

(33) Jesus Blesses Children (Matt. 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:15-17)

1. Children (Mt. 19:13; Mk. 10:13), even babies (Lk. 18:15), were brought for hands-on prayer blessings (Mk. 10:16).
2. Every gospel record demonstrates the volition of the parents on behalf of their children in this activity.
 - a. The parents were “bringing” their children. προσφέρω *prospheō* ^{#4374}_{47x}.
 - b. This activity is paralleled in every gospel record as the children “coming.” ἔρχομαι *erchomai* ^{#2064}_{630x}.
3. The disciples rebuked the parents for unstated reasons (Mt. 19:13; Mk. 10:13; Lk. 18:15). ἐπιτιμάω *epitimaō* ^{#2008}_{29x}.
4. Jesus became indignant towards His disciples for more obvious reasons (Mk. 10:14).
 - a. ἀγανακτέω *aganakteō* ^{#23}_{7x} (Mt. 20:24¹; 21:15; 26:8²; Mk. 10:14,41¹; 14:4²; Lk. 13:14). Also ἀγανάκτησις *aganaktēsis* ^{#24}_{Hap} (2nd Cor. 7:11).
 - b. Indignation is an anger prompted by resentment (cf. 1st Clem. 56:2; 2nd Clem. 19:2).
 - c. In the case of our Lord, we understand His indignation to be an anger without sin (Ps. 4:4; Eph. 4:26 cp. 2nd Cor. 5:21; Heb. 4:15; 7:26; 1st Pet. 2:22; 1st Jn. 3:5).
5. Jesus issues His disciples a twin imperative (Mt. 19:14; Mk. 10:14; Lk. 18:16).
 - a. Permit them. Aor.act.imper. ἀφίημι *aphiēmi* ^{#863}_{143x}.
 - b. Do not hinder them. μὴ + Pres.act.imper. κωλύω *kōlyō* ^{#2967}_{23x} (Mt. 19:14¹; Mk. 9:38,39²; 10:14¹; Lk. 6:29; 9:49,50²; 11:52; 18:16¹; 23:2; Acts 8:36; 10:47; 11:17; 16:6; 24:23; 27:43; Rom. 1:13; 1st Cor. 14:39; 1st Thess. 2:16; 1st Tim. 4:3; Heb. 7:23; 2nd Pet. 2:16; 3rd Jn. 10).
6. The Kingdom of Heaven (Mt. 19:14), Kingdom of God (Mk. 10:14; Lk. 18:16) belongs to such as these. τοιοῦτος *toioutos* ^{#5108}_{56x} (Mt. 19:14; Mk. 10:14; Lk. 18:16; Acts 22:22; Rom. 16:18; 1st Cor. 5:5,11; 7:28; 16:16; 2nd Cor. 2:6f; 10:11a; 12:2,5; Gal. 6:1; Tit. 3:11).
7. Child-like faith is required for salvation (Mk. 10:15; Lk. 18:17 cf. Mt. 18:3-6; Ps. 131; also 22:9).