



**Lecture # 16 Part 2**

# The Ten Commandments, The Laws Governing Man's Duty To Others (Part 1):

## Commandment Five Concerns the Family—Never Dishonor Parents, Exodus 20:12

### Exodus 20:12 (NASB)

<sup>12</sup>“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you.”

6. What about abusive children, children who abuse their parents? Again, The POSB® (N.T. Vol.9) has an excellent statement covering this point:

“To obey parents means to honor one’s father and mother. The word ‘honor’ (*timao*) means to ‘esteem and value as precious’ (The Amplified New Testament); to show respect, reverence, kindness, courtesy, and obedience. Scripture is not speaking to any certain age child. It is speaking to all of us who are children with parents still living. We are to honor our fathers and mothers: *to esteem and value them as precious*—to respect and reverence them. Tragically, this is a rarity today.”

Too often a child’s response to his parent is that of.....

- a. talking back
- b. cutting the parent
- c. ignoring the parent
- d. grumbling
- e. disregarding instructions
- f. not listening
- g. speaking disrespectfully
- h. acting like a 'know it all'
- i. calling the parent a cute but *disrespectful* name

“In addition to these, there is the dishonor of delinquency, crime, drugs, alcohol, and the abuse of property; and the list could go on and on. And when it comes to adult children with aged parents, there is the dishonor of neglect, the ignoring of their needs and the shuffling of them to the side and failing to adequately care for them. Too many adult children forget how much their parents have done for them—bringing them into the world and taking care of them for years. Too many children forget the rich experience and knowledge that their parents have gained through the years and that could be put to great use in meeting community and world needs. And even if the parents failed to be and to do all they should have, we as Christian children are instructed to honor them as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ.”

### Ephesians 6:1 (NASB)

<sup>1</sup>“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”



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**1 Timothy 5:4 (NASB)**

<sup>4</sup>“But if any widow has children or grandchildren, they must first learn to practice piety in regard to their own family and to make some return to their parents; for this is acceptable in the sight of God.”

**1 Timothy 5:8 (NASB)**

<sup>8</sup>“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.”

**Proverbs 20:20 (NASB)**

<sup>20</sup>“He who curses his father or his mother, His lamp will go out in time of darkness.”

**Proverbs 30:17 (NASB)**

<sup>17</sup>“The eye that mocks a father And scorns a mother, The ravens of the valley will pick it out, And the young eagles will eat it.”

**Exodus 20:12 (NASB)**

<sup>12</sup>“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you.”

**Leviticus 19:3 (NASB)**

<sup>3</sup>“Every one of you shall reverence his mother and his father, and you shall keep My sabbaths; I am the LORD your God.”

**Leviticus 19:32 (NASB)**

<sup>32</sup>“You shall rise up before the grayheaded and honor the aged, and you shall revere your God; I am the LORD.”

**Deuteronomy 27:16 (NASB)**

<sup>16</sup>“Cursed is he who dishonors his father or mother.' And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'”

**Thought 1.** Maxie Dunnam warns us about making a “cult of the child” within society, showing how this attitude teaches children to be disrespectful and disobedient.

“I’m concerned about the extreme to which we have gone with the cult of the child during the past thirty or forty years in the United States. To be sure, we needed to give more attention to children. The adage 'Children are to be seen and not heard' was a caricature of children treated as wards and, in the extreme in many cultures, as chattel. So we needed to get away from that. But as is so often the case, the pendulum swung too far. We reared our children to be self-centered. We ordered our worlds around not only their needs, but their whims. Our thinking about discipline was distorted. We spared the rod and spoiled the child. There was no center of authority around which the child could order his life, no clear guidelines or directions, no well-defined values. And so respect was diminished, especially at the point of children listening and being obedient. This was not so much the child's fault as the parent's default.”



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**4. (Exodus 20:12) Commandments, The Ten— Parents— Children— Family: note the two great promises attached to this commandment.**

**Exodus 20:12 (NASB)**

<sup>12</sup>“**Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you.**”

Every person should seek ever so diligently to lay hold of these promises.

1. The person who honors his parents will live an extended life upon earth (**Exodus 20:12**). Common sense tells us this. A tension-filled home—a home full of arguments, bickering, abuse, and divisiveness—causes all kinds of physical and emotional problems, shortening the life of family members. Whereas a home filled with love, joy, and peace strengthens the health and emotional stability of a person, thereby adding years to a person's life.

God knows what He is talking about; He knows exactly what He is promising. If the Israelites would teach their children to honor their parents, then generations of Israelite homes would be filled with love, joy, and peace. **Maxie Dunnam** has an excellent thought on the importance of the family to Israel that sets a dynamic example for every civilization:

“I believe one of the primary reasons Judaism has survived across the years is precisely its family structure. The Jews survived the Holocaust and thousands of years of anti-Semitism because the Jewish family had a sense of identity and a sense of order. It doesn't matter where the family is on the Sabbath, when the Sabbath comes, they stop and pray. It didn't matter what Hitler and all the powers of Nazism said, when Passover came it was time to tell the story, even if the family was gathered in a concentration camp and there were no candles to light. There was a sense of order and identity that gave them roots and strength and perspective and discipline. At the heart of that family structure was a reverence for parents, a high regard, a respect, an esteem for the older members of the family. The elderly were honored and cared for.”

2. The person who honors his parents will inherit *the promised land* (**Exodus 20:12**).

**Exodus 20:12 (NASB)**

<sup>12</sup>“**Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you.**”

This was a glorious promise to the Israelites: if they would honor their parents, they would have a long reign in *the promised land*. But the converse is implied as well: if they dishonored their parents, they would live for only a short time in *the promised land*.

Note how *the Promised Land* is tied to honoring one's parents. This does not mean that a person who honors his parents will necessarily inherit eternal life. God does not use



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this commandment (to honor our parents) to set up a merit system to reach the promised land of heaven. What God means is this: a person who truly follows and honors God will obey God: he will keep this commandment; he will honor his parents. And because he believes and obeys God, he will inherit the Promised Land.

**Thought 1.** In practical terms, Scripture tells us exactly what God means by this commandment.

- 1) To honor our parents means to respect and to reverence our parents.
- 2) To honor our parents means to obey our parents.

**Ephesians 6:1-3 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup>“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

<sup>2</sup>**HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the first commandment with a promise),**

<sup>3</sup>**SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.”**

**Colossians 3:20 (NASB)**

<sup>20</sup>“Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord.”

### 5. (Exodus 20:12) Decision— Commandments, The Ten— Parents— Children— Family: What is the decision required by this commandment?

**Exodus 20:12 (NASB)**

<sup>12</sup>“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you.”

Obedience! Simply stated, obedience. Without a doubt, many of the world's problems—perhaps most—would be solved if the fifth commandment were obeyed. The fifth commandment is stated positively: we are to honor our fathers and our mothers.

Note the teaching of Scripture, the decisions demanded by this commandment:

1. We are to honor our parents because it is the right thing to do.

**Ephesians 6:1-3 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup>“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

<sup>2</sup>**HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the first commandment with a promise),**

<sup>3</sup>**SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.”**

**Colossians 3:20 (NASB)**

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2. We are to honor our parents because it helps to extend our lives and makes things go better (far better than a tension-filled home).

### **Deuteronomy 5:16 (NASB)**

<sup>16</sup>“Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, that your days may be prolonged and that it may go well with you on the land which the LORD your God gives you.”

### **1 Peter 3:10-12 (NASB)**

<sup>10</sup>For, “THE ONE WHO DESIRES LIFE, TO LOVE AND SEE GOOD DAYS, MUST KEEP HIS TONGUE FROM EVIL AND HIS LIPS FROM SPEAKING DECEIT.

<sup>11</sup>HE MUST TURN AWAY FROM EVIL AND DO GOOD; HE MUST SEEK PEACE AND PURSUE IT.

<sup>12</sup>FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE TOWARD THE RIGHTEOUS, AND HIS EARS ATTEND TO THEIR PRAYER, BUT THE FACE OF THE LORD IS AGAINST THOSE WHO DO EVIL.”

3. We are to honor our parents because it is one of Gods ten great commandments.

### **Exodus 20:12 (NASB)**

<sup>12</sup>“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you.”

4. We are to fear, reverence, and respect our parents.

### **Leviticus 19:3 (NASB)**

<sup>3</sup>“Every one of you shall reverence his mother and his father, and you shall keep My sabbaths; I am the LORD your God.”

5. We are to obey our parents "in the Lord."

### **Ephesians 6:1 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup>“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”

6. We are to keep and follow the teaching of our parents.

### **Proverbs 6:20-24 (NASB)**

<sup>20</sup>“My son, observe the commandment of your father And do not forsake the teaching of your mother;

<sup>21</sup>Bind them continually on your heart; Tie them around your neck.

<sup>22</sup>When you walk about, they will guide you; When you sleep, they will watch over you; And when you awake, they will talk to you.

<sup>23</sup>For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching is light; And reproofs for discipline are the way of life

<sup>24</sup>To keep you from the evil woman, From the smooth tongue of the adulteress.”

7. We are to heed the Christian witness of our parents.

### **2 Timothy 1:5 (NASB)**

<sup>5</sup>“For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt



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**in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that *it is* in you as well.”**

**2 Timothy 3:15 (NASB)**

**<sup>15</sup>“And that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”**

8. We are to honor our parents even when we become adults.

**Genesis 48:12 (NASB)**

**<sup>12</sup>“Then Joseph took them from his knees, and bowed with his face to the ground.”**

**1 Kings 2:19 (NASB)**

**<sup>19</sup>“So Bathsheba went to King Solomon to speak to him for Adonijah. And the king arose to meet her, bowed before her, and sat on his throne; then he had a throne set for the king's mother, and she sat on his right.”**

**Proverbs 23:22 (NASB)**

**<sup>22</sup>“Listen to your father who begot you, And do not despise your mother when she is old.”**

9. We are to follow the example of Christ in obeying and subjecting ourselves to our parents.

**Luke 2:51 (NASB)**

**<sup>51</sup>“And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and He continued in subjection to them; and His mother treasured all *these* things in her heart.”**

10. We are to provide for our parents when they become aged.

**1 Timothy 5:16 (NASB)**

**<sup>16</sup>“If any woman who is a believer has *dependent* widows, she must assist them and the church must not be burdened, so that it may assist those who are widows indeed.”**

11. We are not to deify our parents or family.

**Matthew 10:37 (NASB)**

**<sup>37</sup>“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.”**

12. We must not follow in the steps of evil parents as some have done in the past.

**1 Kings 22:51-52 (NASB)**

**<sup>51</sup>“Ahaziah the son of Ahab became king over Israel in Samaria in the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and he reigned two years over Israel.**

**<sup>52</sup>He did evil in the sight of the LORD and walked in the way of his**



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father and in the way of his mother and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin.”

**2 Chronicles 22:2-3 (NASB)**

<sup>2</sup>“Ahaziah was twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah, the granddaughter of Omri.

<sup>3</sup>He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab, for his mother was his counselor to do wickedly.”

**Matthew 14:8 (NASB)**

<sup>8</sup>“Having been prompted by her mother [Herodias], she said, “Give me here on a platter the head of John the Baptist.”

### DEEPER STUDY # 1

#### THE BIBLICAL CONSEQUENCES OF FAILING TO HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER

**Exodus 20:12 (NASB)**

<sup>12</sup>“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you.”

**(Exodus 20:12) Commandments, The Ten— Obedience— Judgment:**

What are the consequences of breaking this commandment?

“Honor your father and your mother” (**Exodus 20:12**).

This commandment is stated in the positive: it is a gracious invitation by God to obey. If a person obeys, God promises to bless him mightily. But if the person breaks this commandment, he faces terrible consequences.

1. A person who does not honor his parents—*consistently*, over the course of time—is in serious jeopardy of affecting his eternal destiny. The man who is marked by the deeds of the sinful nature cannot and will not honor his parents. Scripture says this person will not inherit the kingdom of God.

**Galatians 5:19-21 (NASB)**

<sup>19</sup>“Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are:  
immorality, impurity, sensuality,

<sup>20</sup>idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

<sup>21</sup>envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that



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those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.”

### Romans 1:28-32 (NASB)

<sup>28</sup> “And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper,  
<sup>29</sup> being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; *they are* gossips,  
<sup>30</sup> slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,  
<sup>31</sup> without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful;  
<sup>32</sup> and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.”

### 2 Timothy 3:1-8 (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> “But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come.  
<sup>2</sup> For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy,  
<sup>3</sup> unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good,  
<sup>4</sup> treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,  
<sup>5</sup> holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.  
<sup>6</sup> For among them are those who enter into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses,  
<sup>7</sup> always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.  
<sup>8</sup> Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these *men* also oppose the truth, men of depraved mind, rejected in regard to the faith.”

2. A person who does not honor his parents brings the full judgment of God upon himself.

### Exodus 21:15 (NASB)

<sup>15</sup> “He who strikes his father or his mother shall surely be put to death.”

### Proverbs 30:17 (NASB)

<sup>17</sup> “The eye that mocks a father And scorns a mother, The ravens of the valley will pick it out, And the young eagles will eat it.”





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### Leviticus 20:9 (NASB)

<sup>9</sup> “If *there is* anyone who curses his father or his mother, he shall surely be put to death; he has cursed his father or his mother, his bloodguiltiness is upon him.”

### Matthew 7:21 (NASB)

<sup>21</sup> “Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*.”

3. A person who does not honor his parents fills the home with hatred.

### Micah 7:6 (NASB)

<sup>6</sup> “For son treats father contemptuously, Daughter rises up against her mother, Daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; A man’s enemies are the men of his own household.”

### Proverbs 17:1-2 (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> “Better is a dry morsel and quietness with it Than a house full of feasting with strife.

<sup>2</sup> A servant who acts wisely will rule over a son who acts shamefully, And will share in the inheritance among brothers.”

### Proverbs 26:21 (NASB)

<sup>21</sup> “*Like* charcoal to hot embers and wood to fire, So is a contentious man to kindle strife.”

4. A person who does not honor his parents causes his parents to become heavy in spirit and broken-hearted.

### 2 Samuel 18:33 (NASB)

<sup>33</sup> “The king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And thus he said as he walked, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!" (Absalom had committed insurrection against his father and been killed.)

### Proverbs 10:1 (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> “The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son makes a father glad, But a foolish son is a grief to his mother.”

5. A person who does not honor his parents shames and disgraces his parents.

### Proverbs 19:26 (NASB)

<sup>26</sup> “He who assaults *his* father *and* drives *his* mother away Is a shameful and disgraceful son.”



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**Proverbs 29:15 (NASB)**

<sup>15</sup>“**The rod and reproof give wisdom, But a child who gets his own way brings shame to his mother.**”

6. A person who does not honor his parents will cause his parents to suffer great sorrow and regret, losing their joy.

**Proverbs 17:21 (NASB)**

<sup>21</sup>“**He who sires a fool *does so* to his sorrow, And the father of a fool has no joy.**”

7. A person who does not honor his parents is marked by destruction.

**Proverbs 28:24 (NASB)**

<sup>24</sup>“**He who robs his father or his mother And says, “It is not a transgression,” Is the companion of a man who destroys.**”

8. A person who does not honor his parents has the haunting testimony of a fool.

**Proverbs 17:21 (NASB)**

<sup>21</sup>“**He who sires a fool *does so* to his sorrow, And the father of a fool has no joy.**”

**Proverbs 19:13 (NASB)**

<sup>13</sup>“**A foolish son is destruction to his father, And the contentions of a wife are a constant dripping.**”

9. A person who curses his father and mother is not cleansed from his filth.

**Proverbs 30:11-12 (NASB)**

<sup>11</sup>“**There is a kind of *man* who curses his father And does not bless his mother.**

<sup>12</sup>“**There is a kind who is pure in his own eyes, Yet is not washed from his filthiness.**”