



Honoring our Parents Pt 2: Respecting Men and Fathers

Happy Father's Day!

June 16, 2019

TEXT: EPHESIANS 6:1-3

- *Exodus 20:12 (KJV) Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.*
- *Deuteronomy 5:16 (KJV) Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.*

THE PRINCIPLE OF HONOR: A REVIEW

1. In Ephesians 6:2, the word for honor in Greek is *timao* : to prize, that is, fix a valuation upon; by implication to revere.¹
2. Another definition is "to revere; to respect; to treat with deference and submission, and perform relative duties to."²
3. As we said, the promises of honor are prolonged days and a more blessed life! God values and blesses our obedience to esteem!
4. Again, the giving of honor is not based on performance; honor is base in intrinsic value.
5. Consider the wide-ranging implications of a lack of honor...between husband and wives, parents and children, citizens and civil authority, and brothers and sisters in the church!
6. In our day, with the widespread rejection of basic honor and so much confusion concerning manhood and womanhood, the need to understand and embrace this text is great!

RESPECTING MEN AND FATHERS

1. Beloved, please know this: Men **greatly desire** to be respected. In Ephesians 5, Paul writes this:

Ephesians 5:31-33 (KJV) For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

2. It is telling that in one of the closest relationships a man can have, the one with his wife, the command is for respect, demonstrated by a voluntary and loving submission.
3. The word for *reverence* in the ESV and NLT is *respect*. The word here in Greek is *phobeo* . This word is used 93 times in the KJV New Testament and is most often translated *fear* or *afraid*. The respect commanded here is a "reverential fear." (Vines Dictionary)
4. The Webster 1828 Dictionary defines reverence as "fear mingled with respect and esteem; veneration. When quarrels and factions are carried openly, it is a sign that the reverence of government is lost."

¹ Strong's

² Webster 1828 Dictionary

5. Certainly in our day, reverence for a man's government is lost! The bumbling fool, the idiot, the forgetful one, and the juvenile one ruled by his lusts, are all depictions of the modern day view of men. But this is NOT God's plan nor God's order:

1 Corinthians 11:3 (KJV) But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.

Ephesians 6:4 (NLT) Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.

Two reasons that Men and Fathers should be honored, and indeed respected, among us.

1. God called men to **headship**.
2. God called men to **sacrifice**.

GOD CALLED MEN TO HEADSHIP

FROM THE GARDEN (GEN 2:18-25)

Genesis 2:18-25 (KJV) And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him. 19 And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof. 20 And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. 21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; 22 And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. 23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. 24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. 25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

- Eve was created to be a helper fit for Adam.
- Prior to the Fall (the entrance of sin), Adam exercised headship. Eve was made **for** Adam, (v18) **from** Adam (v22), brought **to** Adam (v22), and named **by** Adam (v23. Also Gen 3:20 "Eve.").

OVER THE HOUSEHOLD

Ephesians 5:22-29 (KJV) Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. 29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

Colossians 3:18-21 (KJV) *Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. 19 Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them. 20 Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord. 21 Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.*

OVER THE **CHURCH**

Pastors:

1 Timothy 3:1-5 (KJV) *This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; 3 Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; 4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)*

Deacons:

1 Timothy 3:8-13 (KJV) *Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; 9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. 10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. 11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. 12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. 13 For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

GOD CALLED MEN TO SACRIFICE

HIS ENERGY TO **PROVIDE**

- 1 Timothy 5:8 (KJV) *But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.*
- In Genesis 3, Adam was specially charged with “working the ground” with toil and sweat. (Gen 3:17-19)

HIS BODY TO **PROTECT**

- In Scripture, the normative practice was for men to go out to battle...to fight and protect:
Numbers 1:1-3 (KJV) And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tabernacle of the congregation, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying, 2 Take ye the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel, after their families, by the house of their fathers, with the number of their names, every male by their polls; 3 From twenty years old and upward, all that are able to go forth to war in Israel: thou and Aaron shall number them by their armies.
- This isn't chauvinism. God created women, on the whole, physically weaker:
1 Peter 3:7 (KJV) Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

HIS **LIFE** ON BEHALF OF HIS FAMILY

This time, let's read it from the NLT: *Ephesians 5:25-26 (NLT) For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her 26 to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word.*

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR INCREASING HONOR:

1. Speak **respectfully** to men; consider the use of proper honorifics: "Father," "Grandfather," "Brother," "Sir," etc.
2. Respect the **boundaries** of a man's jurisdictional authority. Scripture teaches patriarchy ("father-led"). Families, tribes, and churches are given to us in the Bible as led by men. (Gen 18:19; Numbers 1; 1 Tim 3:4)
3. Don't nag him! Don't argue with him! Show honor!

Proverbs 27:15-16 (ESV) A continual dripping on a rainy day and a quarrelsome wife are alike; 16 to restrain her is to restrain the wind or to grasp oil in one's right hand.

Proverbs 21:9 (KJV) It is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house.

Proverbs 12:4 (KJV) A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.

4. Offer heartfelt thanks for their **protection** and **provision**. (Eph 5:25; 1 Tim 5:8)
5. **Listen** to them. When husbands are teaching, value that. (1 Cor 14:35) When fathers are teaching, be attentive. (Eph 6:4) When older men are instructing younger men, respect that. (Titus 1, 2:2) These things promote honor.