SUBJECT OF CONTRACT OF Christian Families

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INTRODUCING THE EVERYDAY NEWS NETWORK

Real-Life Stories of the Christian Family Told by the Boys and Girls of America www.visionforum.com/enn Getting the Big Picture for Entrepreneurship and the Christian Family

at. Call

with Doug Phillips

"But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God, for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers as it is this day."

Deuteronomy 8:18

The Parable of the Talents

Matthew 25:14-18

Faithful Entrepreneurship as a Picture of Spiritual Investment and Fruitfulness



MATTH.XXV. Foenora qui referunt, herus his nova munera donat; Qui tulit effosfas e ferobe, perdit opes. Gratia fubtrahitur, quam non inpendis in ulum. Perdere apud jultum eft,non meruisfe, Deum.

Der Herr schenkt denen neu, die Ihm den mucher bringen, Fährt den, ders Gut vergrub, als einen Prasser, an Die Gnade fällt, wann wir Sie nicht stets höher schwingen: Wer nicht bei Gott gewint, Der hat sein Gut verthan.

Biblical Entrepreneurship

The Moral Obligation To Be Economically Creative and Productive.

Harvard Business School Definition of Entrepreneurship

"Creating value through the utilization and control of resources that you do not own."

An Application of Biblical Entrepreneurship

The calling of men to live fruitful, productive, creative, problem-solving, dominion-oriented, kingdom-advancing, Lordship-loving lives, as fathers, reformers, leaders, servants, masters and visionaries.

...is not that everyone has to start or lead an independent business, but that all Christians---servants and masters, children and parents---should be entrepreneurially oriented as to their management, investment and creative use of assets and resources.

The scope and flexability of the Christian's entrepreneurial vision may be conditioned by a host of factors including the season of his life, the generational heritage bequethed to him, the consequences of sin in his life, and the specific providences of God in his life...but all Christians must desire three critical elements of the Biblical entrepreneurial vision....

1. Obedience to God's commands as the definition of success

2. Fruitfulness as the reward of God and the consequences of obedience

3. The advance of the kingdom of God as the practical objective of entrepreneurship

The need of the hour is the restoration of the vision of the Christian family. This vision will remain immature until the family is rescued from its current status as a flophouse of individualism, sloth and consumption, and reformed by restoring the spiritual and economic interdependencies detailed in Scripture.

A Theology of Entrepreneurship

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The Dominion Mandate

Genesis 1:26-28; 8:17; 9:1; 9:7

"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Genesis 1:28

"Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hand, thou hast put all things under his feet."

Psalm 8:6

The Biblical Doctrine of Work

The Doctrine of Entrepreneurship and the Protestant Reformation



1. Help individual families advance a God-blessed vision of victory which includes unity, freedom in Christ, and multi-generational faithfulness;

2. Spark innovation and entrepreneurial activity in the Christian community such that believers would be mighty in the land;

3. Encourage the growth of Christian business leaders who are in the position to set their own policies and represent Christ in the business community without the encumbrances of ungodly business institutions;

4. Inspire Christians to think in terms of creative but wise solutions for applying biblical principles of family life and entrepreneurship to practical problems in the twenty-first century work environment.

"Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations; And repayeth them that hate him to their face, to destroy them: he will not be slack to him that hateth him, he will repay him to his face. Thou shalt therefore keep the commandments, and the statutes, and the judgments, which I command thee this day, to do them."

Deuteronomy 7:9-11

6 Economic Errors That Impoverish Christians

Experiments in Asceticism Monastacism Vows of Poverty Gnostic Dualism Social Gospel and Liberation Theologians

Poverty as Virtue

The belief that wealth is inescapably the result of compromise, that it is necessarily a deterrent to righteousness, and that poverty is a sign of spirituality.

Anabaptist Theology Liberation Theology Segments of Evangelicalism

Disenfranchisement as Desirable

The belief that it is preferable or mandatory for Christians to be persecuted and disenfranchised from civil and cultural leadership within society.

Segments within Pentecostalism Segments of Mainstream Evangelicalism

The "Get Me Outta Here" Gospel

An anti-dominion, anti-stewardship philosophy that implicitly rejects Christ's lordship over culture, civil government and nations. This view posits that there is little left to do on earth except share the Gospel and wait for the Second Coming.

Segments within Charismatic Word of Faith Movement "Positive Confession" Segments of Mainstream Evangelicalism

Prosperity as Gospel

The belief that health and prosperity are promised to believers and are available through faith; The formulaic and mystical expectation that specific faith actions will result in specific financial rewards.

Segments within Charismatic Word of Faith Movement "Positive Confession" Segments of Mainstream Evangelicalism

Material Success as Prime Objective

The belief or attitude that business success and financial blessing are the primary or ultimate objectives of entrepreneurship.

The Sociology of The Postmodern Work and Family Ethic as Normative The assumption that popular 21st Century educational, social and business lifestyles are historically normative and theologically neutral.

Assumptions of the Postmodern Family

Children are an economic burden.

Delegation of children to others is the rule.

Sex distinctions are irrelevant or non-existent.

Daughters should be trained for singleness.

Family fragmentation is desirable.

Assumptions of the Postmodern Family

Wives spend the bulk of their day with a mission independent of their husbands, or serving men other than their husbands.

Men define themselves as breadwinners.

There is nothing problematic with married men looking to attractive unmarried single girls as their primary day-time helpmeets.

Successful men only see children on weekends.

Assumptions of the Postmodern Family Personal comfort is an important objective. Debt is a normal vehicle for meeting needs. The State should care for the elderly. Grandparents have little practical to offer. Rebellious children should be subsidized. Financial security is the objective in selecting jobs.

Facts of Postmodern America:

Fragmentation and Hyper-Individualism as Effective Vehicles for Rendering the Family and the Church Impotent in Society

Rediscovering the Forgotten Virtues of Christian Family Entrepreneurship

Forgotten Virtue #1

Wealth as a God-ordained vehicle for perpetuating generational faithfulness. "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God, for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers as it is this day."

Deuteronomy 8:18

The Generational Nature of the Kingdom Work of the Body of Christ

The basis of this familial and cultural improvement and growth over time is inheritance. Today's generation of Christians is heir to all the accumulated legacies of past generations. There is succession in history.

The entrepreneurial Christian household as the most viable, sustainable and economically efficient force within society.

The Seven-Fold Mission of the Christian Home

Fruitfulness as a barometer of blessing.

Family entrepreneurship as a vehicle for education, discipleship and generational faithfulness.

Extended family, abundant children and sex-specific division of labor as a model of economic efficiency. "Approximately 65% of the wives in America work at least a 40 hour job outside the home. Their average takehome pay is \$740 per month. After child care, transportation, work-related clothing and eating out, they net approximately \$370. In net wages, they work for approximately \$2.30 an hour."

How To Manage Your Money, Larry Burkett, May 15, 1988 (Issue 126)

Inheritance and sanctions as a means of covenant enforcement. "House and riches are the inheritance of fathers and a prudent wife is from the Lord."

Proverbs 19:14

The tithe (the material first-fruits of blessed entrepreneurship) as a kingdom advancing vehicle for dominion.

"With the Reformation, the most notable developments took place within Puritanism. Thomas Lever, in sermons preached in 1550, saw as sacrilege the confiscation by Henry VIII of church properties. That which belongs to the Lord is the Lord's, not man's. His preaching called for and prompted restitution. The result was the beginnings of Puritan tithing and giving, the greatest outpouring of Christian financing in history. We are still living on the remnants of that impetus. W.K. Jordan has written on some of the early aspects of that Puritan giving. In one area of life after another, it provided social financing..."

The United States witnessed an equally great movement, a continuation of the Puritan one. Alexis de Tocqueville, in Democracy in America (1835), saw "private associations" as the essential and basic government of the United States. Most private associations were Christian tithe agencies. Christians created a tithe agency to minister to every kind of need: to preach the gospel to people in foreign lands, to immigrants landing in the U.S., to seamen at American ports, and so on. Immigrants were given job training job training, their wives taught home-making ... "

R. J. Rushdoony, *Tithing and Dominion*, pg. 26 Ross House Books 1979

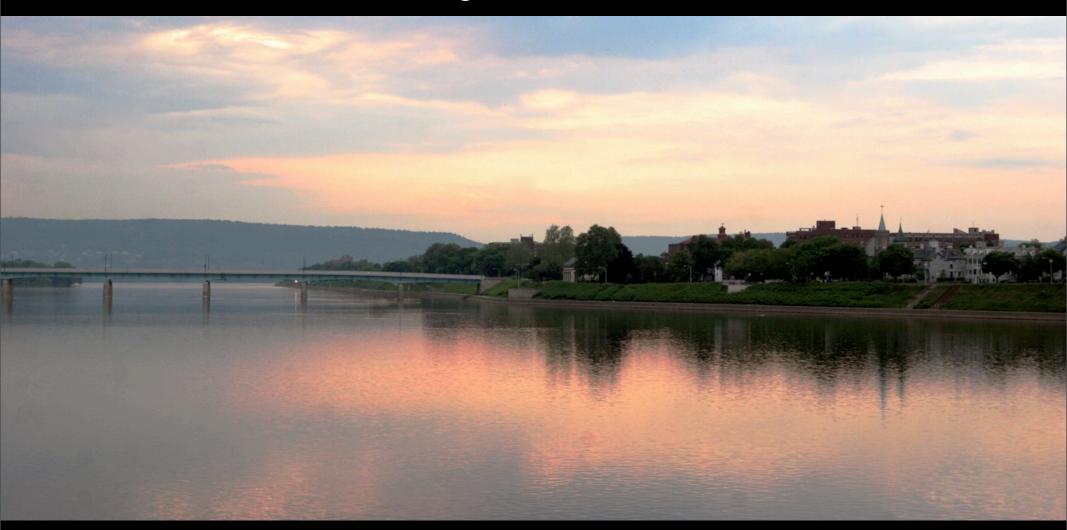
The Parable of the Prodigal

Luke:15:11-32

Mercy for Repentant Sons Who Have Wasted Their "Inter Vivo" Inheritance



The Big Picture Vision



The character of the entrepreneur.



A Generational Vision for Family and Culture

I must study war that my sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy. My sons must study mathematics and philosophy, geography, natural history, naval architecture, navigation, commerce and agriculture in order to give their children a right to study paintings, poetry, music, architecture, statuary, tapestry and porcelain.

– John Adams, Patriarch

The Blessed Man's Entrepreneurial Vision for Christianity and Culture



"Blessed is every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee..."

"Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table. Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the LORD. The LORD shall bless thee out of Zion: and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life. Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children, and peace upon Israel."

Amen.