

Fundamentals Of The Church

Biblical Children

(Ep 6:1-3)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Morning
 - a. Greeting
2. Series of lessons on the fundamentals
 - a. We are now looking at the family dynamic.
3. We are thus going to look at how children are to be biblical.
 - a. Now parents and grandparents don't stop listening because this applies to children.
 - i. We all are children to someone...
4. This morning we will be looking at that which was read...**Ep 6:1-3**.
 - a. This is one of the Ten Commandments brought into the New Law intact.
 - i. To "honor our parents."
 1. **Ex 20:12** "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you."
5. About the word honor?
 - a. The word "honor" in **Ep 6:2** means to fix a value on something, to consider it a prized possession.
 - b. The original Hebrew from **Ex 20:12** is interesting.
 - i. It comes from a word meaning "to be heavy."
 - ii. It is used to ascribe someone heavy with wealth. Someone who is considered important and impressive.
 1. Like the man of God, held in honor by the people.
 - a. **I Sa 9:6** "And he said to him, "Look now, there is in this city a man of God, and he is an honorable man; all that he says surely comes to pass. So let us go there; perhaps he can show us the way that we should go.'"

I. What Does It Mean To Honor One's Parents?

- A. Honoring means obeying
 1. **Ep 6:1** "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."
 2. Paul tells children to obey their parents and proves his point by quoting the command that says to honor your parents.
 - i. This obedience is pleasing to God
 - a. **Co 3:20** "Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord."
- B. Honoring means listening to their teachings and applying them to our lives
 1. **Pr 1:8-9** "My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother; 9 For they will be a graceful ornament on your head, And chains about your neck."
 2. Even when being disciplined, children are to pay attention.
 - i. **Pr 15:5** "A fool despises his father's instruction, But he who receives correction is prudent."

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- C. Honoring means being grateful for what parents have done for them
 - 1. **Pr 30:11** "There is a generation that curses its father, And does not bless its mother."
- D. Honoring means that you don't mock or treat scornfully your parents
 - 1. Honor is shown in our body language
 - i. **Lv 19:32** "You shall rise before the gray headed and honor the presence of an old man, and fear your God: I am the LORD."
 - ii. **Pr 30:17** "The eye that mocks his father, And scorns obedience to his mother, The ravens of the valley will pick it out, And the young eagles will eat it."
 - 2. Honor is shown in our fear "reverence" of our parents.
 - i. **Lv 19:3** "Every one of you shall revere his mother and his father, and keep My Sabbaths: I am the LORD your God."
- E. Honoring is not cursing your parents
 - 1. **Pr 20:20** "Whoever curses his father or his mother, His lamp will be put out in deep darkness."
 - i. **Ex 21:17** "And he who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death."
 - 2. This doesn't just mean to not to use profanity at them.
 - i. It means you must not make light of them or treat them with contempt.
 - 3. Example:
 - i. A child is not to strike his/her parents.
 - a. **Ex 21:15**
 - ii. A child is not to rob his parents and think all is fine.
 - a. **Pr 28:24**
- F. Honoring is seeing the needs of the parents and fulfilling those needs
 - 1. Children are to take care of their parents when the time comes.
 - i. **I Ti 5:8** "But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."

II. Does It Matter Who Your Parents Are?

- A. Your parent is the person who has raised you or is raising you
- B. But what if my parent is despicable?
 - 1. This commandment is not qualified. It does not mean...
 - i. Honor only if the person is personally perceived as deserving.
 - ii. Honor only if the person always reciprocates.
 - iii. Honor only if it is pleasing to you to do so.
 - iv. Honor only if you get compliments for doing so.
 - v. Honor only if it "feels right."
 - vi. Honor only if other people also do so.

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2. Consider **I Sa 24:10-11** "Look, this day your eyes have seen that the LORD delivered you today into my hand in the cave, and someone urged me to kill you. But my eye spared you, and I said, 'I will not stretch out my hand against my lord, for he is the LORD's anointed.' 11 Moreover, my father, see! Yes, see the corner of your robe in my hand! For in that I cut off the corner of your robe, and did not kill you, know and see that there is neither evil nor rebellion in my hand, and I have not sinned against you. Yet you hunt my life to take it."
 - i. This takes place when Saul is trying to kill David by hunting him down with an army.
 - ii. Saul is David's father-in-law, but notice how he addresses Saul.
 - iii. Even when the man is trying to kill him, David treats him with respect.
3. Respect for a parent does not mean following them into sin.
 - i. A parent's authority is granted by God
 - a. **Ep 6:1**
 - ii. If a parent violates the laws of God, a child must follow the higher authority.
 - a. **Ac 5:29** "But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: 'We ought to obey God rather than men.'"
4. Respect for a parent must not exceed our respect for God.
 - i. **Mt 10:34-37** "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. 35 For I have come to 'set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law'; 36 and 'a man's enemies will be those of his own household.' 37 He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me."

III. The Implied From The Command To Honor

- A. Parents training better be in accordance with God's Will
 1. **Ep 6:4** "And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord."
 2. **Dt 11:19-21** "You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. 20 And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, 21 that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers to give them, like the days of the heavens above the earth."
- B. If a child is to respect his parents, that respect must be expected of him
 1. Foolishness is in the heart of a child
 - i. **Pr 22:15** "Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of correction will drive it far from him."
 2. If we truly love our children we will discipline them.
 - i. **Pr 13:24** "He who spares his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him promptly."

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3. A child doesn't have respect unless respect is instilled in him.
- C. When a child is taught to respect his parents, it is the beginning of a greater perspective on the world
 1. Young children are notorious for their self-centered view of the world.
 2. By respecting their parents, a child begins to see there are others worthy of consideration.
 - i. It is the beginning of eventually loving your neighbor as yourself.
 - a. **Ga 5:14**
- D. When a child is taught to respect his parents, it is the beginning of an understanding of respecting God.
 1. God is Him whom is to be respected and loved.
 - i. This is taught parents.
 - ii. This must be learned children.

CONCLUSION

1. Children you are the present and future of each generation...do what is your duty in righteousness.
2. Invitation
 - a. God's Plan of Salvation
 - i. Hear/Study **Rom 10:17; II Tim 2:15**
 - ii. Believe Jesus Is The Christ **Jn 3:16; 8:24**
 - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:30; Lk 24:47**
 - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9**
 - v. Immersed For The Forgiveness of Sins **Ac 2:38; 22:16; I Pt 3:21**
 - vi. Live A Faithful Life **I Jn 1:7; Eph 5:8**