

## Week 49—Godliness

### Read

We read that in 1677 a licentious man married a licentious woman. From that union came 1900 descendants. Of these descendants 771 were criminals, 39 were murderers; only 10 learned a trade and they learned it in prison. They spent a combined total of 1,300 years in prison and cost the state of New York nearly three million dollars. That is what two ungodly people in marriage did for the United States.

But look at the record of the Edwards' family, the family of Jonathan Edwards, the great preacher. A godly man married a godly woman. They had 1,344 descendants. Of this number 295 were college graduates, 13 were college professors, 65 were college presidents, 186 were ministers, 101 were lawyers, 86 were state senators, and 3 were congressmen. There were also 30 judges and one vice-president of the United States. Not one of these descendants was ever accused of crime. This is what two godly people in marriage can do for the world. <sup>1</sup>

### Reflect

*Only give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things which your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life; but make them known to your sons and grandsons. (Deuteronomy 4:9)*

*For, I the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, and on the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me. (Deuteronomy 5:9)*

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments. (Deuteronomy 6:9)*

### Respond

Write your thoughts here:

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Prayer Requests for yourself, your students, and others with whom you serve in ministry:

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**Remember**

The way you live your life not only affects you, but also your children's children's children. You will never see in this life the full impact of your life.

<sup>1</sup>W. Herschel Ford, *Sermons You Can Preach on John*, (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1958), p. 126.