

The First Commandment with Promise

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

Introduction:

- A. Ex. 20:12; Deut. 5:16
 - 1. The fifth of the 613 commandments given to Moses by God on Mount Sinai, is to honor father and mother. Note what it means:
 - a. Rendering honor to parents
 - b. Recipients of honor are the parents
 - c. Results of honoring our parents
- B. Ex. 20:1-17 - Often called the Ten Commandments, were the first ten commandments of the first written law of God
 - 1. The first four commandments dealt with man's relationship with God.
 - 2. The last six deal with humankind's relationships with others.
 - 3. It is significant that the first commandment that addresses human relationships is for children to respect and obey their parents

I. RENDERING HONOR TO PARENTS

- A. Respect and honor; what does it mean to show it to others?
 - 1. Lev. 19:32; Esther 6:7-9; 1Peter 2:17
 - 2. Then it means the same toward parents
- B. Obey and follow their leadership; what does it mean when done to others?
 - 1. Num. 27:20; 1Tim. 6:1
 - 2. Then it means the same toward parents
- C. Help and support; what does it mean to help and support others?
 - 1. Prov. 3:9; Rom. 13:7; 1Tim. 5:3, 17
 - 2. Then it means the same toward parents

II. RECIPIENTS OF HONOR ARE THE PARENTS

- A. From the beginning - Noah's son Ham - Gen. 9:22-25
- B. From the Law of Moses
 - 1. Ex. 21:15, 17; Lev. 18:7; Deut. 27:16, 21:18-21
- C. From the wisdom of Solomon - Prov. 1:8, 6:20, 30:17, 28:24
- D. From the New Testament - Eph. 6:1; Col. 3:20; Matt. 15:1-6

III. RESULTS OF HONORING OUR PARENTS

- A. To honor parents is to honor God because:
 - 1. Keeping the commandments of God honors Him - Matt. 15:6
 - 2. God is the Creator of the family - Gen. 2:18, 21-24
- B. God said honoring parents is conducive to a better life in this world
 - 1. Prov. 3:1-2; Eph. 6:1-3
 - 2. If it is true that obeying God produces a better life, then it only makes sense that the same would happen with parents - Deut. 30:16, 20
 - 3. In one sense, parents are God's proxies for children in this world
 - a. Psalm 103:13; Eph. 6:4; Heb. 12:6

4. They are given, not merely for our protection, preparation, and instruction for adult life, but to learn about God's love through the love of our parents.
 - a. The first place we experience love is when we are infants in the arms of our mothers and fathers
 - b. The first place we learn forgiveness and grace is from the hearts of our parents
 - c. The first place we learn security, hope, and joy is in the countenance of our fathers and mothers
 - d. Parents, you stand in God's place, responsible to teach your children about God's love, grace, forgiveness, peace, wisdom, and hope through your love, forgiveness, peace, and joy.
 - e. Woe upon you if you withhold that from them, or fail to show it to them, or abuse your power over them
 - f. But this lesson is for children. Because your parents are God's proxies on your behalf, the love and respect you give them is also given to God
 - g. What did Jesus say about that? - Matt. 25:34-40
 - h. How you treat your parents is a reflection of how you treat the Lord.