin

Exodus 34:9

Pardon our iniquity and our sin

Iniquity Hebrew '*avon*' = perversity. Iniquity has to do with the nature, something within us.

Sin Hebrew '*khatawaw*' = offence. Sin is the act of doing wrong. It is the deed done that misses the mark or violates God's command.

Iniquity – passed on down through generations:

Lamentations 5:7

Psalm 51:5

Is God being just in allowing this?

The spiritual truth about generational bondages, most often causes us to reason that this cannot be. It does not fit into our logical reasoning mind. We reason that this is not right.

However, we must come to terms with spiritual realities. Most often spiritual realities do not abide within the framework of our rational reasoning mind.

Jeremiah 32:17,18



Deuteronomy 24:16

The fathers will not be put to death for their children. Each one will be put to death for their own sin (Hebrew 'khate' = crime).

Ezekiel 18:1-4,20

God is a just God.

Understand the difference between the penalty as meted out by the judicial system and the consequence as in the repercussions of a wrong deed.

The penalty for sin will be borne by the individual who sinned.

The consequence of that sin could impact more lives than that of the person who sinned.

Curses have a cause

Proverbs 26:2

What opens doors to iniquity creating family bondages?

1. Worship of idols/false gods
2. Sacrifices / dedications
3. Vows

A vow is solemn promise by which a person binds himself to an act, service or condition.

Vows that are negative, sinful, directly or indirectly made to demons open the door to demonic activity and bondage.

"If you give me this, I will serve you" (in worship to idols)

4. Sinful deeds

The example of David

2 Samuel 12:9-13

The "sword" refers to destruction, violence and death. The sons of David: Amnon raped his own sister. Absalom led a rebellion against his own father.

An act has its consequence – sometimes more lasting than we imagine. For example, the act of willful abortion could open the door to an iniquity of destruction – where things start being destroyed.

Un-confessed sin remains an open door of entrance to demonic activity.

Genesis 4:7

Other examples: Eli and his sons (1 Samuel 2)

5. Traumatic events / experiences

Loss of a loved one, abuse, witnessing such events, etc. could open the door
Negative reactions to emotional wounds

6. Curses / Witchcraft

- Self inflicted curses : Cursing your own body – your looks, organs, emotions, etc.

Examples:

"I will not be like my father or mother"



"I never want children"
"My children are so terrible"
"I will never allow myself to enjoy sex" (abuse victims)
"I hate men (or women)"
"I will never let another man (woman) to get close to me again" (after a broken relationship)

- Curses taken on by previous generations : Matthew 27:25
- Spells / Witchcraft done on individuals / family members

7. Presence of a family heritage (object) that is an abomination (Deuteronomy 7:25,26)

8. The decisions of heads of families (fathers)

Ancestral bondages due to involvement in the occult, in certain religious (or other) organizations.
e.g. astrology, palm reading, horoscopes, hypnosis, Freemasonry, wearing of amulets, birthstones, charms, etc.

Recognizing Personal & Family Bondages

John 10:10

God wants us to have an abundant life – life to the max. It is the devil who steals, kills and destroys.

Look into your own life, your own family. Are there signs of a generational bondage? Perform a spiritual inventory of your life and ancestral tree.

The Cause And Effect may not always be directly related

For example lets say that there is a generational bondage of uncontrollable anger in a particular family. A young man in this family gets married and continues this kind of behaviour, resulting in the breaking up of his marriage, ending in divorce. The cause here is a generational bondage of unnatural anger, the effect here is the breaking up of a marriage.

We can be set free!

John 8:32,36