

## *An Exercise To Discern Both Good and Evil (Hebrews 5:14)*

### **Spanking A Child Is A Carnal Act Of Pleasure**

#### **Scenario:**

You have been invited into the home of a brother and sister in Christ. They have three children that are all under the age of twelve. You are all eating a meal at the same table. During the meal, one of the children throws food at the father and laughs. The father and mother take the child out of the room. They come back moments later. They have given the child a time-out. Moments later the child runs back into the room screaming and crying. The mother hugs the child and ends the punishment. They allow the child back to the table. The child continues to misbehave. At that point, you state: *“Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him”* (Proverbs 22:15).

#### **Statement That Arises From Our Scenario:**

The father gets irritated by your statement. He then responds that you should read Hebrews 12:9-10. He says: “Our child is acting out because of stress. Having company is stressful. We understand and are not going to correct something that is not under our child’s control. Spanking a child is carnal. It is only a Old Testament thing. We won’t do that to our children. It is archaic. It is carnal. It is hateful. The way we raise our children is not your business.”

#### **A Later Statement Is Made:**

The mother states: “There is an article that I am going to send you a link to. You should read it. Hitting a child is abusive. It is an old school parenting tactic that we should know better than now. Our child’s therapist agrees that timeouts and positive reinforcement are the right ways to teach a child.” You then get a text message with this link in it: <https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/spanking-discipline-or-abuse/>

**For Discussion:** What do you see in those statements?