

Doctrine of Chastening

1. There is a hidden blessing for the person who will receive the chastening of the Lord. Therefore, being under the rod is not to be despised.
 - *Job 5:17 Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty:*
2. Part of gospel obedience is to submit to the chastening techniques of the Lord and not become weary of much correction since sin has done much damage to the soul. The cure must be as deep as the cause.
 - *Proverbs 3:11 My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction:*
3. One positive result of being chastened by God is a return to His heart. I have spanked my own children and granddaughter to the point their stubborn will is broken and in the midst of pain they reach out their arms and seek a hug and mercy. At that point the rebellion is over. Mercy, love and grace is extended and never denied. In a moment judgment becomes justice satisfied, pain becomes comforting pleasure and tears turn to joy.
 - *Isaiah 26:16 LORD, in trouble have they visited thee, they poured out a prayer when thy chastening was upon them.*
4. Christians are to be reminded not to forget the gospel exhortation to endure chastening with a proper attitude instead of despairing. It is a sin to despair when God is so good and sovereign. Always the heart must have faith in God.
 - *Hebrews 12:5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:*
5. One reason for rejoicing even when under the divine rod of discipline is to remember it is a sign of salvation and sonship. Parents generally do not discipline the children of others—though they might wish they could. But they do discipline their own. So it is with God. He judges His own.
 - *Hebrews 12:7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?*
6. Divine chastening produces good results such as peace and righteousness.
 - *Hebrews 12:11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.*

7. No matter how severe a particular form of chastisement may appear the judgments of God are mingled with restraining mercy or a person would be totally consumed and destroyed.