

Commitment to the Lord

Commitment to our Children

(Baby Dedication and Mother's Day)

Roxborough Bible Chapel

May 13, 2018

Child Dedication

- This ceremony is a public statement by the parents that they will train their child in the Christian faith (according to God's Word) and seek to instill that faith in the Lord Jesus Christ into the child.
 - There is no implied salvation in this ceremony.
 - All parents should be dedicating their children to the Lord whether it is done publicly like this or not.
 - This dedication is more for the parents than the child, although it is a public recommendation that we ALL pray for the parents and the child (not just the elders during this “ceremony”).
 - In a sense, this can be compared to a public marriage vow
 - This is not one of the two ordinances (requirements of Christians in the New Testament): 1) baptism and 2) participation in the Lord's Supper. These are outward or public signs of what Christ has done within us.
 - While baby dedication is not an officially instituted ordinance of the church, there does not seem to be any conflict with Scripture as long as parents do not view it as assuring the salvation of the child.
 - Examples of dedications in the Bible:
 - Hannah
 - Joseph and Mary

Example of Dedications in the Bible

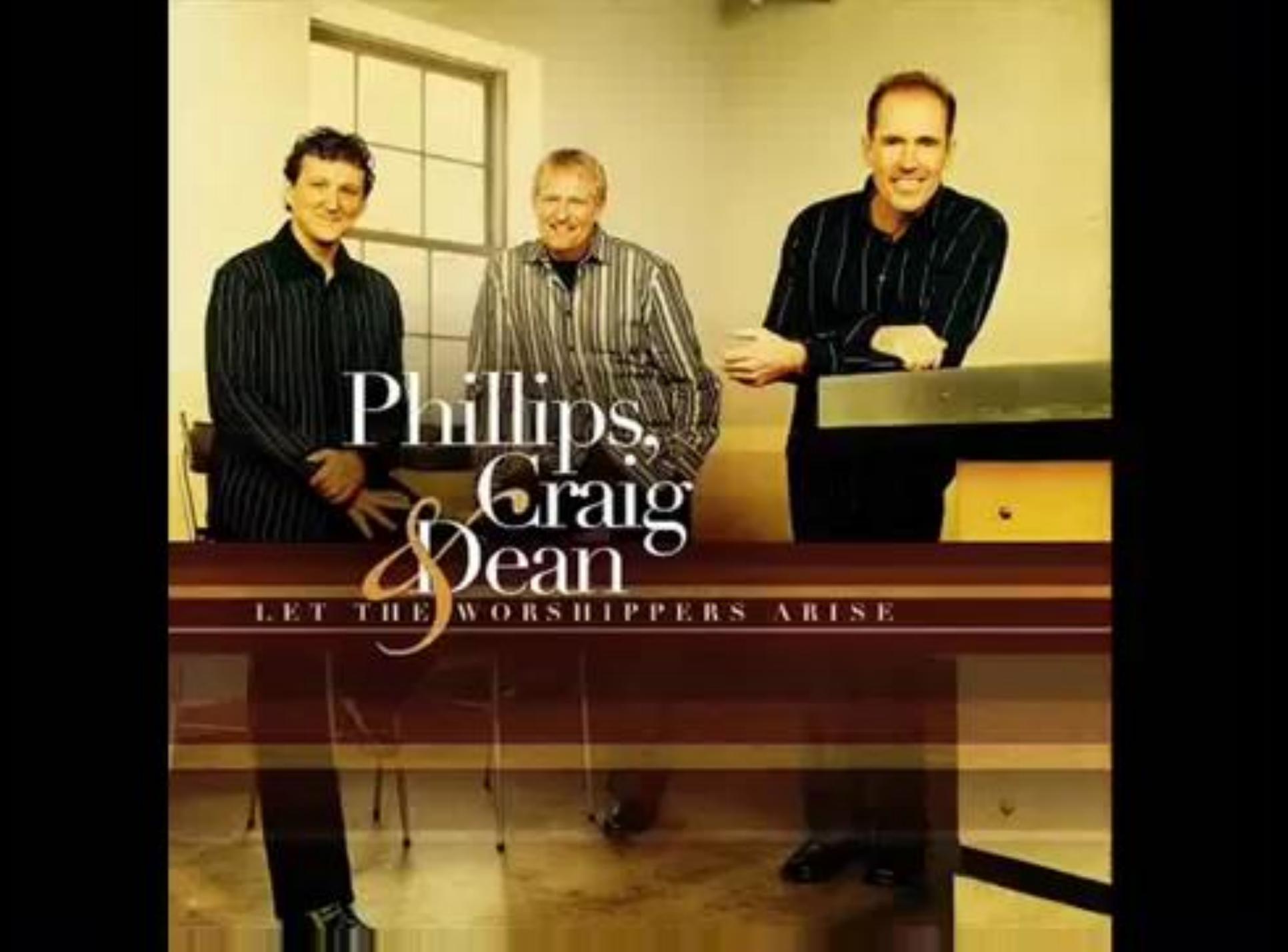
- Exodus 13:2 "Consecrate to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, *both* of man and beast; it is Mine."
- Hannah
 - I Samuel 1:11 Then she made a vow and said, "O LORD of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a male child, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall come upon his head."
- Joseph and Mary
 - Luke 2:22 Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present *Him* to the Lord
- General Scriptures (Deuteronomy 6:1-7)
 - Deut. 6:1 "Now this *is* the commandment, *and these are* the statutes and judgments which the LORD your God has commanded to teach you, that you may observe *them* in the land which you are crossing over to possess,
 - Deut. 6:2 that you may fear the LORD your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged.
 - Deut. 6:3 Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe *it*, that it may be well with you, and that you may multiply greatly as the LORD God of your fathers has promised you— 'a land flowing with milk and honey.'
 - Deut. 6:4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD *is* one!
 - Deut. 6:5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.
 - Deut. 6:6 "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.
 - Deut. 6:7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

Admonition to Parents

- Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.
- Psalm 127:3-5
 - 3. Behold, children *are* a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb *is* a reward.
 - 4. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So *are* the children of one's youth.
 - 5. Happy *is* the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.
- III John 4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.
- Ephesians 6:4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

Songs

- “Lord I want to be just like You”
 - Lord I want to be just like You, ‘cause he wants to be like me.
 - Parents have an awesome responsibility to be an example to their children.
 - The only way we can be an example to our children is if we follow the Lord ourselves.
 - I Corinthians 11:1 Imitate me, just as I also *imitate* Christ.

A photograph of three men in a church setting. The man on the left is wearing a dark, vertically striped shirt. The man in the middle is wearing a light-colored, vertically striped shirt. The man on the right is wearing a dark, vertically striped shirt and is leaning on a wooden structure, possibly a pulpit or altar. The background shows a window with a grid pattern. The overall lighting is warm and golden.

Phillips,
& Craig
Dean

LET THE WORSHIPPERS ARISE

Mother's Day

- **I Samuel 1:1 - 2:10, 2:18-21**
- **First - commitment to God**
- **Committing our children to the Lord**
 - Recognize that everything we have belongs to God (even our children) – we are His stewards
 - Recognize the extremely important role we have in taking care of God's children – serious time and energy required
 - Recognize our dependence on God so that we can fulfill His mission in caring, and training up our children in the way they should go.
 - Pray for them daily, constantly
 - Be a godly example to them (meaning that we first must follow the Lord in obedience ourselves)
- **When we appreciate our earthly parents (particularly mothers), we, in turn, appreciate God and His great sacrifice for us – Thank and Praise Him!!**

Songs

- “Midnight Oil”
 - “Mama like to burn the midnight oil in prayer”
 - Dependence on God for the outcome of our children.

