

JAKOB – DEDICATION TO THE LORD

Dr. Bob Jordan
Prisoners For Christ

PO Box 1530
Woodinville, WA 98072

It is common within Protestant Christian churches to dedicate children to the Lord. This can be done privately and often is, but there is also biblical example for dedicating children to the Lord in the church and is consistent with the biblical theme of honor, confession, and accountability. In the Old Testament women longed for children, and this was true for a woman named Hannah. When she did have a son, the Bible says in ***1 Samuel 1:24-28*** *And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of flour, and a bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of the Lord in Shiloh: and the child was young. 25 And they slew a bullock, and brought the child to Eli. 26 And she said, Oh my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the Lord. 27 For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him: 28 Therefore also I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord.*

Another example of child dedication is in the New Testament and involves the baby Jesus. The scriptures say in ***Luke 2:22-28*** *And when the days of her [Mary's] purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him [Jesus] to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord; 23 (As it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;) 24 And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. 25 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. 26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, 28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God.*

Concerning grandparents, the Bible says in ***Proverbs 17:6*** *Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.* Well, “children’s children” are grandchildren, and that makes me a grandfather, and indeed Jakob is my first grandchild. Like Simeon I believe the Holy Spirit spoke to me a prayer for my grandson Jakob. It was my joy to be able to bring this prayer before the Lord, my pastor, the elders, and the entire congregation, “in the temple” just as Simeon did, and I too was able to “take him up in my arms” and bless God. Following is the prayer God gave me, a prayer that many confessed blessed them, and this was my confirmation that the prayer was from the Lord, as good men and good women said how it blessed them. I might add that when the parents, Gary and my daughter Andrea, invited me to pray the prayer at the dedication ceremony, my heart left within me and I blessed the God of heaven. It would be a solemn time, but a blessed time, and I knew God would give me a prayer for my grandson, and he did. Following is what was in my heart and mind. For time’s sake the actual ceremony was of necessity shorter than what is written below, but all five scriptures were quoted and a prayer of consecration was given over Jakob.



Gary and Andrea Huehnerhoff
with baby Jakob

The way the Lord often speaks to me is through the scriptures, and he reminded me of ***Ecclesiastes 7:1*** *A good name is better than precious ointment.* From this, he led me to precious scriptures and themes dear

to my heart regarding the name J-A-K-O-B. These themes involved protection, blessing, work, ministry, honor, provision, knowledge, passion, and more. Here is what the Lord gave to me for the prayer of dedication in the congregation of the righteous:

Justice – *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? Micah 6:8*

May Jakob be a man who loves God and is one in whom the Spirit of God dwells and may he be a testimony of God's love, mercy, justice, and do so as a humble man. Serving God is not complicated, but it's also not easy. In this world there is no end to injustice, and hardship, and evil, and arrogance. My heart for Jakob is that he would be a man of honor, a man who understands justice and would be sensitive to the needs of others, and do the right thing, and that he'd be a merciful person, one who defended the defenseless, one who cared for the downtrodden, and one who gave allowance for those whom he could extract a price, but rather would chose to show mercy. And it was in my heart that Jakob would walk humbly with God, that he'd come to know Christ at an early age, and that he would bless God with any talents and gifting given to him.

Abundance – *I am come that they might have life, and have it more abundantly. John 10:10*

May God give Jakob a life of purpose, of challenge, of honor and integrity. May he be set apart for his life's calling, and enjoy God's provision in all areas. The best life is the one serving Christ. I so desire that my grandson Jakob, and yes, all of my children and their spouses, and grandchildren-to-be, and sons and daughter-in-laws to be, would know God's abundant life. It was in my heart that Jakob would be the head and not the tail, that he'd walk in victory and not defeat, and that he'd follow Christ diligently such that God's great abundance would be his portion. That he'd be a man of accomplishment, and have resources to advance the cause of Christ and bless those with whom he has influence. This was on my mind.

Keep – *The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Numbers 6:24-26*

May the Lord rest his hand of blessing on Jakob, and prosper his way, and show favor unto him all the days of his life. My heart desired of Jakob that he'd be one on whom the Lord shines his face, and keeps in the hollow of his hand. It was my prayer intention that Jakob would be kept from evil, and from evil men, and from evil works, and be one who is a somebody in the kingdom of God. May he know the light of Christ early on, and live in God's light all the days of his life. This was in my heart.

Obedience – *Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice. 1 Samuel 15:22*

May Jakob be strong in Christian doctrine, and understand the ways of God and the principles of the kingdom of God, and apply them.

Here my heart was mindful that many in the Christian community stumble and err greatly because they do not know how to properly apply the scriptures. Many are caught up in error, not knowing the ways of the Lord or the principles of the kingdom of Heaven. May Jakob have a heart of knowledge and discernment, may he be associated with gifted teachers and examples, and may he have success in God's work because he knows the ways of the Lord.

Burden – The *burden of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi. Malachi 1:1*

May Jakob hear the voice of God, and may he be a laborer in the white fields of harvest in these last days, and be a warrior for the kingdom of God. Here my heart was in regards to ministry. Whatsoever the Lord has for Jakob's life work, may he be a man who feels the burden of the word of the Lord. May he hear God's voice. May he be moved by the plight of the lost, the sinner, the fatherless, the widow, the orphan, the poor, the infirm, and the prisoner. May he have a heart for the least-of-the-least, and may he act on it as his heart is moved and as the love of God constrains him. May Jakob be a soul-winner, for he that wins souls is wise.

The full dedication service included the attending of family and friends standing at the altar and introducing themselves to the congregation as my pastor Dr. Joseph Fuiten went from person to person. After introductions Pastor Joe as is our church's custom asks those standing with the baby if they will do what they can to set a good example and support the parents. To the parents he asks publicly if they will commit to raising their child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and live before him a life such that at the earliest possible age Jakob would take Christ as his savior. The parents and those standing with the parents agree to all of this and make this public confession.



Family and Friends at the front of the church for the dedication.



Pastor Joe speaking to the parents at the dedication.



Grandpa Bob bringing the prayer of dedication with Pastor Joe.



Grandpa Rob Huehnerhoff and Jakob



Grandpa Bob Jordan with Jakob



Great Grandpa Frank Jordan with Jakob

Dedication Service to the Lord Jesus Christ of Jakob Robert Huehnerhoff
Son of Gary and Andrea Huehnerhoff, born June 21, 2012
Cedar Park Assembly of God
December 23, 2012