

## SEVEN REASONS WHY GOOD KIDS TURN OUT BAD

*Psalms 125: 15*

### INTRODUCTION

Today, I am going to give you seven (7) reasons why good kids turn out bad. I've seen it happen time and time again. I've been preaching a long time and have seen lots of kids grow up in Christian homes and turn out bad. Some have even taken their own life. Most of the good kids I've seen grow up, stayed good. It breaks my heart when I think on how many didn't.

I'm thinking of a boy, I'll simply call John He was as bright and handsome as they come. He was so outgoing, perky and talented. He sang in a church group, was right in the middle of the youth activity, and would not hesitate to stand up for our Lord. At about 18 or 19, he was so caring and gentle. Then John began to drift. He became as wild as a March hare, had no time or regard for God, and renounced most everything he ever stood for. I could stand up here and give you case after heartbreaking case of those I've personally known, who are today bitter, worldly, broken, immoral, on drugs, living with a mate and not married, financially destitute, and a disgrace to God, their parents and themselves.

I'm talking about people, who were once so full of promise, and eager to do right. Somewhere between about 16 or 17 and their early twenties, these kids went wrong.

They did not obey *Deut. 5:32-33*, which says, *'Ye shall observe to do therefore as the LORD your God hath commanded you: ye shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. Ye shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess.'*

I'm going to talk to you From The Standpoint Of The Kid Himself; not the parents, society or someone else.

Young person, YOUR LIFE IS ULTIMATELY YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. There is no need for you to "cop-out" by blaming your parents or anybody else.

### TRANS. SENTENCE

The direction you go with your life is YOUR DECISION, and it WILL BE YOU who will give ACCOUNT TO GOD for the direction you go. IF YOU TURN OUT BAD, you'll have nobody to blame but your own self.

I will now warn you of SEVEN WAYS YOU CAN TAKE A WRONG TURN IN LIFE AND TURN OUT BAD, hurt yourself, wreck your life.

#### I. DATE, FALL IN LOVE WITH AND MARRY THE WRONG PERSON

A. [I Cannot Begin To Tell You How Many Good Kids I've Seen Go Sour When They Got Mixed Up With The Wrong Mate](#)

1. A wrong marriage is one of Satan's number one pitfalls.

2. If you goof around, and get hooked up with a person who has no real regard for what is right, it's going to be almost impossible for you to stay on track.
3. Illustrations.
  - a. Joey dated a lost girl, beautiful, popular, but realized after awhile that she was wrong for him. He was about to break up when she informed him she was pregnant - Trapped date and perhaps end up marrying a person because of physical attractions and not spirituality and inward beauty
  - b.

#### B. Young Person, If You Don't Want To Go Bad, Listen To God About Who To Date And Marry

1. God says in *I Cor. 7:39* that believers are to marry "*only in the Lord*".
2. Listen to the specific warning about marriage:
  - a. *II Cor. 6:14-18.* - "*Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my Sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.*"
  - b. a warning to God's children of all ages against marrying the wrong person is issued far back in *Deut. 7:3-4* "*Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly.*"

## II. GET CAUGHT UP IN WORLDLY APPETITES

- A. If You Get Caught Up In A Love Affair With This World And Its Goods, You Will Surely Lose Your Life  
*I Tim. 6:9-10* – "*But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.*"

*Matt. 16:24-26. - "Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me, For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"*

#### B. Any Time You Lose Your Priorities, Your Life Begins To Go Bad

1. You get caught up in this world, and you'll start neglecting God, your family, your morals, and all the other things that are right. - *Col. 3:2 - "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."*
2. Don't let misplaced priorities turn you from good to bad. Listen to Jesus who said, *"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" - Matt. 6:33.*

### III. GO TO SCHOOL AND SWALLOW THE BRAINWASHING OF THE MODERN ESTABLISHMENT (The Powers That Be)

#### A. Today's Establishment Is Almost Universally Antichrist

1. Public education (and much "Christian education" so called) is systematically biased against God and most things He teaches in the Bible.
2. In most of today's schools, especially at the college and university level, students are continuously browbeaten to believe in:
  - a. evolution
  - b. immorality
  - c. socialism
  - d. the freedom of man to act according to his own nature and do what is good in his own sight
  - e. and an atheistic outlook on life

#### B. I Shudder To Think How Many Good Kids I've Seen Go Off To School And Swallow This Humanistic Philosophy, Hook, Line, And Sinker

1. Don't do it young man. Don't let some "so called" educated teacher deceive you with his (or her) impressive degrees and smooth tongue.
  - a. the Bible has the only true and workable solutions to social as well as spiritual problems
  - b. the more God has been kicked out, the more our own society has moved toward social decay and lawlessness
2. An education is good, but it's also very dangerous.
  - a. it has the potential of turning you away from God, making a literate fool out of you, and ruining your life

- b. remember from *Psalms 14:1* that he who denies God is a "fool"
- 3. I warn you with the words of Paul to Timothy in - *I Tim. 6:20-21*, "*O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith.*"

#### IV. TAKE THE WRONG JOB

##### A. Your Job Is Going To Take A Large Part Of Your Time, Attention And Energy For 40 To 50 Years Of Your Life

- 1. I've seen a lot of good kids, who really loved God, and who showed such great promise, get swallowed up and their heads turned away from God and the things that really count in life by a job.
- 2. I could name you many young men, who were once such good, faithful, promising kids; but who now rarely set foot inside of any church because they are they're too busy

##### B. I Warn You Young Men And Women; Be Careful About The Career, The Job You Take

- 1. A wrong choice here will most likely destroy the true quality of your lives.
- 2. What you will do in life is your choice - *Joshua 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 that were 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.*"
- 3. I challenge you as Elijah challenged Israel in - *I Kings 18:21* "*How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him.*"

#### V. REBEL AGAINST YOUR PARENTS

##### A. My Heart Aches When I Think Of The Large Number Of Good Kids I've Seen Start To Ferment And Stink Like A Dead Skunk On A Roadside; And The Beginning Of Their Downfall Was Their Attitudes Toward Their Parents

##### B. My, You Talk About A Sure Way To Go Bad And Fail; Rebellion Against Your Parents Is It

- 1. Solomon said:
  - a. "*A fool despiseth his father's instruction*" - *Pro. 15:5*

- b. *Pro. 1:8, - "My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother."*
- 2. NOTE:
  - a. the 5th commandment is - *"Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee" - Exodus 20:12*
  - b. the apostle Paul brings this commandment up again in *Eph. 6* and says - *"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth," - VV: 1-3.*

## VI. BECOME DISILLUSIONED WITH SOME HYPOCRITE OR SOME HYPOCRITICAL THING

### A. Disappointed By A Hypocrite Never Changes The Hypocrite; But It Does Wreck The Life Of The One Who Becomes Disillusioned

- 1. Why let a hypocrite put you in as bad or a worse shape than he's in? Why let some bitter, hypocritical, or hurtful event in life sour and wreck you?
- 2. There are multitudes of people today, who started out as such good kids but are now, negative, bitter, and even antagonistic toward Christianity

### B. Young People, One Of The Things Most Likely To Turn You In A Bad Direction For Life Is Being Disappointed With A Hypocrite

- 1. *"Blessed is that man that maketh the LORD his trust, and respecteth not the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies" - Psalms 40:4*
- 2. Young people keep your eyes on Jesus.
  - a. don't ever let anybody or any thing turn you away from Him who knew no sin and had no faults
  - b. *Heb. 12:1-3* pleads with us like this: *"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds."*

**VII. FINALLY, GET CAUGHT UP IN A SYSTEM OF RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES, YET FAIL TO GRASP THE REALITY OF CHRISTIANITY AND THE LIVING CHRIST**

A. With A Good Many Good Kids, The Life Commitment Is Never Made

1. They're in church; and they're as busy as little bees in all the little programs and activities of the church.
2. It's all activities and no true life commitment; no real decision to really live and even die, if necessary for Christ.

B. You See, Somehow The Kids, Like Their Mothers And Dads, Think That Being A Good Christian Is Being Involved In Lots Of Good, Squeaky-Clean, Christian Activities

1. Nothing has ever been farther from the truth.
2. God wants a personal commitment to him and a personal touch between us and Him, and without it, nothing else really counts - *Deut. 10:12-13* - "*what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, To keep the commandments of the LORD, and his statutes?*"
  - a. everything and anything you, I, or anyone else could possibly do, if we miss this, is all vanity
  - b. a true heart felt love for God in our lives and a personal walk with him is the very heart and soul of Christianity
3. *Micah 6:6-8*. - "*Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?*"
4. This is one of Satan's most subtle devices for turning good kids bad.

**CONCLUSION:** Good kids go bad.

Young man, young lady, don't let Satan or anyone else turn you away. Why should you go bad? Why be turned to ruin and a wasted life when you could live right and victorious, with joy and true fulfillment in this life and eternal rewards in the life that is to come?

And, may every one of us who is already down life's trail a ways be aware of the reasons why good kids go bad, and do everything within our power to help them stay straight!