

## B. Specific Cases of Rebellion 2 of 2

**“Sign of the Times.” USA Today, Thursday, 31 Aug. 1995, Life section, p. 1:**

*The new Testament gets updated Sept. 11 with an English translation that removes accusations that Jews killed Christ. Other changes in The New Testament and Psalms: An Inclusive Version (Oxford University Press): Children shouldn't "obey" parents but heed them; wives are no longer "subject" to their husbands but committed to them; "darkness" is no longer equated with evil because of racist overtones and the "Lord's Prayer" now begins "Our Father-Mother in heaven."*

In order to accomplish these objectives, Lucifer must undermine every system of establishment authority and replace it with his own. He begins at the beginning. The home is where establishment authority is first established. He will utilize any means possible to foment rebellion in the souls of children.

Thus, a rebellious child, through his decision to disobey, is, in effect, placing himself on a equal footing with his parents. Those who are equal have no legitimate authority over their peers.

The rebellious child therefore concludes that he is under no obligation to obey his parents policies. The rationale which leads to his rebellion is constructed from a position of weakness.

Rebellion, put simply, is a lust-driven effort to have one's own way by means of rejecting all outside restraints designed to prevent it. Parents who stand fast and without wavering establish their right to rule can overcome their child's lustful desire to rebel. They make it "hard for him to kick against the goads."

In order to maintain harmony in the household, it becomes a matter of extreme importance for parents to resolve every uprising in their favor. Therefore, every occurrence of active, passive, or internal rebellion discerned by parents must be put down immediately and by force, if necessary.

If rebellion is not eradicated, then revolution will result and parents will ultimately abdicate their authority to their children. When this occurs, order is lost and chaos replaces the intended tranquility of the home.

Instead of being a consistent and dependable environment, the home degenerates into anarchy, as dramatized by William Golding's Lord of the Flies. Once anarchy occurs, parents are reduced to the level of negotiators or manipulators in order to get any cooperation out of their child.

The parents are operating at a decided disadvantage since they are forced to negotiate with a mind incapable of rational thought and no reasoning capacity. Such parents are reduced to the specter of debating with their own children over the advantages of doing right instead of wrong. The issue is not what is to the child's advantage. The issue is that what is right must always be done, regardless of whether or not it is to your advantage.

Left to rationalize any issue, the child will inevitably choose whatever gives him the most pleasure, not necessarily what is right. He will go to bed when it pleases him and get up whenever he awakens. He will eat what he likes, not what is nutritional. He will only wear clothing that appeals to him regardless of the situation. He will indulge in the entertainment media that feed his lust patterns, not which edify his soul. The parents may harp about how wrong it all is but since the child has never been forced to do what is right, he continues to submit to his sinful nature.

It is common for a rebellious child to justify his anarchy by asserting that he has a right to make his own choices. But his choices invariably reflect that he is, in fact, a slave to his own sinful nature.

The only recourse left to parents who have lost control of their child is to resort to manipulation—they bribe, they threaten, they use deceit. To promise rewards for good behavior in order to solicit good behavior will never instill the principles of good behavior.

Manipulation also includes the attempt to redirect a child away from improper behavior to that which is acceptable. This is legitimate when the child displays no tendency toward improper behavior.

For example, you might seek to interest your child in playing sports in the hope he will spend his spare time in the friendly competition of, say, basketball, rather than getting involved in the deadly competition of, say, street gangs. But if a child is involved in a street gang you cannot instill into his soul the principles of honor and integrity by forming a midnight basketball league.

Having been denied external controls when young, as an adolescent he now has no internal controls. All midnight basketball can do, at best, is to delay his decisions to commit crime, it can never change his mind about a criminal lifestyle.

Consequently, it is obvious that our paternalistic government has turned out to be a very poor parent which resorts to manipulation as a means of controlling its recalcitrant children.

True objective and honorable leadership has the moral courage to clearly define the rules, to sharpen the differences between right and wrong, and to then decisively eliminate all traces of rebellion. A child's rebellion must not be tolerated by his parents and proper force must be imposed by them in order to suppress it.

We have learned from our studies in Romans 13 that the New Testament reaffirms the Old Testament's revelation that God delegates His authority to certain men and grants them plenipotentiary power to maintain order in the human race.

Definition of “plenipotentiary”: **Oxford English Dictionary, s.v. “plenipotentiary”:**

*Invested with full power, esp., as the deputy, representative, or envoy of a sovereign ruler; exercising absolute power or authority.*

*A person acting with full, unlimited, or discretionary powers or authority, esp. in regard to a particular transaction; an envoy or an ambassador deputed by his sovereign to act at his own discretion.*

**Black's Law Dictionary, revised 4th edition, s.v. “plenipotentiary”:**

*One who has full power to do a thing; a person fully commissioned to act for another. A term applied in international law to ministers and envoys of the second rank.*

God being the absolute sovereign of the universe has the obvious prerogative to organize any system He desires for the purpose of establishing order among His created beings. That system of order instituted by God is what we refer to as Divine Establishment.

Over this system, God permits certain men to be appointed to positions of power and authority and who are thereby delegated the right to rule. This delegated power and authority is indicated in the Latin as well as the the English language by the word “plenipotentiary.”

Session Date / Number: 09-03-95A / CWL162 We have seen this emerge in our studies of:

**Romans 13:1** - All mankind: keep on subordinating yourselves to governing authorities. For there is no authority except that which has its source of origin from God; that is, those which do exist have been delegated by God.

**Romans 13:2** - Those who resist the authority have opposed the divine institution of God. In fact, they who oppose shall receive punishment back upon themselves.

**Romans 13:3** - For the governing authorities are not a cause of fear for the function of establishment morality but for the function of criminality. Do you really desire not to fear the authority? Keep on doing good of intrinsic value [**establishment integrity**] and you will have praise from governing authorities.

**Romans 13:4** - For the authority is a minister of God [**delegated plenipotentiary power and authority**] to you for good [**the maintenance of law and order**]. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for the authority does not bear the sword for no reason [**those who have been delegated plenipotentiary power and authority are held accountable to maintain order through the use of capital punishment, if necessary**]. For the authority is a minister of God [**an ambassador deputed by sovereign God and fully commissioned to act for Him**], an avenger who brings wrath [**punishment clauses**] upon the one who practices evil.

By application, since certain men and women become parents by the sovereign act of God at the selection of their child, then they are among the authorities described in Romans 13 who have been invested with plenipotentiary power and authority “*in regard to that particular transaction.*”

Just as governing authorities in establishment positions do not hold the sword for no reason, neither do parents hold the rod for no reason.

Left to its own devices, the Devil’s world would entropy into chaos. Therefore, so that order, justice, and freedom can be maintained, it sometimes becomes necessary for those in authority to use force. Parents are given the responsibility to bring order out of the chaos which dominates the life of their child.

Chaos dominates the child’s life because he is mentally *tabula rasa* while physically he is being driven by the insatiable trends of his sinful nature. From this chaotic environment there will inevitably emerge the roots of rebellion.

Rebellion is the open or determined defiance of, or resistance to, any authority or controlling power. Specific to our study, it is the willful rejection of parental authority expressed actively, passively, or internally.

There are two categories of force available to parents in order for them to combat chaos: chastisement for rebellion and punishment for disobedience.

There is an important difference between chastisement and punishment. Chastisement is designed to conquer rebellion and to force submission to authority. Punishment is the just penalty for any wrong done and, once paid, is final.

A parental policy may forbid touching the birc-a-brac. The child willfully turns over a Lladró porcelain. Two problems must be resolved: (1) Chastisement for rebellion, and (2) punishment for the wrong done, i.e., clean up the mess, pay for the figurine, or do extra chores as a means of restitution.

The only reason for the use of chastisement is the infliction of pain and suffering for the purpose of correcting or restraining rebellion.

In order to document this principle we need to do some analysis into the Hebrew and Greek word which are translated into the English, at least in the King James Version, by the word “*chastisement*,” and then compare our findings with passages that place them into the same context with the word “*rod*.”