

Familial Honor

By Elizabeth Saunders

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Often we seek honor for ourselves, dreaming that through sports, politics, or military excellence our reputation will grow higher than the mountains and vaster than the sea. However, honor is not for us to lust after in our selfish pride, honor is for us to bestow upon others! God commands children to respect their parents.

Honor your father and mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you. (Exodus 20:12)

Though our current society tries to attack this idea by setting traps of distraction and deceit, laying a firm spiritual foundation for their children remains a parent's main purpose. Unfortunately we children often buy into the commercial idea that parents should act as our personal convenience stores that give us what we want and then leave us alone. But then, once we reach the formative age of about ten, we begin pushing away the living, loving human beings that no longer seem convenient enough.

Littering and poisoning the soil from which we sprung with hateful words and unkind actions, we soon begin withering from the lack of fertile family soil. Jesus Christ declared to the Pharisees that,

...every city or house divided against itself will not stand (Matthew 12:34).

Here lies the answer to why we must honor our mothers and fathers. We cannot stand alone.

So today, we must reverse the trend of disrespect towards mothers and fathers. Today, we must strive to honor them in all we say and do. Today, we must stop demolishing the foundations and start repairing them. Today, we must realize that we can never attain honor for ourselves if we dishonor our parents. Today, we must let the message ring from every mountain and across every sea that children must honor their parents,

...that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth. (Eph. 6:2)

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