

Sins of the Fathers and Resulting Curses (SOFC)

From RTF book: Chapter 7

SOFC defined: Sins of the fathers represents the accumulation of all sins committed by our ancestors. It is the heart tendency (iniquity) that we inherit from our forefathers to rebel (i.e., be disobedient) against God's laws and commandments. It is the propensity to sin, particularly in ways that represent perversion and twisted character. The accumulation continues until God's conditions for repentance are met.

We are a part of, and credited with, both the blessings and the iniquity of our fathers.

Exodus 20:5 is the foundational scripture for SOFC.

The bad news is that we are affected by our parents' sins. The good news is that God has provided the way for our freedom from all the effects of their iniquity.

In Leviticus 26:40-42, God gives us a pattern and a promise for freedom. If we confess our sins and the sins of our fathers, and we humble ourselves, He will remember His covenant. That is, He "remembers" that we are part of His family. This is called "Identification Repentance" because we identify with our ancestors and repent on their behalf as well as our own. This breaks the power of the pressure of Sins of the Fathers and the Resulting Curses. Excellent examples of this principle are found in Daniel 9, Ezra 9, and Nehemiah 2 and 9.

Iniquity is a heart condition, an inner tendency of man to break God's heart. Iniquity is the heart tendency to rebel. Sin is the outworking of this heart tendency.

If we go back 4 generations, adding up two parents, four grandparents, eight great-grandparents, and 16 great-great-grandparents, we have a total of 30 people. Thirty human beings, with their mixture of fleshy and godly desires, actions, beliefs, stumbling, falls, and besetting sins pass their iniquity on to each of us. If there has been divorce and remarriage or adoption of children, even more people within four generations are involved.

The likely main factors that transmit the Sins of the Fathers from one generation to the next and help the outworking of the curses are:

- Genes
- Growing-up environment
- Law of Sowing and Reaping
- Demonic Oppression

Frequently Occuring Sins of the Fathers

- Abandonment
- Abuse: emotional, physical, mental, sexual
- Addictions
- Anger, rage, violence
- Control, possessiveness, manipulation
- Emotional dependency
- Fears of all kinds
- Idolatry
- Money extremes, greed, lack
- Not caring for children
- Parental inversion
- Physical infirmities
- Pride
- Rebellion
- Rejection, insecurity
- Religious bondage, cults
- Sexual sin and perversion
- Unbelief
- Unworthiness, low self-esteem, inferiority
- Witchcraft, occult, Satanism

What is a Curse?

Generally, it involves a wish that “evil may befall another.” God’s use of the word “curse” had the same meaning as Israel’s contemporary world. All people understood what the word meant. The purpose of a “curse” was to protect the terms of a covenant by expressing the penalties that would be exacted if and when the covenant was violated.

A curse is the penalty to be paid for the breaking of a law. Thus the biblical meaning regarding God's Law is "the consequence that will occur because of disobedience and rebellion against God's law."

Ken Copeland's definitions:

"A curse is being empowered to fail."

"A blessing is being empowered to succeed."

Derek Prince definition:

"Curses are words spoken, with some form of spiritual authority (either good or evil), that set in motion something that will go on generation after generation. Behind the words is a spiritual power: God or satan."

Where curses come from?

Some come from God because of our ancestors' sins and our own sins. Others result from people cursing our ancestors and/or us. It is also possible to curse ourselves by speaking ungodly words from our hearts.