

CHAPTER 3

RIGHTEOUSNESS

Having established the flawless architectural design of humanity at creation—where every individual is endowed with the permanent image, *Tselem*, and the latent potential for likeness, *Demuth*—we must now examine how this static perfection transitions into daily life. This foundational framework consisting of the physical body, animating spirit, and unique divine intellect, is completely secure before any action or choice. The original tripartite hardware is flawlessly installed, granting the individual the latent potential to reflect the Creator’s moral character.

However, a beautifully constructed vessel is ultimately designed for a journey. The permanent installation of this divinely engineered blueprint naturally leads to the next profound question: how does this secure structure transition from a state of quiet existence to the active, daily environment of the physical world?

This chapter focuses on the beautiful transition from the unaccountable state of childhood innocence to the active daily governance of the physical vessel of righteousness. This demonstrates that from the moment of birth, children enter a divinely ordained period of innocent grace. As they grow physically and mentally, they gradually reach an era of accountability, where the reasoning mind is designed to step up as the active captain of the physical body.

This transition is not a structural change but rather the intended activation of the existing potential. The mind learns to evaluate temporal instincts and choose eternal truth, thereby achieving the functional likeness of the Creator. Through this detailed journey, the profound love, perfect justice, and masterful engineering of the Creator's design are brought into the light.

Phase 1: Contextual Foundation

To fully understand the active governance of the human structure, it is necessary to establish a scriptural context for childhood development, innocence, and transition into accountability. The biblical narrative presents human life as a journey of continuous and beautiful growth.

Children are born completely unmarred; however, they require time to develop physical strength and cognitive discernment. During these highly formative years, the Creator provides a beautiful covering of grace, recognizing that the human mind needs time to mature before it can make complex moral decisions.

This journey begins at the time of creation and continues through every instance of procreation. The scriptures show that human beings are born in a state of absolute innocence.

And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed (Gen. 2:25).

This initial state of being naked and unashamed represents a perfect, unmarred condition. It is a state of pure existence, free

from the heavy burden of guilt, fear, or moral failure. Every procreated child enters the world in an identical state of structural perfection and profound innocence. They possess the image of the Creator and the latent potential for righteousness, which is completely unblemished by any previous actions. They are safe, secure, and entirely whole.

As children grow, their physical bodies develop strength, and their minds begin to observe their surrounding environment. The scriptures are clear that this growth takes time and is heavily influenced by the physical world. Children grow in their understanding of both eternal truths and temporal earthly concepts.

This developmental period is uniquely different for every individual, as culture, home environment, and daily surroundings can either gently help or heavily hinder growth. A child raised in a home that actively teaches the truth of the Creator will develop a different cognitive framework from one raised in an environment disconnected from that truth. However, regardless of the cultural environment, the Creator extends a period of absolute innocence to all children.

A profound illustration of this period of innocence is found in the historical narrative of the Israelites' journey through the wilderness. Following a moment of severe national distress, the Creator pronounces a boundary of accountability, drawing a clear and merciful line between adults and children. This event occurred in 2317 AM (1444 BCE).

And as for your little ones, who you said would become a prey, and your children, who today have no knowledge of good or evil, they shall go in there. And to them I will give it, and they shall possess it (Deut. 1:39).

The phrase “no knowledge of good or evil” is a definitive scriptural marker for the period of childhood innocence. Children are not held accountable for their environment or parents’ failures. Because their developing minds had not yet reached the cognitive threshold required to accurately differentiate between right and wrong, they were covered by profound divine mercy.

They were structurally complete, but functionally, they were still in a developmental grace period. This grace ensured that they would inherit the Promised Land, proving that the Creator’s justice is perfectly balanced with deep compassion for the developing mind. The text uses the word “today” to indicate that this state is temporary; while they did not have the knowledge today, they would eventually grow into it.

However, this period of innocence is not permanent. The physical and mental growth of a child eventually leads to specific transition moments. The prophet Isaiah provides a beautiful biological and cognitive timeline for this transition, given as a sign during a time of intense national distress, approximately 3026 AM (735 BCE).

He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted
(Isa. 7:15-16).

This text elegantly pairs physical and cognitive developments. Eating “curds and honey” represents a transition to solid foods, marking physical growth. Alongside this physical marker, there is a specific point in time, “before the boy

knows,” representing an era of unaccountability. Then, there is the exact moment “when he knows,” marking the end of innocence and the beginning of accountability.

This transition is entirely triggered by cognitive discernment. When the mind can finally evaluate a situation, recognize the difference between eternal truth and temporal non-truth, and make a deliberate choice, the individual steps into the arena of moral responsibility.

The Apostle Paul beautifully reflects on this transition from childhood innocence to accountability in his letter to the Romans, written in 3817 AM (57 CE):

I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died
(Rom. 7:9).

In his early childhood, before his mind could comprehend the weight and instruction of the moral law, he was “alive” and innocent. The original tripartite hardware was intact, and he was covered by grace. His period of accountability began only when he fully understood the commandment.

To see this perfect research in action, the scriptures provide vivid historical narratives of children growing through this phase of innocence into a life of active and righteous governance. These narratives prove that the inherent operational design functions as intended in the real world.

Narrative 1: Growth of Samuel

The first powerful example is the life of the prophet Samuel, whose early years occurred around 2661 AM (1100 BCE).

Samuel was dedicated to service in the physical environment of the tabernacle at Shiloh. However, this specific environment was hindered by the corrupt and immoral actions of the adult sons of high priests. Despite this severely negative cultural environment, Samuel's individual growth was protected and guided by the Creator. The text carefully documents the developmental stages.

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and also with man
(1 Sam. 2:26).

This highlights the dual growth of the physical body (stature) and the developing mind (favor). Furthermore, the text notes his specific developmental state regarding eternal truth:

Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him
(1 Sam. 3:7).

Samuel was growing in physical strength and general wisdom, but he was still in a period of innocence regarding specific divine revelation. When his cognitive discernment reaches the necessary threshold, the Creator calls him directly at night. Samuel's mind evaluated the call, recognized the truth, and chose to respond with obedience. His reasoning mind stepped up as the active governor of his life, choosing righteousness despite the highly unrighteous environment surrounding him.

Narrative 2: Reign of Josiah

A second profound narrative is found in the life of King Josiah, who ascended to the throne of Judah at the remarkable age of eight, precisely in 3121 AM (640 BCE).

Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath. And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD and walked in all the way of David his father, and he did not turn aside to the right or to the left (2 Kings. 22:1-2).

Josiah's early reign was a period of developmental growth. Because of his extreme youth, the early years of his reign were likely guided by adult counselors. However, by the eighteenth year of his reign, in 3139 AM (622 BCE), his cognitive discernment was fully active.

When the lost book of the law was discovered and read to him, Josiah did not react with ignorance. His mind immediately processes the eternal truth, recognizes the temporal errors of his nation, and governs his physical actions with a profound sense of righteousness. He instituted massive reforms, proving that once the period of accountability begins, the human mind is entirely capable of steering the physical vessel toward the functional likeness of the Creator.

Narrative 3: Upbringing of Timothy

A third excellent example is found in the New Testament, focusing on the upbringing of a young man named

Timothy. In 3827 AM (67 CE), Apostle Paul reflected on Timothy's childhood environment.

And how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus (2 Tim. 3:15).

Timothy was raised in a home environment that actively fostered his development. His grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice carefully taught him the scriptures from the time he was an infant. This narrative highlights the importance of the formative years. While Timothy was in his period of innocence, his mind was filled with eternal truth. The text states that these writings made him "wise." This directly points to the development of cognitive discernment. When Timothy reached the age of accountability, his mind was fully prepared to refuse evil and choose good, successfully governing his physical vessel with righteousness.

These narratives confirm that the journey from birth involves a beautiful and protected period of grace. As the physical body grows, the mind develops until it reaches the capability of moral reasoning. At this moment, the structure is ready to fulfill its highest intended purpose: living an active righteous life.

Phase 2: Lexical & Syntactic Analysis

To fully comprehend the mechanics of how the reasoning mind governs the physical vessel, it is essential to move beneath the surface of English translations and examine

the original Hebrew and Koine Greek terms. The biblical text operates as a mathematically precise blueprint. Every root word and grammatical structure explains exactly how the elemental architecture transitions into an active, righteous living.

The original state of procreated humanity is defined as total innocence and structural security. The Hebrew and Greek words for ‘naked’ are *Arummim* and *Gymnos*. In the context of Genesis 2:25, the word *Arummim* is an adjective derived from a root meaning to be bare, stripped, or uncovered.

However, this nakedness is not merely a lack of physical clothing; it represents a state of complete vulnerability free from guilt, fear, or moral blemish. It is the perfect condition of an unmarred creation, standing safely in the presence of the Creator.

The syntax of this verse provides significant theological insights. The phrase “were not ashamed” uses the highly specific Hebrew verb *Yitboshashu*. This verb is constructed in the *Hitpael* stem, which, in biblical Hebrew grammar, indicates a reflexive or reciprocal action. The grammar shows that the man and woman did not cause shame to themselves or did they cause shame to each other. There was no internal conflict or external judgment. They were in a state of perfect peace, perfectly reflecting the concept that humans are born completely unmarred and structurally secure.

This state of unmarred peace is further supported by the biblical concept of innocence during the early developmental years. The Hebrew and Greek words for ‘innocence’ are *Niqqayon* and *Athoos*, respectively. The term *Niqqayon* conveys a profound sense of physical and moral purity. It is not merely an external washing of the hands; it is a

definitive verdict of purity in the Creator's eyes. It represents total freedom from guilt or punishment.

During the formative years, before cognitive discernment is reached, the child is held in this exact state of *Niqqayon*. Because they cannot yet process moral law, they are cleared of accountability by the Creator's merciful design.

The design requires children to eventually grow and take command of their physical bodies. This command is executed by a unique, immaterial spiritual component installed within each human being. The Hebrew word for 'intellect' is *Neshamah*, which parallels the Greek word for 'mind,' *Nous*. The *Neshamah* is a divine spark, reasoning intellect, and inherent capacity for moral understanding. It is a part of the human structure that can receive and process the eternal truth of the Creator.

The mechanics of the *Neshamah's* operation within the body are detailed in the wisdom literature.

The spirit *Neshamah*, of man is the lamp of the LORD, searching all his innermost parts" (Prov. 20:27).

The Hebrew word for 'lamp' is *Ner*. In the ancient world, lamps were not decorative items; they were vital, practical tools used to illuminate dark, hidden, or complex spaces. The text explicitly states that *Neshamah* serves as a divine lamp. It is the tool that the Creator installed to provide a clear internal illumination and direction.

The syntax of Proverbs 20:27 shows the lamp engaged in a continuous, active process of "searching," *Chaphash*, the "innermost parts," *Beten*. The word *Beten* literally translates to the belly, but in Hebrew idiom, it represents the absolute

deepest core of human emotion, instinct, and thought. Therefore, the reasoning mind, *Neshamah* actively illuminates the basic, temporal instincts of the physical body. It evaluates desires, fears, and physical impulses, testing them against the eternal truth it inherently possesses.

When the child reaches the age of accountability, this lamp is fully utilized to govern their behavior. The Apostle Paul explains this mechanical relationship between the mind and body in the New Testament.

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin (Rom. 7:25).

The Hebrew word for ‘flesh’ is *Basar*, which parallels the Greek word for ‘flesh,’ *Sarx*. *Sarx* represents the physical vessel, the strictly temporal and biological component of the human structure. The physical flesh operates on basic earthly instincts: self-preservation, hunger, physical safety and comfort. These instincts are inherently beneficial and “good” for survival in the physical world. The Hebrew word for ‘good’ is *Tob*. The physical body requires these *Tob* instincts to navigate the terrestrial world.

However, because these instincts are strictly temporal, they lack eternal moral reasoning. They only know what the body wants in the immediate moment. In Romans 7:25, the Greek word *Nous*, mind, is presented as the active, authoritative governor over the *Sarx*, flesh.

The text demonstrates a beautiful, structural chain of command. The mind, acting as a divine lamp, evaluates the temporal instincts of the flesh. Whenever these basic instincts

threaten to overstep moral boundaries, the mind actively and deliberately subordinates them to the eternal law of Yahweh. This “mind over flesh” directive is the exact process of righteous living. The mind does not destroy the flesh; it respectfully commands it.

When the reasoning mind successfully governs the physical vessel in this manner, it achieves the highest functional goal of the human structure. The Hebrew and Greek words for ‘righteousness’ are *Tsedeq* and *Dikaiosyne*. Lexically, *Tsedeq* and *Dikaiosyne* do not merely mean being a generally nice person. They represent a highly specific state of being exactly as one should be in each situation. In their original languages, these words carry the weight of judicial approval, balanced scales, and correct thinking, feelings, and actions.

When the mind, *Neshamah*, uses its divine light to examine the instincts of the flesh, *Basar*, and actively chooses to guide those instincts according to the eternal truth, the result is righteousness, *Dikaiosyne*. The secure, unmarred hardware of the tripartite structure successfully runs the beautiful software of moral reflection. This granular lexical analysis proves that humans are perfectly engineered to perform this process. The mind is a brilliant lamp, fully equipped and authorized to lead the physical body in a continuous daily walk of righteousness.

Phase 3: Theological Coherence Alignment

Having meticulously established the historical narratives and decoded the highly precise mechanical language of the original text, the final vital step is to align these findings

with a perfectly coherent theological framework. The biblical blueprint does not present fragmented ideas about child psychology or moral philosophy; it offers a single, flawless, self-interpreting system that explains the human journey from the quiet safety of the womb to the active, noble responsibility of the physical world.

This cohesive research begins with a profound foundational truth: all procreated human beings are born unmarred, possessing the permanent Image of the Creator and the perfect, latent potential for His Likeness. They arrive in the terrestrial realm “naked and not ashamed,” fully secure in their foundational framework and completely free of any functional flaw. Because the mind, *Neshamah* is installed at the absolute moment of formation, the hardware is complete. The vessel is ready for its journey.

However, the terrestrial realm is explicitly designed for growth. From birth, the physical vessel gradually increases in strength, and the mind begins a slow, beautiful process of acquiring wisdom. As children interact with the physical world, they absorb the realities of their home and cultural environments. These environments can act as gentle helps, encouraging the alignment of eternal truth as seen in Timothy’s life, or they can act as severe hindrances, promoting temporal, earthly non-truths, as seen in Samuel’s early environment.

However, regardless of external cultural noise, the internal structure remains unmarred and secure. The lamp is present, even if it is still learning to shine. Because the mind requires time to observe, process, and understand these complex realities, the Creator, in His perfect justice and compassion, institutes a period of absolute innocence.

During these formative years, children exist in a state of purity, *Niqqayon*. They are enveloped in a protective cover of grace. Because they lack the cognitive discernment to evaluate the difference between right and wrong, the Creator holds them entirely unaccountable for their actions. Their temporal mistakes are viewed through the lens of developmental learning, rather than moral rebellion.

This beautiful period of grace is necessary, but entirely temporary. At a certain point in every child's development, the physical growth of the vessel and the intellectual growth of the mind reach a critical intersection. This is the transition moment, the exact point identified by Isaiah where the child "knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good." While the chronological age at which this occurs differs for every individual based on their unique physical development and environmental exposure, the mechanical cause is always the same: cognitive discernment.

Once cognitive discernment is achieved, the period of unaccountability ends, and the noble era of accountability begins. The mind is no longer a latent observer; it is now fully activated and authorized to issue commands. The coherence of this truth is flawless.

Who: The reasoning mind, *Neshamah/Nous*, stepping up to its rightful place as the active and deliberate governor of the physical vessel.

What: The beautiful state of spiritual righteousness, *Dikaiosyne*. Righteousness is not a passive state of simply avoiding trouble; rather, it is an active and daily achievement. Through the highly specific directive of "mind over flesh," the mind uses its divine illumination to constantly search the innermost parts of the physical body. It evaluates the basic,

temporal instincts of the flesh—instincts that are inherently necessary and “good,” *Tob* for physical survival—and ensures that they are subordinated to the eternal truth of the Creator’s will. When the mind successfully leads the flesh, the set structural Image, *Tselem*, beautifully achieves functional Likeness, *Demuth*.

When: Constant and continuous. It begins at the very first moment a child reaches cognitive discernment and continues every day of their practical life. Whenever an individual feels the pull of temporal, fleshly instincts, the mind must step in, evaluate the desire, and choose the path of the eternal truth. It is a continuous living sacrifice that yields the physical to the spiritual. The lamp’s daily operation searches the belly.

Where: The operational environment of the physical world. Humans were not designed to be ethereal spirits floating in the clouds; they were designed to operate a physical vessel made of the dust of the earth. This physical vessel anchors them safely in the terrestrial realm, allowing them to interact with creation, experience the goodness of physical life and physically demonstrate the invisible love of God.

Why: To actively participate in the divine nature. The reasoning mind governs the flesh with righteousness so that the individual can continually choose truth over temporal instinct, lovingly reflecting the moral character of Yahweh, the Creator, in the physical world.

The scriptural blueprint proves that the transition from childhood innocence to accountable righteousness is flawless. From the unmarred peace of Genesis 2:25 through the protective grace of Deuteronomy 1:39 to the active mental governance of Romans 7:25, the text presents a single,

unbroken chain of logic. Every human being is given the time they need to grow, the grace they need to learn, and the structural equipment they need to govern their lives with absolute righteousness.

CONCLUSION

This exhaustive and granular examination of the scriptural narratives, original languages, and theological mechanics reveals a definitive and beautiful truth about human development and righteousness. The findings conclusively prove that every procreated human being is born structurally unmarred, existing in a pure state of being naked and unashamed.

As individuals grow in physical strength and mental understanding, they are sheltered under a divinely instituted period of innocence. Because they lack cognitive discernment, the Creator provides a profound covering of grace, holding them entirely unaccountable during these formative years of their lives.

However, as evidenced by the physical and mental timelines in the biblical text, this grace period is perfectly designed to end. When the mind reaches the threshold of cognitive discernment—the ability to accurately differentiate between eternal truth and temporal non-truths—the era of accountability begins. At this moment, the reasoning mind, *Neshamah/Nous*, is authorized and expected to step up as the active and capable governor of the physical vessel, *Sarx/Aphar*.

The original language confirms that the mind acts as a divine lamp, illuminating the deepest instincts of the body. By

actively evaluating these temporal instincts and choosing to respectfully subordinate them to the eternal truth, individuals achieve spiritual righteousness, *Dikaiosyne*. Through this daily, continuous mechanism of mind over flesh, the unmarred structural image perfectly realizes its potential, achieving the functional likeness of the Creator and fulfilling the highest intended purpose of human existence in the terrestrial realm.

PRACTICALITY AND ENCOURAGEMENT

Understanding the flawless design of childhood innocence and the noble calling of mental governance offers immense comfort and practical encouragement in daily life. For parents, grandparents, and caregivers, this scriptural blueprint provides a profound sense of peace and assurance. The knowledge that children are born completely unmarred and held in the secure covering of grace during their formative years relieves the heavy, unbiblical burden of assuming that children are inherently flawed.

The Creator fiercely protects the developing mind, granting every child the perfect amount of time and mercy required to grow in their understanding. While the home environment is important for gently guiding this growth, as seen in Timothy's life, the child's ultimate structural security rests entirely in the compassionate hands of the Creator. Parents can focus on lovingly teaching eternal truth, knowing that Yahweh's grace covers the child until their mind is ready to take the wheel of their lives.

Furthermore, this research empowers individuals navigating the immense complexities of adulthood. The physical body, with all its temporal instincts, hunger, and

physical demands, can often feel overwhelming to the individual. It is easy to feel as if the flesh is in control. However, the scriptural reality assures us that the Creator did not leave the physical vessel without a highly capable captain to steer it to its destination.

The divine intellect—the *Neshamah*—was permanently installed within you to act as a brilliant, guiding lamp. When you face moments of intense physical or emotional pressure, you can find great comfort in remembering that your reasoning mind is structurally designed and divinely authorized to govern your body. You possess the exact tools required to evaluate your circumstances, pause your temporal instincts, and choose the eternal truth.

Righteousness is not an impossible standard demanded by a distant God; it is the natural, beautiful result of your mind doing what it was perfectly designed to do. By resting deeply in this truth, you can step into each day with quiet confidence, knowing that your mind is fully equipped to lead your life in a manner that beautifully reflects your Creator's moral character.

All procreated human beings are born unmarred, possessing the permanent Image of the Creator and the perfect, latent potential for Divine Likeness.