

SERMON: GROWN FOLKS' BABY TALK

Judges 13:8; Judges 13:11-12.

(8) Then Manoah intreated the Lord, and said, O my Lord, let the man of God which thou didst send come again unto us, and teach us what we shall do unto the child that shall be born.

(11) And Manoah arose, and went after his wife, and came to the man and said unto him, Art thou the man that spakest unto the woman? And he said, I am. (12) And Manoah said, Now let thy words come to pass. How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him.

Introduction

Manoah and his wife were true believers in the Lord God and walked righteously before Him each day. Yet, their hearts were broken because they had no children. To die childless in that culture was a tragedy because the Israelites considered children to be a very special blessing from God. If a couple were barren they felt they were not pleasing God – after all, God did say be fruitful and multiply. Being barren, in their thinking, was evidence that they had displeased God and was not favored by Him.

The Lord stepped in and met their need. The angel of the Lord appeared and promised that Manoah's wife would miraculously bear a son and he would be a Nazarite for life. The word Nazarite means to be set apart, dedicated, or consecrated. Any person who sensed a deep need to draw closer to God could take the Nazarite vow. It was usually temporary and at the conclusion, the person would resume normal life with greater spirituality. The Nazarites had to commit to abstain from all intoxicating drinks and unclean food, nor cut their hair, nor ever go near a dead body-not even of a family member.

This special child the angel promised was Sampson. We all know about Sampson, the strong man. Note that Sampson did not choose to be a Nazarite; God chose him. Sampson was not to be temporarily dedicated to God; his entire life was to be dedicated to God. He was to be the great deliverer of Israel from the Philistines.

Manoah felt overwhelmed and very anxious about rearing such a special child. He wanted to "raise him right." He felt so uneasy that he went before the Lord, in prayer, seeking for the messenger to return and give additional instructions about how to bring up the boy. God heard the prayer of this precious believer and sent the angel back to Manoah and his wife. The angel simply confirmed and reiterated the instructions already given. They engaged in grown folks' baby talk- in other words they had a serious

conversation about how best to rear the baby. The presence of Jared and Larrisa Speaks to dedicate little Jacob proves that they have had some grown folks' baby talks. I am sure they will have many more. Now, let's look at the Scripture and extract some valuable thoughts.

Exposition

1. Parenthood Is Serious Business.

(A Baby Changes Everything.)

2. If You Are Supposed To Be In The Loop, Put Yourself In The Loop.

(Manoah Put Himself In The Loop.)

3. Godly Parents Are Concerned About Their Children's Interest- Even When It Does Not Seem Like It To The Children.

4. It Takes A Whole Village, But The Parents Are The Most Important People In That Village.

(What Kind Of Village Have We Established? Is
Education A Priority? Is It Christ-Centered?)

5. The Internet And Social Media Are Now Parts of the Village.

(We Must Use Technology In A Beneficial Way.)
(The Net Does Not Forget.)

6. If You Must Make Your Mother And Father Cry, Make Them Shed Tears Of Joy! Give Them Bragging Rights!

Closing Thoughts

This narrative stresses three important principles: the importance of our children, the necessity of the proper rearing of our children, and the effectiveness of sincere prayer. We can never stress them enough!
Give God Glory! Give God All The Glory!

Related Scriptures

Judges 13:1-25

Numbers 6:1-27

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