

“Honor Your Parents”

Exodus 20:12

Pastor John Miller

I. Introduction

- A. With this fifth commandment, we move from our relationship to God to our relationship with people.
 - 1. God first
 - 2. People second
 - 3. Jesus said, “Love God and your neighbor”
- B. The first human relationship is that of the family or home
 - 1. The family is fundamental and foundational to all other social and societal relationships and structures
 - 2. It all starts with marriage
 - 3. What this 5th commandment presupposes
 - a) That you know who your parents are
 - b) That you know them well enough to honor them
 - c) That you have the opportunity to honor them
 - d) That you have a father and a mother
 - 4. Marriage and family are God’s idea
 - a) A divine origin
 - b) A divine design
 - c) (Genesis 2:18-25)
 - d) (Matthew 19:3-6)
 - 5. It is in the home that children learn to respect, submit, and obey those who are in authority
 - 6. The commandments are directed toward children but have implications for parents
 - a) The command, “honor thy father and mother”
 - 1) The Hebrew word “honor” comes from a verb that means “to be heavy” or “to give weight to”
 - 2) It is to hold the honored in high esteem and to place importance and reverence upon
 - 3) Respect
 - b) The consequences that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee
 - 1) It has a promised blessing
 - c) It also has a counterpart in the New Testament
 - 1) (Ephesians 6:1-4)

II. God’s Word to Children (Ephesians 6:1-3)

- A. The growing years (v. 1)
 - 1. Obey
 - a) To listen under
 - b) It is the action of listening to obey

- c) It is a present imperative
 - d) It is to be prompt and habitual
 - 2. Who are they to obey?
 - a) Your parents (v. 1)
 - b) Your father and mother
 - 1) (Romans 1:30)
 - 2) (2 Timothy 3:1-5)
 - 3. Why should children obey their parents?
 - a) It is commanded by God (v. 1)
 - 1) It is how you honor your parents and God
 - b) Your parents are God's ordained authority over you
 - c) It is right or righteous
 - 1) "For this is right" (v. 1)
 - 2) (Colossians 3:20)
 - d) Because Jesus did
 - 1) (Luke 2:51)
- B. The mature years (v. 2a)
 - 1. Obey is the action, and honor is the attitude
 - a) (Exodus 20:12)
 - b) To give weight to or to value
 - c) To hold in high esteem
 - 1) To value
 - 2) To respect
 - d) What if my parents are not honorable?
 - 1) There are no perfect parents
 - 2) (Ephesians 4:32)
 - e) The stages we pass through with our parents
 - 1) We idolize them
 - 2) We demonize them
 - 3) We utilize them
 - 4) We humanize them
 - 5) Don't focus on their faults
 - 6) Be thankful for them
 - 2. How can we honor our parents?
 - a) Respect them
 - 1) By how you speak to them and how you speak of them
 - b) Provide for them
 - 1) (Matthew 15)
 - 2) (Matthew 15:3-4)
 - 3) Honor your father and mother
 - a. Illustration- Jesus had honor for his mother Mary when on the cross
 - c) Show them consideration
 - 1) Remember to call them and visit them
 - 2) Invite them to your home, events, and vacations
 - 3) Tell them, "Thank you," and "I love you"
 - d) Live to honor them by your character
 - 1) (Proverbs 23:24)

- 2) (Proverbs 4:10)
- 3) (Proverbs 10:27)
- 4) (Proverbs 30:17)
- 5) If you want to have a long and blessed life, obey and honor your parents

III. God's Word to Parents (Ephesians 6:4)

- A. Don't provoke your children to anger (v. 4)
 1. Don't exasperate them
 2. (Colossians 3:12)
 - a) Criticism
 - b) Overly strict
 - c) Neglect
- B. Love your children
 1. "Bring them up" (v. 4)
 2. Same as "nourish" (Ephesians 5:29)
- C. Discipline your children
 1. "Nurture" (v. 4)
 - a) Training by discipline
 2. (Proverbs 13:24)
- D. Teach your children about God
 1. "Admonition of the Lord" (v. 4)
 - a) It is an instruction
 - b) In God's Word, the Bible
 - c) Dads need to take the lead
 - d) (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)

IV. Conclusion

- A. Children
- B. Parents
- C. Bringing blessings
 1. Family
 2. Church
 3. Nation