

# Fifteen Biblical Reasons to Have Another Child

## A Protestant Perspective on a large family

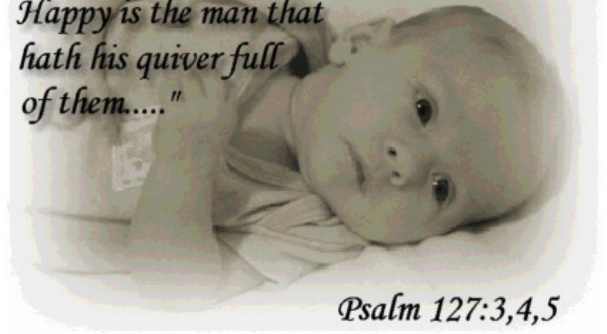
### #1: It is commanded by God.

**Genesis 1:28 Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth.**

This is not a command for a special time and place.

It is part of the Dominion Mandate of Gen 1:28-29.

*"Lo, Children are an heritage of the Lord:  
and the Fruit of the Womb is His reward.  
Happy is the man that  
hath his quiver full  
of them....."*



*Psalms 127:3,4,5*

“Have another child to counter global depopulation.

Anyone who has traveled from coast to coast in the United States and seen the vast empty spaces should know that America is not overpopulated. In fact, the entire population of the world could live in the state of Texas, in single-family dwellings with front and back yards. Fertility rates are falling everywhere. The world’s population will never again double. If current trends continue, world population will peak by the middle of this century and then begin demographic freefall. Our long-term problem is not too many children, but too few children. Having another child will help offset the coming population implosion.” *Steve Mosher, President of Population Research Institute*

### #2: Children are a blessing.

**Genesis 1:<sup>28</sup> God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”... <sup>31</sup> God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.**

Having children was part of the very first blessing God poured out on His image bearers (Gen 1:27). Not only was this an aspect of how God blessed them, but God also declared this pre-Fall condition to be “very good.” We ought not speak poorly of what God has wonderfully ordained. It is a doctrine of demons that forbid people to marry. 1 Tim 4:1,3 says, “The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons...

<sup>3</sup>They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.”

### #3: Children are a gift from God, yea a reward.

**Psalms 127:3-5 Sons are a heritage from the LORD, children a reward from him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons born in one's youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them.**

“Children are a heritage which Jehovah himself must give, or a man will die childless, and thus his house will be unbuilt. And the fruit of the womb is his reward, or a reward from God. He gives children, not as a penalty nor as a burden, but as a favour. They are a token for good if men know how to receive them, and educate them. They are "doubtful blessings" only because we are doubtful persons. Where society is rightly ordered children are regarded, not as an incumbrance, but as an inheritance; and they are received, not with regret, but as a reward. If we are over crowded in England, and so seem to be embarrassed with too large an increase, we must remember that the Lord does not order us to remain in this narrow island, but would have us fill those boundless regions which wait for the axe and the plough. Yet even here, with all the straits of limited incomes, our best possessions are our own dear offspring, for whom we bless God every day.” *Charles Spurgeon*

#### **#4: Children have great use & purpose.**

**Psalm 127:4 As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.**

“Children born to men in their early days, by God's blessing become the comfort of their riper years. A man of war is glad of weapons which may fly where he cannot: good sons are their father's arrows speeding to hit the mark which their sires aim at. What wonders a good man can accomplish if he has affectionate children to second his desires, and lend themselves to his designs! To this end we must have our children in hand while they are yet children, or they are never likely to be so when they are grown up; and we must try to point them and straighten them, so as to make arrows of them in their youth, lest they should prove crooked and unserviceable in after life. Let the Lord favour us with loyal, obedient, affectionate offspring, and we shall find in them our best helpers. We shall see them shot forth into life to our comfort and delight, if we take care from the very beginning that they are directed to the right point.” *Charles Spurgeon*

**Psalm 8:1-2 O LORD , our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

**You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.**

One of the purposes our glorious Lord has ordained for infants and children is that they would silence the enemy.

#### **#5: Have another child to bring joy into your life.**

**John 16:20b-22 You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. <sup>21</sup>A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. <sup>22</sup>So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.**

Jesus likens the joy that will accompany His resurrection to the joy of having a baby. Just like Jesus' death and resurrection were necessary for the salvation of His people due to the Fall of our first parents, childbirth is painful due to the Fall. During childbirth we are reminded first of our sinfulness and then of the joy of redemption and deliverance.

**Psalm 127:5 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them.**

“Those who have no children bewail the fact; those who have few children see them soon gone, and the house is silent, and their life has lost a charm; those who have many gracious children are upon the whole the happiest. Of course a large number of children means a large number of trials; but when these are met by faith in the Lord it also means a mass of love, and a multitude of joys.

[Spurgeon reflects on his own experience by saying. . .] The writer of this comment gives it as his own observation, that he has seen the most frequent unhappiness in marriages which are unfruitful; that he has himself been most grateful for two of the best of sons; but as they have both grown up, and he has no child at home, he has without a tinge of murmuring, or even wishing that he were otherwise circumstanced, felt that it might have been a blessing to have had a more numerous family: he therefore heartily agrees with the Psalmist's verdict herein expressed. He has known a family in which there were some twelve daughters and three sons, and he never expects to witness upon earth greater domestic felicity than fell to the lot of their parents, who rejoiced in all their children, as the children also rejoiced in their parents and in one another. When sons and daughters are arrows, it is well to have a quiver full of them; but if they are only sticks, knotty and useless, the fewer of them the better.” *Charles Spurgeon*

**#6: They will bring increased awe at God's creative power.**

**Psalm 139:**<sup>13</sup> For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. <sup>14</sup> I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. <sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, <sup>16</sup> your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. <sup>17</sup> How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

I thought that one day  
I would be a famous artist  
and create great works of art

The design of their lives  
will live on after me.  
What is painted on their hearts  
will last an eternity

Instead, God made me a mother,  
and my children are His masterpiece.

- Anonymous

**Habakkuk 3:2 LORD, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, O LORD. Renew them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy. God is mighty in His power. This is especially shown in His awesome creation of a child.**

**Isaiah 44:24 This is what the LORD says- your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb: I am the LORD, who has made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself.**

From the creation of the universe to the knitting together in the womb a baby, the Redeemer is at work to reveal Himself as Lord.

**#7: To grow in holiness and virtue.**

**James 1:2-4 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.**

Parents are presented with a multitude of opportunities to be selfless, to consider others before themselves. Children can be tools of God by which he teaches us patience, humility, trust in God, and perseverance. The virtue of mercy is practiced when mothers and fathers clothe and feed the "least of these" (Matthew 25:31-46, esp 34-36).

**Matthew 10:42 And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.**

**#8: It is a great privilege.**

**Matthew 22:29-30 Jesus replied, "You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God. At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven."**

Angels don't have babies. Humans are the only ones who have babies with immortal souls that have not existed before.

## **#9: Have another child to help end abortion.**

### **Deuteronomy 30:19 Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live.**

“How this works is not difficult to understand. As children become rarer due to contraception, sterilization and abortion, whole segments of society become less and less familiar with the sense of joy and hope that only babies and children can give. In this climate, contraception and abortion feed on themselves, as the increasingly selfish few further reduce their number. By having another child, you demonstrate once again to the world that children are God’s greatest gifts. The more children there are in society, the more pro-life that society will become, and the easier it will be for the great evil of abortion to be eradicated once and for all.” Steve Mosher, President of Population Research Institute

### **Exodus 20:13 You shall not murder.**

“Unborn children are living creatures in the image of God. From the moment of conception to birth they are objects of God’s providence as they are being prepared by Him for the responsibilities and privileges of postnatal life. Unborn children are to be treated as human persons in all decisions and actions involving them. Ex. 20:13; Ex. 21:22-23; Ps. 139:13-16.” Testimony of RPCNA

**Numbers 12:11-13 and he said to Moses, “Please, my lord, do not hold against us the sin we have so foolishly committed. <sup>12</sup> Do not let her be like a stillborn infant coming from its mother’s womb with its flesh half eaten away.” <sup>13</sup> So Moses cried out to the LORD , “O God, please heal her!”**

## **#10: So your children will have siblings**

*A) Have another child so your sons will have brothers and your daughters will have sisters.*

### **Psalm 133:1-2 “How good it is, how pleasant, where the brothers dwell as one!”**

Children who have siblings learn early to share. They learn to take turns and to put the needs of others before their own. The bond formed between brothers and sisters is lifelong, and stronger than the bond between the closest friends.

*B) Have another child so your sons will have sisters and your daughters will have brothers.*

### **1 Timothy 5:1-2 “Treat younger men as brothers, <sup>2</sup>older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.”**

Boys who have sisters learn the dignity of women. They learn to treat other girls and women with respect, as they consider how they would like their own sisters to be treated. Girls who have brothers learn the complementarity of men and women, both fashioned in the image and likeness of God.

## **#11: Have another child so you (and your parents) won’t be lonely in old age.**

### **Proverbs 17:6 Grandchildren are the crown of the aged**

Grandchildren are an honor and reward. Children and grandchildren provide and care for their elderly relatives.

**1 Timothy 5:3-8 Honor widows who are truly widows. But if a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God... But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.**

## **#12:** *So you have someone to save for*

**2 Corinthians 12:14-15** And I will not be a burden, for I seek not what is yours but you. For children are not obligated to save up for their parents, but parents for their children. I will most gladly spend and be spent for your souls.

We gladly give to our children. It brings us joy to see them happy. It brings us the most joy to see them truly happy in Jesus. ("I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." 3 John 4) Without children, we would labor our whole lives but who would inherit the fruit of our labors? This is meaningless or vanity.

"To a gracious soul this is no uneasiness at all; why should we grudge others their turn in the enjoyments of this world, and not rather be pleased that, when we are gone, those that come after us shall fare the better for our wisdom and industry?" Matthew Henry commenting upon Eccl 2:18

## **#13:** *You will learn much by sharing your faith and educating your children*

**Philemon 1:6** I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.

Whenever you teach anything to someone, you learn that topic so much better. Parents are responsible for the training and education of their children. Timothy knew the Holy Scriptures from infancy (1 Tim 3:15). And we read in 2 Timothy 1:5, "I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also." Timothy's faith first lived in his grandmother. May we pass on our faith just as successfully.

**Proverbs 22:6** Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. "Education of children is primarily the responsibility of parents, though they may delegate part of this responsibility to the church or other agencies. The earliest and most important educational institution is the home, where children are taught, by precept and example, basic principles of godly living. Parents should educate each child to the extent of their resources and the child's ability, seeking to develop his God-given talents that he may serve God most fully and effectively. In order to promote the general welfare, the state may prescribe educational standards and should provide educational opportunities, both in harmony with God's law. Deut. 6:6-9; Ps. 34:11; Ps. 78:2-7; Prov.22:6." Testimony of RPCNA

## **#14:** *Have another child to contribute to the economy.*

**Psalms 128:3-4** Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD.

Olives and the oil that came from them are staple products in that region of the world. Throughout history a baby boom signal a time of great prosperity.

Having many children is not easy, sometimes it is quite messy, but the blessings are manifold.

**Proverbs 14:4** Where there are no oxen, the manger is clean, but abundant crops come by the strength of the ox.

## **#15:** *Have another child to help populate heaven.*

**1 Corinthians 7:14** Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.

Children of just one believing parent are said to be clean. That does not eliminate our responsibility to train them or their responsibility to walk in the truth (3 John 4), but it gives us great hope.

Consider the [covenant promises](#) for our descendants. Scripture is replete with these promises.