

Texts for Scriptural Reasoning Children

The Scriptural Reasoning Society

The Bee (Quran 16) 57-59

وَيَجْعَلُونَ لِلَّهِ الْبَنَاتِ سُبْحَانَهُ وَلَهُمْ مَا يَشْتَهُونَ ٥٧

وَإِذَا بُشِّرَ أَحَدُهُمْ بِالْأُنثَىٰ ظَلَّ وَجْهُهُ مُسْوَدًّا وَهُوَ كَظِيمٌ ٥٨

يَتَوَارَىٰ مِنَ الْقَوْمِ مِنْ سُوءِ مَا بُشِّرَ بِهِ أَيُمْسِكُهُ عَلَىٰ هُونٍ أَمْ يَدُسُّهُ فِي التُّرَابِ أَلَا سَاءَ مَا يَحْكُمُونَ

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57 And they assign unto God daughters - Be He Glorified! - and unto themselves what they desire;

58 When if one of them receiveth tidings of the birth of a female, his face remaineth darkened, and he is wroth inwardly.

59 He hideth himself from the folk because of the evil of that whereof he hath had tidings, (asking himself): Shall he keep it in contempt, or bury it beneath the dust. Verily evil is their judgment.

The Night Journey (Quran 17) 31

وَلَا تَقْتُلُوا أَوْلَادَكُمْ خَشْيَةَ إِمْلَاقٍ نَحْنُ نَرْزُقُهُمْ وَإِيَّاكُمْ إِنَّ قَتْلَهُمْ كَانَ خِطْءًا كَبِيرًا

Slay not your children, fearing a fall to poverty, We shall provide for them and for you. Lo! the slaying of them is great sin.

The Overthrowing (Quran 81) 8-9

وَإِذَا الْمَوْؤُودَةُ سُئِلَتْ ٨

بِأَيِّ ذَنْبٍ قُتِلَتْ ٩

8 And when the girl-child that was buried alive is asked

9 For what sin she was slain,

The Hypocrites (Quran 63) 9

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تُلْهِكُمْ أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُكُمْ عَنْ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَمَنْ يَفْعَلْ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ
الْخَاسِرُونَ

O ye who believe! Let not your wealth nor your children distract you from remembrance of God. Those who do so, they are the losers.

Sahih Muslim 4763

أن عائشة زوج النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قالت
جاءتني امرأة ومعها ابنتان لها فسألتنى فلم تجد عندي شيئا غير ثمرة واحدة فأعطيتها إياها فأخذتها
فقسمتها بين ابنتيها ولم تأكل منها شيئا ثم قامت فخرجت وابتناها فدخل علي النبي صلى الله
عليه وسلم فحدثته حديثها فقال النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم من ابتلي من البنات بشيء فأحسن
إليهن كن له سترا من النار

‘A’ishah, the wife of God's Messenger, may God be pleased with her, said:

A woman came to me along with her two daughters. She asked me for (charity) but she found nothing with me except one date, so I gave it to her. She accepted it and then divided it between her two daughters and she ate nothing of that. She then got up and went out, and so did her two daughters. When God's Messenger (may peace be upon him) came I narrated to him her story. Thereupon he (may peace be upon him) said: “Whoever is destined with the responsibility of (bringing up) daughters, and he accords benevolent treatment towards them, they would be protection for him against Hell-Fire”.

Sahih Muslim 4947

عن عمر بن الخطاب أنه قال
قدم على رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم بسبي فإذا امرأة من السبي تبتغي إذا وجدت صبيا في
السبي أخذته فألصقته ببطنها وأرضعته فقال لنا رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم أترون هذه المرأة
طارحة ولدها في النار قلنا لا والله وهي تقدر على أن لا تطرحه فقال رسول الله صلى الله عليه
وسلم لله أرحم بعباده من هذه بولدها

‘Umar bin al-Khattab, may God be pleased with him, reported:

There were brought some prisoners to God's Messenger (may peace be upon him) among whom there was also a woman, who was searching (for someone) and when she found a child among the prisoners, she took hold of it, pressed it against her chest and provided it suck. Thereupon God's Messenger (may peace be upon him) said: “Do you think this woman would ever afford to throw her child in the Fire?” We said: “By God, so far as it lies in her power, she would never throw the child in Fire”. Thereupon God's Messenger (may peace be upon him) said: “God is more kind to His servants than this woman is to her child”.

Sahih Muslim 4282

عن أبي هريرة

أن الأقرع بن حابس أبصر النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم يقبل الحسن فقال إن لي عشرة من الولد ما قبلت واحدا منهم فقال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم إنه من لا يرحم لا يرحم

Abu Hurairah, may God be pleased with him, reported:

Al-Aqra' bin Habis saw God's Messenger (may peace be upon him) kissing Al-Hasan. He said: I have ten children, but I have never kissed any one of them, whereupon God's Messenger (may peace be upon him) said: “He who does not show mercy (towards his children), no mercy would be shown to him”.

Sahih Muslim 3245

عن أبي هريرة

عن النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قال بينما امرأتان معهما ابناهما جاء الذئب فذهب بابن إحداهما فقالت هذه لصاحبتها إنما ذهب بابنك أنت وقالت الأخرى إنما ذهب بابنك فتحاكما إلى داود فقضى به للكبرى فخرجتا على سليمان بن داود عليهما السلام فأخبرته فقال ائتوني بالسكين أشقه بينكما فقالت الصغرى لا يرحمك الله هو ابنها فقضى به للصغرى

Abu Hurairah, may God be pleased with him, reported:

God's Messenger (may peace be upon him) said: “While two women had been going along with their two sons, a wolf came and made away with the child of one of them. One of the two women said to the other: ‘It is with your child that it (the wolf) has run away’. The other one said: ‘It has run away with your child’. They brought the matter to Prophet David for decision and he made a decision in favour of the elder one. They then went to Prophet

Solomon son of David (may peace be upon both of them) and told him (the story). He said: 'Bring me a knife so that I may cut him (the child) (into two parts) for you'. The younger one said: 'No, it cannot be, may God have mercy upon you, he (the child) belongs to her (the elder)'. So he gave a decision in favour of the younger one".

Hebrew Bible Texts on Children

The Blessing of Children

Genesis 1:27-28

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. 28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, “**Be fruitful and multiply** and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Genesis 4:1

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, “**I have gotten a man with the Lord.**”

Psalm 127

1 Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain. ... 3 Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. 5 Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! They shall not be put to shame when they speak with enemies in the gate.

Psalm 128

1 A Song of Ascents. Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways! 2 You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you. 3 Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. 4 Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord. 5 The Lord bless you from Zion! May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life! 6 May you see your children's children! Peace be upon Israel!

Genesis 48:8-20

8 When Israel saw Joseph's sons, he said, “Who are these?” 9 Joseph said to his father, “They are my sons, whom God has given me here.” And he said, “Bring them to me, please, that I may bless them.” 10 Now the eyes of Israel were dim with age, so that he could not see. So Joseph brought them near him, and he kissed them and embraced them. 11 And Israel said to Joseph, “I never expected to see your face; and behold, God has let me see your offspring also.” ... 20 So he blessed them that day, saying, “By you Israel will pronounce blessings, saying, ‘God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh.’” Thus he put Ephraim before Manasseh.

כֹּז וַיִּבְרָא אֱלֹהִים | אֶת־הָאָדָם בְּצַלְמוֹ בְּצַלְמֵ
אֱלֹהִים בָּרָא אֹתוֹ זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה בָּרָא אֹתָם:
כַּח וַיְבָרֶךְ אֹתָם אֱלֹהִים וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם אֱלֹהִים פְּרוּ
וּרְבוּ וּמְלֵאוּ אֶת־הָאָרֶץ וּכְבֹשׁוּהָ וּרְדוּ בַדְגַת הַיָּם
וּבְעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם וּבְכָל־חַיָּה הַרְמֵשֶׁת עַל־הָאָרֶץ:

וְהָאָדָם יָדַע אֶת־חַוְוָה אִשְׁתּוֹ וַתַּהַר וַתֵּלֶד אֶת־קַיִן
וַתֹּאמֶר קָנִיתִי אִישׁ אֶת־יְהוָה:

א שִׁיר הַמַּעֲלוֹת לְשִׁלְמָה אִם־יְהוָה | לֹא־יִבְנֶה
בֵּית שׁוּא | עֲמְלוֹ בּוֹנִיו בּוֹ ... ג הִנֵּה נִחַלְתָּ יְהוָה
בָּנִים שְׂכָר פְּרֵי הַבֶּטֶן: ד כְּחֲצִים בִּיד־גִּבּוֹר כִּין
בְּנֵי הַנְּעוּרִים: ה אֲשֶׁרִי הַגִּבֹּר אֲשֶׁר מְלֵא
אֶת־אֲשַׁפְתּוֹ מֵהֶם לֹא יִבְשׁוּ כִי־יִדְבְּרוּ
אֶת־אוֹיְבֵים בְּשַׁעַר:

א שִׁיר הַמַּעֲלוֹת אֲשֶׁרִי כָל־יִרְא יְהוָה הֵהָלֶךְ
בְּדַרְכָּיו: ב יִגִּיעַ כַּפְּיךָ כִּי תֹאכַל אֲשֶׁרִיךָ וְטוֹב לְךָ:
ג אֲשַׁתְּךָ | כְּגַפֵּן פְּרִיָּה בִירְכַתִּי בֵיתְךָ בְּנֵיךָ
כְּשִׁתְּלֵי זֵיתִים סָכִיב לְשִׁלְחַנְךָ: ד הִנֵּה כִי־כֹן
יִבְרַךְ גִּבֹּר יִרְא יְהוָה: ה יִבְרַכְךָ יְהוָה מִצִּיּוֹן וּרְאֵה
בְּטוֹב יְרוּשָׁלַם כָּל יְמֵי חַיֶּיךָ: ו וּרְאֵה־בָנִים לְבָנֶיךָ
שְׁלוֹם עַל־יִשְׂרָאֵל:

ח וַיִּרְא יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶת־בְּנֵי יוֹסֵף וַיֹּסֶף וַיֹּאמֶר מִי־אֵלֶּה:
ט וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹסֵף אֶל־אָבִיו בְּנֵי הֵם אֲשֶׁר־נָתַן־לִי
אֱלֹהִים בְּזֶה וַיֹּאמֶר קַח־סֵנָא אֵלַי וְאַבְרַכְכֶם: י וְעֵינַי
יִשְׂרָאֵל כָּבְדוּ מְדֻקָּן לֹא יוּכַל לְרְאוֹת וַיִּגַּשׁ אֹתָם
אֵלָיו וַיִּשַׁק לָהֶם וַיַּחַבֵּק לָהֶם: יא וַיֹּאמֶר יִשְׂרָאֵל
אֶל־יוֹסֵף רְאֵה פָנֶיךָ לֹא פָלַלְתִּי וְהִנֵּה הִרְאָה אֹתִי
אֱלֹהִים גַּם אֶת־זְרַעְךָ: ... כ וַיְבָרְכֶם בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא
לְאִמּוֹר בְּךָ יִבְרַךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר יִשְׁמַךְ אֱלֹהִים
כְּאֶפְרַיִם וְכַמְנַשֶּׁה וַיִּשֶׂם אֶת־אֶפְרַיִם לְפָנֵי מְנַשֶּׁה:

The Sacrifice of Children

Genesis 22:1-3, 10-12

1 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." 2 He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." 3 So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ...

10 Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. 11 But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." 12 He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

II Kings 16:3 (King Ahaz of Judah, 8th century BCE)

But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel. He even made his son pass through the fire, according to the despicable practices of the nations whom the Lord drove out before the people of Israel.

II Kings 21:6 (King Manasseh of Judah, 7th century BCE)

And he made his son pass through the fire and used fortune-telling and omens and dealt with mediums and with necromancers. He did much evil in the sight of the Lord, provoking him to anger.

II Kings 23:10 (King Josiah of Judah, 7th century BCE, grandson of Manasseh)

And he defiled Topheth, which is in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, that no one might burn his son or his daughter as an offering to Molech.

Leviticus 20:1-5 (see also Lev. 18:21)

20:1 The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 2 "Say to the people of Israel, Any one of the people of Israel or of the strangers who sojourn in Israel who gives any of his children to Molech shall surely be put to death. The people of the land shall stone him with stones. 3 I myself will set my face against that man and will cut him off from among his people, because he has given one of his children to Molech, to make my sanctuary unclean and to profane my holy name. 4 And if the people of the land do at all close their eyes to that man when he gives one of his children to Molech, and do not put him to death, 5 then I will set my face against that man and against his clan and will cut them off from among their people, him and all who follow him in whoring after Molech.

אוֹיְהִי אַחַר הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה וְהָאֱלֹהִים נִסָּה אֶת־אַבְרָהָם וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אַבְרָהָם וַיֹּאמֶר הֲנִנִּי: בַּיּוֹמָם קָח־נָא אֶת־בְּנֶךָ אֶת־יִחִידְךָ אֲשֶׁר־אַהַבְתָּ אֶת־יִצְחָק וְלֶךְ־לְךָ אֶל־אֶרֶץ הַמֹּרִיָּה וְהַעֲלֵהוּ שָׁם לְעֹלָה עַל אֶחָד הַהָרִים אֲשֶׁר אָמַר אֵלֶיךָ: ג וַיִּשְׁפֹּם אַבְרָהָם בַּבֶּקֶר וַיַּחֲבֹשׂ אֶת־חֲמֹרוֹ וַיִּקַּח אֶת־שְׁנֵי נַעֲרָיו אִתּוֹ וְאֵת יִצְחָק בְּנוֹ וַיִּבְקַע עֲצֵי עֹלָה וַיִּקֶּם וַיֵּלֶךְ אֶל־הַמָּקוֹם אֲשֶׁר־אָמַר־לּוֹ הָאֱלֹהִים:

י וַיִּשְׁלַח אַבְרָהָם אֶת־יָדוֹ וַיִּקַּח אֶת־הַמַּאֲכֹלֶת לְשַׁחַט אֶת־בְּנוֹ: יא וַיִּקְרָא אֵלָיו מִלְּאָךְ יְהוָה מִן־הַשָּׁמַיִם וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָהָם | אַבְרָהָם וַיֹּאמֶר הֲנִנִּי: יב וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל־תִּשְׁלַח יָדְךָ אֶל־הַנְּעָר וְאֶל־תַּעַשׂ לוֹ מְאוּמָה כִּי | עֵתָה יָדַעְתִּי כִּי־יִרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶתָּה וְלֹא חָשַׁכְתָּ אֶת־בְּנֶךָ אֶת־יִחִידְךָ מִמֶּנִּי:

וַיֵּלֶךְ בְּדַרְךְ מַלְכֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְגַם אֶת־בְּנוֹ הָעֶבֶר בָּאֵשׁ כְּתַעֲבוֹת הַגּוֹיִם אֲשֶׁר הוֹרִישׁ יְהוָה אֹתָם מִפְּנֵי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל:

וְהָעֶבֶר אֶת־בְּנוֹ בָּאֵשׁ וְעוֹנֵן וְנַחֵשׁ וְעָשָׂה אוֹב וַיִּדְעָנִים הִרְפָּה לַעֲשׂוֹת הָרַע בְּעֵינָי יְהוָה לְהַכְעִיס:

וּטְמֵא אֶת־הַתֶּפֶת אֲשֶׁר בְּגִי בְנֵי [בֶּן]־הַנָּהָם לְבַלְתִּי לְהָעֶבֶר אִישׁ אֶת־בְּנוֹ וְאֶת־בִּתּוֹ בָּאֵשׁ לְמֹלֶךְ

אוֹיְדִבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: ב וְאֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל תֹּאמַרְ אִישׁ אִישׁ מִבְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וּמִן־הַגֵּר | הַגֵּר בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר יִתֵּן מִזְרָעוֹ לְמֹלֶךְ מוֹת יוֹמָת עִם הָאֶרֶץ יִרְגְּמָהוּ בְּאֶבֶן: ג וְאֲנִי אֶתֵּן אֶת־פְּנֵי בָאִישׁ הַהוּא וְהִכְרַתִּי אֹתוֹ מִקִּרְב עַמּוֹ כִּי מִזְרָעוֹ נָתַן לְמֹלֶךְ לְמַעַן טְמֵא אֶת־מִקְדָּשִׁי וְלַחְלֹל אֶת־שֵׁם קְדָשִׁי: ד וְאִם הָעַלְם יַעֲלִימוּ עִם הָאֶרֶץ אֶת־עֵינֵיהֶם מִן־הָאִישׁ הַהוּא בְּתוֹתוֹ מִזְרָעוֹ לְמֹלֶךְ לְבַלְתִּי הִמִּית אֹתוֹ: ה וְשַׁמְתִּי אֹנִי אֶת־פְּנֵי בָאִישׁ הַהוּא וּבְמִשְׁפַּחְתּוֹ וְהִכְרַתִּי אֹתוֹ וְאֵת | כָּל־הַזִּנִּים אַחֲרָיו לְזָנוֹת אַחֲרֵי הַמֹּלֶךְ מִקִּרְב עַמָּם:

The Teaching of Children

Exodus 12:26-27; 13:8, 14-15

12:26 And when your children say to you, 'What do you mean by this service?' 27 you shall say, 'It is the sacrifice of the Lord's Passover, for he passed over the houses of the people of Israel in Egypt, when he struck the Egyptians but spared our houses.'

13:8 You shall tell your son on that day, 'It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.'

13:14 And when in time to come your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' you shall say to him, 'By a strong hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. 15 For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the Lord killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the Lord all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.'

Deuteronomy 6:4-7, 20-25

6:4 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

6:20 "When your son asks you in time to come, 'What is the meaning of the testimonies and the statutes and the rules that the Lord our God has commanded you?' 21 then you shall say to your son, 'We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt. And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. ... 24 And the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as we are this day. 25 And it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to do all this commandment before the Lord our God, as he has commanded us.'

Isaiah 54:13

All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children.

(The Talmud adds: Do not read *banayich* - your children, but *bonayich* - your builders / your scholars.)

Proverbs 1:8-9

8 Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, 9 for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck.

כו וְהָיָה כִּי־יֹאמְרוּ אֲלֵיכֶם בְּנֵיכֶם מַה הָעֲבֹדָה הַזֹּאת לָכֶם: כֹּז וְאָמַרְתֶּם זִבְח־פֶּסַח הוּא לַיהוָה אֲשֶׁר פֶּסַח עַל־בְּתֵי בְנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּמִצְרַיִם בְּנִגְפוֹ אֶת־מִצְרַיִם וְאֶת־בְּתֵינֵנו הִצִּיל ...

ח וְהִגַּדְתָּ לְבִנְךָ בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא לֵאמֹר בַּעֲבוּר זֶה עָשָׂה יְהוָה לִי בְצֵאתִי מִמִּצְרַיִם:

יד וְהָיָה כִּי־יִשְׁאַלְךָ בְּנֶךָ מָחָר לֵאמֹר מַה־זֹּאת וְאָמַרְתָּ אֵלָיו בְּחֹזֶק יָד הוֹצִיאָנוּ יְהוָה מִמִּצְרַיִם מִבַּיִת עַבְדִּים: טו וַיְהִי כִּי־הִקְשָׁה פַרְעֹה לְשַׁלְּחָנוּ וַיַּהַרְגַּ יְהוָה כָּל־בְּכוֹר בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם מִבְּכֹר אָדָם וְעַד־בְּכוֹר בְּהֵמָה עַל־כֵּן אֲנִי זֹבֵחַ לַיהוָה כָּל־פֶּטֶר רֶחֶם הַזְּכָרִים וְכָל־בְּכוֹר בְּנֵי אִפְדָּה:

ד שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה | אֶחָד: ה וְאֶהְבֵּת אֶת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכָל־לִבְבְּךָ וּבְכָל־נַפְשֶׁךָ וּבְכָל־מְאֹדֶךָ: ו וְהָיוּ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצַוְּךָ הַיּוֹם עַל־לִבְבְּךָ: ז וּשְׁנַנְתָּם לְבִנְיֶךָ וּדְבַרְתָּ בָם בְּשִׁבְתְּךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ וּבִלְכֹתְךָ בְּדֶרֶךְ וּבְשֹׁכְבְּךָ וּבְקוּמְךָ:

כ כִּי־יִשְׁאַלְךָ בְּנֶךָ מָחָר לֵאמֹר מַה הָעֲדוֹת וְהַחֻקִּים וְהַמִּשְׁפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֶתְכֶם: כא וְאָמַרְתָּ לְבִנְךָ עַבְדִּים הָיִינוּ לְפַרְעֹה בְּמִצְרַיִם וַיִּצִיאָנוּ יְהוָה מִמִּצְרַיִם בְּיַד חֲזָקָה: ... כד וַיִּצְוֵנוּ יְהוָה לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת־כָּל־הַחֻקִּים הָאֵלֶּה לְיִרְאָה אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְטוֹב לָנוּ כָּל־הַיָּמִים לְחַיֵּיתָנוּ כְּהַיּוֹם הַזֶּה: כה וְצִדְקָה תִּהְיֶה־לָּנוּ כִּי־נִשְׁמָר לַעֲשׂוֹת אֶת־כָּל־הַמִּצְוֹת הַזֹּאת לְפָנֵי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ כְּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּנוּ:

וְכָל־בְּנֶיךָ לְמוֹדֵי יְהוָה וְרַב שְׁלוֹם בְּנֶיךָ:

ח שְׁמַע בְּנֵי מוֹסֵר אָבִיךָ וְאַל־תִּטְשׁ תּוֹרַת אִמְךָ: ט כִּי | לוֹיֵת חָן הֵם לְרֹאשֶׁךָ וְעֲנָקִים לְגַרְגְּרֹתֶיךָ:

Proverbs 4:1-6

1 Hear, O sons, a father's instruction, and be attentive, that you may know understanding, 2 for I give you good precepts; do not forsake my teaching. 3 When I was a son with my father, tender, the only one in the sight of my mother, 4 he taught me and said to me, "Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my commandments, and live. 5 Get wisdom; get understanding; do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth. 6 Do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you.

Proverbs 29:15, 17

15 The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother....
17 Discipline your son, and he will give you rest; he will give delight to your heart.

Children's Characters and Parents' Responses

Genesis 25:21-28

21 Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren. And the Lord granted his prayer, and Rebekah his wife conceived. 22 The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is thus, why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. 23 And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the older shall serve the younger." 24 When her days to give birth were completed, behold, there were twins in her womb. 25 The first came out red, all his body like a hairy cloak, so they called his name Esau. 26 Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. 27 When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, dwelling in tents. 28 Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Deuteronomy 21:18-21

18 If a man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey the voice of his father or the voice of his mother, and though they discipline him, he will not listen to them, 19 then his father and his mother shall take hold of him and bring him out to the elders of his city at the gate of the place where he lives, 20 and they shall say to the elders of his city, 'This our son is stubborn and rebellious; he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton and a drunkard.' 21 Then all the men of the city shall stone him to death with stones. So you shall purge the evil from your midst, and all Israel shall hear, and fear.

א שִׁמְעוּ בָנִים מִוֹסֵר אָב וְהַקְשִׁיבוּ לְדַעַת בִּינָה:
ב כִּי לֶקַח טוֹב נָתַתִּי לָכֶם תּוֹרָתִי אֶל־תַּעֲזֹבוּ:
ג כִּי־בֶן הֵייתִי לְאָבִי רַךְ וְיָחִיד לִפְנֵי אִמִּי: ד וַיִּדְּנֵי
וַיֹּאמֶר לִי יִתְמָד־דְּבָרֵי לִבִּי שְׁמַר מִצְוֹתַי וַחֲיֶה:
ה קִנְיָה חֲכָמָה קִנְיָה בִינָה אֶל־תִּשְׁכַּח וְאֶל־תֵּט
מֵאֲמָרֵי־פִי: ו אֶל־תַּעֲזֹבָהּ וּתְשַׁמְרֶךָ אֲהַבָּהּ
וּתְצַרְךָ:

טו שִׁבֹט וְתוֹכַחַת יִתֵּן חֲכָמָה וְנַעַר מְשַׁלַּח מִבֵּישׁ
אָמוֹ: ...
יז יִסֵּר בֶּן־ךָ וַיִּנְיַחֶךָ וַיִּתֵּן מַעֲדָנִים לְנַפְשֶׁךָ:

כא וַיַּעֲתֹר יִצְחָק לַיהוָה לִנְכַח אִשְׁתּוֹ כִּי עֲקָרָה
הָיָה וַיַּעֲתֹר לוֹ יְהוָה וַתֵּהָר וַתֵּהָר רֵבֶקָה אִשְׁתּוֹ:
כב וַיִּתְרַצְצוּ הַבָּנִים בְּקֶרֶבָהּ וַתֹּאמֶר אִם־כֵּן לָמָּה
זֶה אֲנֹכִי וַתֵּלֶךְ לְדַרְשׁ אֶת־יְהוָה: כג וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה
לָּהּ שְׁנֵי גֵיִים [גוֹיִם] בְּבֶטְנֶךָ וּשְׁנֵי לְאֻמִּים מִמֶּעֶיךָ
יִפְרְדוּ וּלְאֵם מִלְּאֵם יֵאָמֵן וְרַב יַעֲבֹד צַעִיר:
כד וַיִּמְלְאוּ יְמִיהָ לֵלְדֹת וְהִנֵּה תוֹמֵם בְּבֶטְנָהּ:
כה וַיֵּצֵא הָרֵאשׁוֹן אֲדָמוֹנִי כָלוֹ כְּאֲדָרַת שֵׁעַר
וַיִּקְרְאוּ שְׁמוֹ עֵשָׂו: כו וְאַחֲרָיֶ־כֵּן יֵצֵא אָחִיו וַיְדוּ
אִחֻזַּת בַּעֲקֵב עֵשָׂו וַיִּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ יַעֲקֹב וַיִּצְחָק
בֶּן־שָׁשִׁים שָׁנָה בְּלֹדֹת אֹתָם: כז וַיִּגְדְּלוּ הַנְּעָרִים
וַיְהִי עֵשָׂו אִישׁ יָדַע צִיד אִישׁ שָׂדֵה וַיַּעֲקֹב אִישׁ
תָּם יֹשֵׁב אֲהֻלִּים: כח וַיֹּאֲהֵב יִצְחָק אֶת־עֵשָׂו
כִּי־צִיד בְּפִיו וְרֵבֶקָה אֲהֵבַת אֶת־יַעֲקֹב:

יח כִּי־יְהִיֶּה לְאִישׁ בֶּן סוֹרֵר וּמוֹרָה אֵינָנו שֹׁמְעַ
בְּקוֹל אָבִיו וּבְקוֹל אָמוֹ וַיִּסְרוּ אֹתוֹ וְלֹא יִשְׁמַע
אֲלֵיהֶם: יט וַתִּפְשׁוּ בוֹ אָבִיו וְאָמוֹ וְהוֹצִיאוּ אֹתוֹ
אֶל־זִקְנֵי עִירוֹ וְאֶל־שַׁעַר מְקוֹמוֹ: כ וַאֲמָרוּ
אֶל־זִקְנֵי עִירוֹ בְּנֵנו זֶה סוֹרֵר וּמוֹרָה אֵינָנו שֹׁמְעַ
בְּקוֹלָנוּ זוֹלָל וְסָבָא: כא וְרִגְמָהוּ כָל־אֲנָשֵׁי עִירוֹ
בְּאֲבָנִים וּמָת וּבַעֲרַת הָרַע מִקֶּרְבֶּךָ וְכָל־יִשְׂרָאֵל
יִשְׁמְעוּ וַיִּרְאוּ:

Proverbs 10:1

The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son makes a father glad, but a foolish son is a sorrow to his mother.

The Inspiration of Children

I Samuel 2:18-26; 3:1-18

2:18 Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy clothed with a linen ephod. 19 And his mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. 20 Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the Lord give you children by this woman for the petition she asked of the Lord." So then they would return to their home. 21 Indeed the Lord visited Hannah, and she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. And the young man Samuel grew in the presence of the Lord. 22 Now Eli was very old, and he kept hearing all that his sons were doing to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who were serving at the entrance to the tent of meeting. 23 And he said to them, "Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all the people. 24 No, my sons; it is no good report that I hear the people of the Lord spreading abroad. 25 If someone sins against a man, God will mediate for him, but if someone sins against the Lord, who can intercede for him?" But they would not listen to the voice of their father, for it was the will of the Lord to put them to death. 26 Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and also with man.

3:1 Now the young man Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. 2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. 3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. 4 Then the Lord called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" 5 and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. 6 And the Lord called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. 8 And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the young man.

מְשָׁלִי שְׁלֵמָה בֶּן חָכָם יִשְׂמַח-אָב וּבֶן כְּסִיל תּוֹגַת אִמּוֹ:

יח וּשְׂמוּאֵל מְשָׁרֵת אֶת-פְּנֵי יְהוָה נֶעַר חָגוּר אֶפֻּד בֶּד: יט וּמַעִיל קִטָּן תַּעֲשֶׂה-לוֹ אִמּוֹ וְהַעֲלִתָה לוֹ מִיָּמִים | יְמִימָה בַּעֲלוֹתָהּ אֶת-אִשָּׁה לְזִבְחַת אֶת-זִבְחַת הַיָּמִים: כ וּבִרְךָ עָלַי אֶת-אֱלֹקֵיךָ וְאֶת-אִשְׁתּוֹ וְאָמַר יֵשֶׁם יְהוָה לְךָ זֶרַע מִן-הָאִשָּׁה הַזֹּאת תַּחַת הַשָּׂאֵלָה אֲשֶׁר שָׁאַל לַיהוָה וְהָלַכְוּ לְמַקְמוֹ: כא כִּי-פָקַד יְהוָה אֶת-חַנָּה וַתֵּהָר וַתֵּלֶד שְׁלֹשָׁה-בָנִים וּשְׁתֵּי בָנוֹת וַיִּגְדַּל הַנְּעָר שְׂמוּאֵל עִם-יְהוָה: כב וְעָלַי זָקֵן מְאֹד וְשָׁמַע אֶת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר יַעֲשׂוּן בְּנָיו לְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֵת אֲשֶׁר-יִשְׁכַּבן אֶת-הַנְּשִׁים הַצֹּבְאוֹת פֶּתַח אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד: כג וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם לָמָּה תַעֲשׂוּן כַּדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי שׁוֹמֵעַ אֶת-דְּבָרֵיכֶם רָעִים מֵאֵת כָּל-הָעָם אֵלֶּה: כד אֵל בְּנֵי כִי לֹא-טוֹבָה הַשְּׁמָעָה אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי שׁוֹמֵעַ מֵעַבְרִים עִם-יְהוָה: כה אִם-יִחַטָּא אִישׁ לְאִישׁ וּפָלְלוּ אֱלֹהִים וְאִם לַיהוָה יִחַטָּא-אִישׁ מִי תִפְלַל-לוֹ וְלֹא יִשְׁמְעוּ לְקוֹל אָבִיהֶם כִּי-חַפֵּץ יְהוָה לְהִמִּיתָם: כו וְהַנְּעָר שְׂמוּאֵל הָלַךְ וַיִּגְדַּל וְטוֹב גַּם עִם-יְהוָה וְגַם עִם-אֲנָשִׁים:

א וְהַנְּעָר שְׂמוּאֵל מְשָׁרֵת אֶת-יְהוָה לְפָנָי עָלַי וּדְבַר-יְהוָה הָיָה יָקָר בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם אֵין חֲזוֹן נִפְרָץ: ב וַיְהִי בַיּוֹם הַהוּא וְעָלַי שָׁכַב בְּמִקְוֹמוֹ וְעֵינָיו [וְעֵינָיו] הִחֲלוּ כִהוֹת לֹא יוֹכֵל לְרְאוֹת: ג וַיָּרֶ אֱלֹהִים טָרַם יִכְפֹּה וּשְׂמוּאֵל שָׁכַב בְּהִיכַל יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר-שָׁם אַרְוֹן אֱלֹהִים: ד וַיִּקְרָא יְהוָה אֶל-שְׂמוּאֵל וַיֹּאמֶר הַנְּנִי: ה וַיִּרֶץ אֶל-עָלַי וַיֹּאמֶר הַנְּנִי כִי-קָרָאתָ לִי וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא-קָרָאתִי שׁוֹב שָׁכַב וַיִּלָּךְ וַיִּשְׁכַּב: ו וַיִּסָּף יְהוָה קְרָא עוֹד שְׂמוּאֵל וַיִּקָּם שְׂמוּאֵל וַיִּלָּךְ אֶל-עָלַי וַיֹּאמֶר הַנְּנִי כִי קָרָאתָ לִי וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא-קָרָאתִי בְנֵי שׁוֹב שָׁכַב: ז וּשְׂמוּאֵל טָרַם יָדַע אֶת-יְהוָה וְטָרַם יִגְלֶה אֵלָיו דְּבַר-יְהוָה: ח וַיִּסָּף יְהוָה קְרָא-שְׂמוּאֵל בְּשִׁלְשִׁית וַיִּקָּם וַיִּלָּךְ אֶל-עָלַי וַיֹּאמֶר הַנְּנִי כִי קָרָאתָ לִי וַיִּבֶן עָלַי כִי יְהוָה קְרָא לְנְעָר:

9 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10 And the Lord came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears." 11 Then the Lord said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. 12 On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. 13 And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. 14 Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever." 15 Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. 16 But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." And he said, "Here I am." 17 And Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." 18 So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, "It is the Lord. Let him do what seems good to him."

Psalm 8:3

Out of the mouth of babies and sucklings, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

Isaiah 11:6

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.

ט וַיֹּאמֶר עָלַי לְשִׁמוּאֵל לֵךְ שֹׁכֵב וְהָיָה אִם־יִקְרָא אֵלֶיךָ וְאָמַרְתָּ דְבַר יְהוָה כִּי שָׁמַעַ עֲבָדְךָ וַיִּלְךָ שִׁמוּאֵל וַיִּשְׁכַּב בַּמָּקוֹמוֹ: י וַיָּבֹא יְהוָה וַיִּתְיַצֵּב וַיִּקְרָא כַפְּעַם־בַּפְּעַם שִׁמוּאֵל | שִׁמוּאֵל וַיֹּאמֶר שִׁמוּאֵל דְּבַר כִּי שָׁמַעַ עֲבָדְךָ: יא וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־שִׁמוּאֵל הֲנֵה אֲנֹכִי עֹשֶׂה דְבַר בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר כָּל־שְׁמֵעוֹ תִצְלִינָה שְׁתֵּי אָזְנוֹי: יב בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא אֲקִים אֶל־עָלַי אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתִּי אֶל־בֵּיתוֹ הַחַל וְכֹלָה: יג וְהִגַּדְתִּי לוֹ כִּי־שִׁפֹּט אֲנִי אֵת־בֵּיתוֹ עַד־עוֹלָם בְּעוֹן אֲשֶׁר־יָדַע כִּי־מְקַלְלִים לָהֶם בָּנוּי וְלֹא כָהָה בָּם: יד וְלִכְן נִשְׁבַּעְתִּי לְבַיִת עָלַי אִם־יִתְכַפֵּר עוֹן בֵּית־עָלַי בְּזֶבַח וּבַמִּנְחָה עַד־עוֹלָם: טו וַיִּשְׁכַּב שִׁמוּאֵל עַד־הַבֶּקֶר וַיִּפְתַּח אֶת־דִּלְתוֹת בַּיִת־יְהוָה וּשְׁמוּאֵל יָרָא מִהִגִּיד אֶת־הַמְּרָאָה אֶל־עָלַי: טז וַיִּקְרָא עָלַי אֶת־שִׁמוּאֵל וַיֹּאמֶר שִׁמוּאֵל בְּנִי וַיֹּאמֶר הֲנָנִי: יז וַיֹּאמֶר מָה הַדְּבַר אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּר אֵלֶיךָ אֶל־נָא תְכַחַד מִמֶּנִּי כֹה יַעֲשֶׂה־לְךָ אֱלֹהִים וְכֹה יוֹסִיף אִם־תְּכַחַד מִמֶּנִּי דְבַר מִכָּל־הַדְּבַר אֲשֶׁר־דִּבַּר אֵלֶיךָ: יח וַיִּגְדֵּל־לוֹ שִׁמוּאֵל אֶת־כָּל־הַדְּבָרִים וְלֹא כָחַד מִמֶּנּוּ וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה הוּא הַטּוֹב בְּעֵינָיו יַעֲשֶׂה:

מִפִּי עוֹלָלִים | וַיִּנְקִי־ם יְסֻדְתָּ עַז לְמַעַן צוֹרְרֶיךָ לְהִשְׁבִּית אוֹיֵב וּמִתְנַקֵּם:

וְגַר זֶאֵב עִם־כֹּפֶשׁ וְנֹמֵר עִם־גְּדִי יִרְבֹּץ וְעֹגֵל וּכְפִיר וּמְרִיא יִחַדּוּ וְנִעַר קֹטֵן נִהַג בָּם:

Christian Texts on Children

Matthew 18

1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" 2 And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them 3 and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn* and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 "Whoever receives* one such child in my name receives me, 6 but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin,* it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

Matthew 19

13 Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, 14 but Jesus said, "Let* the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." 15 And he laid his hands on them and went away.

Mark 10

13 And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. 14 But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let* the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. 15 Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive* the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." 16 And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

¹Ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ὥρᾳ προσῆλθον οἱ μαθηταὶ τῷ Ἰησοῦ λέγοντες, Τίς ἄρα μείζων ἐστὶν ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν οὐρανῶν; ²καὶ προσκαλεσάμενος παιδίον ἔστησεν αὐτὸ ἐν μέσῳ αὐτῶν ³καὶ εἶπεν, Ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐὰν μὴ **στραφῆτε** καὶ γένησθε ὡς τὰ παιδία, οὐ μὴ εἰσέλθητε εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τῶν οὐρανῶν. ⁴Ὅστις οὖν ταπεινώσει ἑαυτὸν ὡς τὸ παιδίον τοῦτο, οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ μείζων ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν οὐρανῶν. ⁵καὶ ὃς ἐὰν **δέξεται** ἐν παιδίῳ τοιοῦτο ἐπὶ τῷ ὀνόματί μου, ἐμὲ δέχεται. ⁶Ὅς δ' ἂν **σκανδαλίση** ἓνα τῶν μικρῶν τούτων τῶν πιστευόντων εἰς ἐμέ, συμφέρει αὐτῷ ἵνα κρεμασθῆ μύλος ὀνικός περὶ τὸν τράχηλον αὐτοῦ καὶ καταποντισθῆ ἐν τῷ πελάγει τῆς θαλάσσης.

¹³Τότε προσηνέχθησαν αὐτῷ παιδία, ἵνα τὰς χεῖρας ἐπιθῆ αὐτοῖς καὶ προσεύξεται: οἱ δὲ μαθηταὶ ἐπετίμησαν αὐτοῖς. ¹⁴Ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν, **Ἄφετε** τὰ παιδία καὶ μὴ κωλύετε αὐτὰ ἐλθεῖν πρὸς με, τῶν γὰρ τοιούτων ἐστὶν ἡ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν. ¹⁵καὶ ἐπιθεις τὰς χεῖρας αὐτοῖς ἐπορεύθη ἐκεῖθεν.

¹³Καὶ προσέφερον αὐτῷ παιδία ἵνα αὐτῶν ἄψηται: οἱ δὲ μαθηταὶ ἐπετίμησαν αὐτοῖς. ¹⁴ἰδὼν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἠγανάκτησεν καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, **Ἄφετε** τὰ παιδία ἔρχεσθαι πρὸς με, μὴ κωλύετε αὐτὰ, τῶν γὰρ τοιούτων ἐστὶν ἡ βασιλεία τοῦ θεοῦ. ¹⁵ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ὃς ἂν μὴ **δέξεται** τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ θεοῦ ὡς παιδίον, οὐ μὴ εἰσέλθῃ εἰς αὐτήν. ¹⁶καὶ ἐναγκαλισάμενος αὐτὰ κατευλόγει τιθεὶς τὰς χεῖρας ἐπ' αὐτά.

I Corinthians 14:20

Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil,* but in your thinking be mature.*

²⁰ Ἀδελφοί, μὴ παιδία γίνεσθε ταῖς φρεσίν, ἀλλὰ τῇ κακίᾳ νηπιάζετε, ταῖς δὲ φρεσίν τέλειοι γίνεσθε.

I Peter 2

1 So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. 2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual* milk, that by it you may grow up* into salvation— 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

¹ Ἀποθέμενοι οὖν πᾶσαν κακίαν καὶ πάντα δόλον καὶ ὑποκρίσεις καὶ φθόνους καὶ πάσας καταλαλιάς, ² ὡς ἀρτιγέννητα βρέφη τὸ λογικὸν ἄδολον γάλα ἐπιποθήσατε, ἵνα ἐν αὐτῷ **αὐξηθῆτε** εἰς σωτηρίαν, ³ εἰ ἐγεύσασθε ὅτι χρηστὸς ὁ κύριος.

παιδίον, *n* {pahee-dee'-on}

1) a young child, a little boy, a little girl 1a) infants 1b) children, little ones 1c) an infant 1c1) of a (male) child just recently born 1d) of a more advanced child; of a mature child; 1e) metaph. children (like children) in intellect

στρέφω, *v* {stref'-o}

1) to turn, turn around 2) to turn one's self (i.e. to turn the back to one 2a) of one who no longer cares for another) 2b) metaph. to turn one's self from one's course of conduct, i.e. to change one's mind

σκανδαλίζω, *v* {skan-dal-id'-zo}

1) to put a stumbling block or impediment in the way, upon which another may trip and fall, metaph. to offend 1a) to entice to sin 1b) to cause a person to begin to distrust and desert one whom he ought to trust and obey 1b1) to cause to fall away 1b2) to be offended in one, i.e. to see in another what I disapprove of and what hinders me from acknowledging his authority 1b3) to cause one to judge unfavourably or unjustly of another 1c) since one who stumbles or whose foot gets entangled feels annoyed 1c1) to cause one displeasure at a thing 1c2) to make indignant 1c3) to be displeased, indignant

ἀφήμι, *v* {af-ee'-ay-mee}

1) to send away 1a) to bid going away or depart 1a1) of a husband divorcing his wife 1b) to send forth, yield up, to expire 1c) to let go, let alone, let be 1c1) to disregard 1c2) to leave, not to discuss now, (a topic) 1c21) of teachers, writers and speakers 1c3) to omit, neglect 1d) to let go, give up a debt, forgive, to remit 1e) to give up, keep no longer 2) to permit, allow, not to hinder, to give up a thing to a person 3) to leave, go way from one 3a) in order to go to another place 3b) to depart from any one 3c) to depart from one and leave him to himself so that all mutual claims are abandoned 3d) to desert wrongfully 3e) to go away leaving something behind 3f) to leave one by not taking him as a companion 3g) to leave on dying, leave behind one 3h) to leave so that what is left may remain, leave remaining 3i) abandon, leave destitute

ἔρχομαι, *v* {er'-khom-ahee}

1) to come 1a) of persons 1a1) to come from one place to another, and used both of persons arriving and of those returning 1a2) to appear, make one's appearance, come before the public 2) metaph. 2a) to come into being, arise, come forth, show itself, find place or influence 2b) be established, become known, to come (fall) into or unto 3) to go, to follow one

δέχομαι, *v* {dekh'-om-ahee}

1) to take with the hand 1a) to take hold of, take up 2) to take up, receive 2a) used of a place receiving one 2b) to receive or grant access to, a visitor, not to refuse intercourse or friendship 2b1) to receive hospitality 2b2) to receive into one's family to bring up or educate 2c) of the thing offered in speaking, teaching, instructing 2c1) to receive favourably, give ear to, embrace, make one's own, approve, not to reject 2d) to receive. i.e. to take upon one's self, sustain, bear, endure 3) to receive, get 3a) to learn

κακία, *n* {kak-ee'-ah}

1) malignity, malice, ill-will, desire to injure 2) wickedness, depravity 2a) wickedness that is not ashamed to break laws 3) evil, trouble

τέλειος, *a* {tel'-i-os}

1) brought to its end, finished 2) wanting nothing necessary to completeness 3) perfect 4) that which is perfect 4a) consummate human integrity and virtue 4b) of men 4b1) full grown, adult, of full age, mature

λογικός, *a* {log-ik-os'}

1) pertaining to speech or speaking 2) pertaining to the reason or logic 2a) spiritual, pertaining to the soul 2b) agreeable to reason, following reason, reasonable, logical

αὐξάνω, *v* {owx-an'-o}

1) to cause to grow, augment 2) to increase, become greater 3) to grow, increase 3a) of plants 3b) of infants 3c) of a multitude of people 3d) of inward Christian growth

Texts chosen by Thomas Bonneville