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***And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as his children? He said, “My child, don’t make light of the LORD’s discipline, and don’t give up when he corrects you. For the LORD disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child.” As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? ~Hebrews 12:5-7***

 Some people say that, since God is love, He wouldn’t discipline us. They say that a loving God wouldn’t do that. Is that true?

Have you ever been out in public and encountered a child having a temper tantrum? I’m talking about an all-out kicking, screaming, crying, fit-throwing, name-calling tantrum. In some instances, you will also encounter a parent trying their darndest to get that child under control. Sometimes though, you won’t. In our society today, we have decided that discipline is bad. They say that if we love our children, we won’t discipline them. Sometimes people mistake discipline for cruelty.

 A child who has been told not to run into the street, but who continues to do so, a child who is mean to his or her siblings, a child who throws fits to get their own way, etc. when these things happen, they should be corrected and, yes, sometimes, disciplined. As a parent, true love for our children will include discipline when it is necessary. In the same way, we can expect discipline from our Heavenly Father. It doesn’t mean that He doesn’t love us. On the contrary, it means that He cares for us too much to let us continue on in the way we are going. So, don’t be fooled by the argument that says a loving God wouldn’t do that.