**Generational Curses**

We could say there are “generational curses” if we mean our children will end up doing wrong if we don’t influence them correctly, but not if we mean that our children don’t have a choice to do right because of demons or some mystical curse.

show Zech 13:1-4 chart proving “unclean spirits” have passed out of the land

God makes sure we all have a choice about whether we do right or wrong:

* I Cor 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.
* Ezek 18:20 The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.
* Eccl 7:29 Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions.
* Josh 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served … on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.
* Psalms 119:30 I have chosen the way of truth …
* Isaiah 66:4, 65:12 I also will choose their delusions, … they … did choose that wherein I delighted not. [same word used for God’s choice and for our choice]
* Judges 5:8 They chose new gods …
* Matthew 23:37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!
* Acts 7:51 Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.
* Matthew 13:15 … and their eyes they have closed …
* Jeremiah 18:7-10At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it; If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them. And at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it; If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them.

We influence (but not force) our children to do right or wrong by teaching and example:

* Prov 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.
* Deut 6:4-9 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.
* Eph 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
* Prov 29:15 The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left *to himself* bringeth his mother to shame.
* Prov 20:7 The just *man* walketh in his integrity: his children *are* blessed after him.