

DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY

Every generation of believers have an opportunity to engage the Angelic Conflict in something that needs to be addressed in the plan of God, something that should be obvious to the spiritually mature believer

- Adam and Eve had this opportunity in the Garden of Eden (Gen.2-3) with the warfare over life and death (Gen.2:17).
- Noah and his family had this opportunity in the Ante-Diluvian civilization (Gen.6-9) over the warfare of messianic lineage (Jude 4-6; 2 Pet.2:4-5; Gen.3:15).

I believe that our children are at risk, even in homes of those who consider themselves to be religious.

- Single parent families have doubled since 1970 and are increasing.
- 70% of remarriages are struggling with step-parenting.
- 3 million children were reported abused, but of those cases we only had 906,000 convictions.
- Every 6 hours a child dies from abuse.
- 18% of monthly emergency treatment is related to child abuse.
- 74% of skull fractures and brain damage is attributed to child abuse.

“America has a higher level of internal violence than perhaps any other advanced industrial nation in the world.” (Family Today, vol.2, article 43)

- “Parents account for 80% of child abuse.” (Child Abuse and Neglect)

Ask yourself, “Is this an 'Angelic Conflict' assault upon the American family?”

One segment of the community that understands the epidemic level of this problem is the local school. They work with the walking wounded children and parents of our communities.

In our lesson text, we see an “Angelic Conflict” assault upon the patriarch family (Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob).

Let's take a look at the **family of Isaac**. I am using Isaac because I think the spiritual family as well as the institutional family is under attack by the Angelic Conflict.

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| <p>This lesson will study the Dysfunctional Family of Isaac and The satanic attack against Divine Institution #3, Family</p> |
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1. The story of Isaac and Rebekah is one of the great love stories of the Bible (Gen.24-25).

Yet I am using them as an example of becoming **victims** in the AC rather than **victors** (1 John 5:4).

Sometimes people are good lovers and partners in marriage, but terrible parents. They are terrible at parenting because they hold different views on parenting and are unwilling to change or compromise into a single plan. Isaac was 40 when he married and was spiritually prepared for marriage. He was 60 when Rebekah had twins, after 20 years of barrenness. They didn't prepare spiritually for parenting and they didn't have good parental role models in Abraham and Sarah. Sometimes expecting parents are either unaware or unwilling to have a single game plan for parenting. **Christian's have a parenting guide in the word of God.** [DSBC offers a starter guide to parenting (www.doctrinalstudies.com) [Parenting Book].

The dysfunctional faults of these parents actually complemented each other because of their marital bond. However, it created an unhealthy environment for the children.

2. **Since this family didn't operate from the Word of God regarding parenting, what did they use as a guide to parenting? Apparently they used dysfunctional families or friends concepts of parenting.**

Since it worked against the Word and Plan of God, it had to come from cosmos diabolicus or worldly thinking (2 Tim.2:26; 2 Cor.2:11; Rom.12:21). Therefore Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD) thinking became their norm and standard for parenting (Rom.12:2). The end result of this "thinking" is stated in Gen.27:28 – "Isaac loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob."

Isaac held the position of spiritual leader, but fail in his responsibility to stand for God and His righteousness (Heb.11:20). We have two believers functioning by OMCD working against each other and the plan of God.

3. **This family will remain dysfunctional for the next 40 years because the believers were unwilling to address it as a problem. While they regularly prayed and studied the Bible as a family, they never addressed the real problem which was destroying them.**

This patriarch family was the custodian of the Word of God and Evangelism. Yet during the first 40 years of family life, this family grew apart and became dysfunctional rather than together as a unit (2 Cor.13:11).

Psychologists have labeled six roles children assume within dysfunctional families that they tend to carry into adulthood:

- Enabler
- Hero
- Scapegoat
- Lost child
- Mascot
- Little man or Princess.

4. **This family will experience a terrible split which will last for another 80 years (Gen.25:26; 26:34; 35:27-28 Gen.27:41-46).**

Esau despised his birthright and desired to kill his brother and married to spite the parents (Gen.25:34b; 26:34-35; 27:41). **Jacob** flees from the family in fear (Gen.27:42-43). **Rebekah** is fearful and panic struck with the threat of losing both sons without acknowledging any fault (Gen.27:42-45). **Isaac**, the patriarch, swept it under the rug rather than to do the righteous thing.

Chronic Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus [worldly thinking] parenting will continue as a sub-culture of dysfunction until a spiritually mature believer breaks the cycle by New Man Divine Viewpoint (NMVD) thinking (Joseph).

This church, DSBC ministers to the subculture of children at risk through our children's church, summer camps, community detention and rehab centers, battered woman and abused children, jails, ladies bible studies and conferences, marriage conferences, radio, and church web. **WE MUST BECOME INVOLVED!**

Today the American family is both the most loving and supportive institution and also the most physically abusive and violent institution - except for police and warfare.

NOTE: "60% of children fatalities occur under the age of seven." This is not a statistic we should be content with in our culture. This is more than abuse. It is criminal!