

## "DICTATOR IN DIAPERS?"

*By Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.*

Two Israeli psychiatrists, Avner Barcai and Miriam K. Rosenthal, have reported to the Archives of General Psychiatry something which parents who read the Bible have known for a long time: **children who are not denied** in the home are neither happy nor well prepared for the disciplines of adulthood. Parents who allow their children to become (\*) despots do them a great disservice.

"But how can I, in the day of indulgent parenthood, be strict and demanding of my children without incurring their resentment later on?" **First**, be assured that nothing fundamental has changed in being a parent or a child. The evolutionist cannot show you that your child is biologically or intellectually any different from the child of 2500 years ago. **Second**, evaluate the kind of child-rearing advice that is being given today on the basis of advice which has stood the test of time. Some of today's expertise will doubtless be as childish nonsense in a few years.

Now **listen to how the Designer** of the human family regards children and their relationship to parents. He regards them as a blessing given to parents (Psalms 127:3-5). They are to give honor to their parents (Exodus 20:12), to submit to their discipline, (Proverbs 15:5), and teaching, (Ephesians 6:4).

God promised ancient Israeli children that if they would honor their parents it would be well with them and they would live long on the earth (Exodus 20:12). History bears out that God kept His promise. Families today who are using Biblical precepts in rearing children are finding the promise is still good. **Why not try it in your family, if you are not already**

\* des-pot - originally a title meaning "master", an absolute ruler, a tyrant.

**KYOWVA** Evangelistic Association

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