

## What Is Happening to Our Families?

Events arise in our lives that give us cause for alarm. Not only do they cause us to be fearful for our children in what they see, what they think and what they will do with their lives, but they also place a fear in our own hearts. What is to become of us in the years to come? We see many that have extreme trials in their families: bitterness, anger, strife, arguing and a myriad of nouns and adjectives that can be used to describe the hurt, pain and turmoil that goes on behind closed doors. How many are exempt from the effects of our society? How many families have not been affected by the hammer of Satan's stokes against the home? We've seen our fathers, mothers, our children, and even our own selves struggling and wondering why "Christianity" does not seem to be working. We open the book, we read the words, we understand that "God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good" (Gen. 1:31). What happened!

What happened was sin!

Throughout the centuries, families have been fighting what appears to be a losing battle and what appears is indeed not an illusion, but reality. We have a divine standard of what life should consist, but we are also warned that a powerful entity will do everything in his power to destroy life. All that mankind wants is to be happy. In this regard, the scriptures tell us how this is accomplished. But, before listening, ask yourself the question, "Will I follow the divine plan?"

In Job 5:17, Eliphaz said, "Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: Therefore, despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty." Was Eliphaz correct? In Proverbs 3:11, Solomon indicates Eliphaz was correct, as did the Hebrew prophet, when he said, "All chastening seemeth for the present to be not joyous but grievous; yet afterward it yieldeth peaceable fruit unto them that have been exercised thereby..." (12:4ff).

Psalms 144:15 – David revealed, "happy is the people whose God is Jehovah." Again, "Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, Whose hope is in Jehovah his God" (146:5).

Solomon appealed to happiness more than them all, saying:

Prov. 3:13, 18 - "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, And the man that getteth understanding...She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: And happy is every one that retaineth her."

Prov. 14:21 – "He that despiseth his neighbor sinneth; But he that hath pity on the poor, happy is he."

Prov. 16:20 – “He that giveth heed unto the word shall find good; And whoso trusteth in Jehovah, happy is he.”

So, if you ask the question, “Why doesn’t ‘Christianity’ seem to be working?” ...Hmm, maybe it’s because you are not working it. ret