

SERMON NOTES

Title: Honor...Your Father

Text: Exodus 20:12;

Mark 7:6 -13

Topic: Honoring Parents

Teacher: Pastor Barry

Time: 6/18/23

File Under: Holidays; Father's Day



“Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you. Exodus 20:12

“Sharper than a serpent’s tooth is a thankless child.” - William Shakespeare

For most of us here it comes **natural**.

This is the only commandment that has **an accompanying promise**.

Behind many of God’s promises there are principles and values that are **just as valid** for every succeeding generation of followers.

It is my conviction that this promise yields more **blessing** than most of us realize or could ever imagine.

- **your quality of life**
- **spiritual maturity**
- a more **meaningful** relationship with your parents
- your parents experiencing desired **approval and affirmation**
- the elderly receiving the **honor and dignity** they deserve
- the **survival** of our nation

“barely half of the American public believes it is the children’s responsibility to look after their parents as they become aged.”

As a culture we are **schizophrenic** at best when it comes to honoring our parents.

“What is honored in a land will be cultivated there.” Plato

*“Honor” = “High **public esteem**, fame, glory; to earn a position of honor.”*

In Hebrew, *honor* means “**heavy**” or “**weight**”. Its literal meaning was “*to lay on them*”. Thus, “*I weigh you down with respect and prestige. I place upon you great worth and value.*”

This command is not **age sensitive**.

Honoring your parents does not mean endorsing their **irresponsibility or sin** or denying what they have **done wrong**.

Honoring parents does mean:

- Choosing to **place great value** on your relationship with them.
- Taking the initiative to **improve** your relationship.
- **Obeying** them until you are established as an adult.
- Recognizing what they’ve done **right** in your life.
- Recognizing the **sacrifices** they have made for you.
- Praising them for the **legacy** they are passing on to you.
- Seeing them through the **eyes of Christ**, with understanding and compassion.
- **Forgiving them** as Christ has forgiven you.