

# A Father's Covering

**"Whenever a round of banqueting was over, Job would send [for his children] and purify them, rising early in the morning to offer burnt offerings for all of them. For Job thought: Perhaps my children have sinned, having cursed God in their hearts. This was Job's regular practice."**

**--Job 1:5**

One of the things I'm learning as a father, is how important it is for Christian men to see themselves as a spiritual covering for their children. Whether our offspring are young or old, we need to do whatever we can to see to it that they come from a heritage of a father who determines in his heart unwaveringly, whatever the world does, as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Even when my daughter Briana was still too young to even understand things of a spiritual nature, I felt compelled to pray for her spiritual life every day. My wife and I asked God daily for Briana's eternal salvation and for her to live a life giving glory to God and being protected from the world and the evil one.

Ultimately, of course, her own faith, not ours, determines her eternal destiny. But I will do everything in my power to provide for her a home that is under a spiritual covering that honors God and helps her to grow up knowing Him, loving Him, seeking Him, worshiping Him.

## **Patching the tent**

And when she sins, as she does and will, like all children, I will be praying for her, for God to show His mercy for her and bring her to repentance and fellowship with Him. God described Job as a blameless man who feared Him and turned from evil, in the first chapter of that book, and the evidence of it the text gives is the verse above, which shows us how concerned Job was for his children to be in a right relationship with their Creator.

May God help me always to have that same focus as my chief desire for my daughter. Let the other parents dream of the children being president or becoming famous and wealthy. Let me dream of having a child who loves Jesus and does whatever the Holy Spirit leads her to do.