

# The Great Discipline of God

## Hebrews 12:05–13

### 1 *The strong exhortation concerning discipline*

- a. Do not take discipline lightly
- b. Do not lose heart or give up under discipline
- c. Endure discipline
  - 1) God disciplines us because He loves us
  - 2) God disciplines us because we are His children

### 2 *The purposes of discipline*

- a. To show us that we are sons of God
- b. To teach us to think of life now and eternally
- c. To make us a sharer of God's holiness
- d. To bear within us the fruit of peace and righteousness

### 3 *The believer's duty*

- a. To strengthen his weak grip and buckling knees
- b. To make straight paths for his feet
- c. To receive healing, that is, discipline

5 And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son?

It says, "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,

6 because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son."

7 Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father?

8 If you are not disciplined — and everyone undergoes discipline — then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all.

9 Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live!

10 They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness.

11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

12 Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees.

13 "Make level paths for your feet," so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.