"BEING AN HONORABLE MAN!"

Selected Scriptures
6/17/2018

Certainly, as Christians, we know that we must honor our dad for several reasons:

We should honor our father <u>for the Lord's sake</u>

So that you may <u>obey</u> the Lord (Dt. 5:16)

So that you may <u>please the Lord</u> (Col. 3:20)

We should honor our father for <u>our own sake and well being</u> Ephesians 6:3:

1. So that you may live a <u>good</u> life
2. So that you may live a <u>long</u> life

We should Honor our father <u>for his sake</u> (because of who he is)

Because of his <u>older</u> age (Lev. 19:32)

Because of his <u>position of authority</u>

*** Because of his <u>personal character</u>**

How does a man achieve such character? How is an honorable man made?
What virtues make an honorable man?
***Be Challenged by the Virtues of <u>Eight Honorable Men</u>:**

1. An honorable man <u>fears</u> the Lord, like Noah

Prov. 22:4 - "By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honour, and life."

Noah - Heb 11:7

2. An honorable man <u>humbles himself</u> under the Lord, like Moses

"Before honor is humility" (Prov. 15:33)

Moses - Numbers 12:1-13

3. An honorable man <u>honors</u> God, like Samuel

"… for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed. (1 Samuel 2:30)

Samuel - 1 Samuel 9:6

4. An honorable man <u>loves</u> the Lord, like David

Psalm 91:14-15 - "Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I ... honour him"

David - 1 Samuel 16:7

5. An honorable man <u>seeks</u> the Lord's wisdom, like Solomon

Proverbs 4:7-8 - "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom...exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her."

Solomon - Ecclesiastes 7:25

6. An honorable man <u>obeys</u> the Lord, like Daniel

"He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth...honor" (Proverbs 21:21)

Daniel - Daniel 1:8

7. An honorable man <u>trusts</u> the Lord, like Jabez

I Chronicles 4:9-10 - And Jabez was more honourable than his brethren: … And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, …"

8. An honorable man <u>serves</u> Christ, like Paul

John 12:26 - "If any man serve me, him will my Father honour"

Paul – Romans 1:1

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Introduction:

Happy Father's Day!

It's amazing how our attitude toward our Father changes over time!

A newspaper clipping entitled "My Father" reads like this:

> When I was 7, I thought, "My father is the smartest person in the world. He knows everything."
> At 17 - "My father doesn't know as much as I thought he did."
> At 21 - "My father doesn't know anything, compared to me."
> At 35 - "My father knew much more than I thought he did."
> At 50 - "My father was always right."

There is one command given regarding fathers which is expected to be followed no matter how smart you think your dad is. That imperative is this: "Honour thy father"

> Exodus 20:12 - 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 - 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 Hebrew word translated "honour" and "honourable" is KABAD. Kabad literally means to be heavy, to be weighty. Hence the expression, "He carries a lot of weight" (Not measured in pounds but in importance; He has great importance, respectability, influence, value)

To be honourable is to have a value where your influence matters. You are honorable, because of your character and conduct; You are worthy of respect, praise and admiration.

Matthew 19:19 - "Honor thy father"
The New Testament Greek word translated "honour" is "TIMIOS" and means to view as very valuable or precious; to respect as having great worth.

Both the Hebrew and Greek terms imply worth, importance, value.

Today, far too many children treat their parents like garbage. No respect for those who brought them into this world, fed, clothed, and schooled them.
God forewarned us that there would be disrespect for parents in the Last Days.

II Tim. 3:1-3a - "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection..."

Certainly, as Christians, we know that we must honor our dad for several reasons:

We should honor our father <u>for the Lord's sake</u>

So that you may <u>obey</u> the Lord (Dt. 5:16)

Deut. 5:16 - "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."

If there was no other reason, this one should be enough. Honor him because God says to!

He gives no conditions, no exceptions, no exclusions. No matter what type of father you have, he is your father and should be honored as such.

So that you may <u>please the Lord</u> (Col. 3:20)

Col. 3:20 - "Children obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord."

Implicit in "honor" is obedience. No child honors their parents if they don't obey them.

The major way to show your dad that you honor him is to submit to his authority while you live under his roof.

By obeying him, you obey the Lord. And all who obey Him, please Him.

We should honor our father for <u>our own sake and well being</u>

Eph. 6:2-3 -"Honor thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."
Prov. 30:17 -"The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it."

Cp. Exod. 20:12
1. So that you may live a good life
2. So that you may live a long life

God's Promises to children who honor their parents:

1. Such an attitude results in a top quality life - "well with thee . . ." (v. 3a)

   "Well with thee" - they will stay out of things that shorten life and that take the real fun out of life!

2. Such an attitude results in a long quantity of life - "live long . . ." (v. 3b)

   "This does not mean that everyone who died young dishonored his parents. Paul is stating a principle: When children obey their parents in the Lord, they will escape a good deal of sin and danger and thus avoid the things that could threaten or shorten their lives" (Wiersbe, p. 152).

We should Honor our father for his sake (because of who he is)

Fathers (like all who are honored) are honored for three basic reasons:

Because of his <u>older age</u>

Lev. 19:32 - "Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honor the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the LORD."
Job 12:12 - "With the ancient is wisdom; and in length of days understanding."

Never call him "my old man" (as many do in front of their peers).

Because of his <u>position of authority</u>

God, who put in place all positions of authority, commands children to honor their parents (for position's sake).

*** Because of his <u>personal character</u>**
Fathers should be honorable. This is what I would like to focus on today.

How does a man achieve such character? How is an honorable man made? What virtues make an honorable man?

***Be Challenged by the Virtues of <u>Eight Honorable Men</u>:**

1. An honorable man <u>fears</u> the Lord, like Noah

Prov. 22:4 - "By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honour, and life."

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Noah is one of 3 notable righteous men. Ezekiel 14:14 Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord GOD.

2. An honorable man <u>humbles himself</u> under the Lord, like Moses

"Before honor is humility" (Prov. 15:33)

I would like you to see Moses' humility (meekness) mentioned in Numbers 12:1-13

The Bible does not describe Moses as having more than one wife. Apparently Zipporah (the daughter of Reuel/Jethro) had died (although her death is not recorded in Scripture) and Moses remarried an Ethiopian or "Cushite" woman. Most likely a dark skinned woman. Miriams' remarks were probably racist (over skin color) so God would judge her by turning her skin leprous "white as snow".

In Numbers 12:3, there is a significant parenthetical thought: (Now the man Moses was <u>very meek</u>, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)

Ex 33:11 And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend.
De 34:10 And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,
Numbers 27:20 And thou shalt put some of thine <u>honour</u> upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient.

3. An honorable man <u>honors</u> God, like Samuel

1 Samuel 2:30 - A man of God rebuked Eli, the High Priest of Israel because he honoured his "sons above me…" -

"… for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.

(Read: 1 Samuel 2:27-35)

1 Samuel 9:6 Saul's servant said to Saul: "And he said unto him, Behold now, there is in this city a man of God, and he is <u>an honourable man</u> (Samuel); all that he saith cometh surely to pass: now let us go thither; peradventure he can shew us our way that we should go."

4. An honorable man <u>loves</u> the Lord, like David

Psalm 91:14-15 - "Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I ... honour him"

David was a "man after God's own heart" in contrast to King Saul.

1 Samuel 13:14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.

1 Samuel 16:7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

5. An honorable man <u>seeks</u> the Lord's wisdom, like Solomon

Proverbs 4:7-8 - "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom...exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her."

Ecclesiastes 7:25 I applied mine heart to know, and to search, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness:
Ecclesiastes 8:16 When I applied mine heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done upon the earth:

6. An honorable man <u>obeys</u> the Lord, like Daniel

"He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth...honor" (Proverbs 21:21)

Daniel would not defile himself (The Convictions of Daniel) Daniel 1:1-21

Daniel 1:8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

Daniel would not cease praying Daniel 6:1-28

Note **Daniel's Faithful Testimony** (v. 1-9)

1. He was known for his "excellent spirit" (v. 3)
2. He was known for his spotless character (v. 4-9)
3. He was known for his "continual service" (v. 16, 20)

Note **Daniel's Faithful Devotional Life** (v. 10-11)

He was consistent in spending time alone with God:

1. Daniel didn't care what it might cost him
   ("knew that the writing was signed")

2. Daniel let nothing interfere or change his habit
   ("windows open. . . toward Jerusalem")

3. Daniel had set apart specific times to spend with God
   ("three times a day")

4. Daniel spent time with God consistently
   ("as he had done aforetime")

7. An honorable man <u>trusts</u> the Lord, like Jabez

I Chronicles 4:9-10

And Jabez was more honourable than his brethren: and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bare him with sorrow. And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested.

Jabez, whose name means sorrow, overcame the meaning of his name by his prayer of faith

Note: this prayer came from a man whose heart was "honourable"

**** Jabez requested God's blessings (blessings that were not self orientated but for God's service and glory)***

a. Jabez requested God's <u>PROVISION</u>
("enlarge my coast")

b. Jabez requested God's <u>PRESENCE</u>
("that thine hand might be with me")

c. Jabez requested God's <u>PROTECTION</u>
("that thou wouldest keep me from evil")

8. An honorable man <u>serves</u> Christ, like Paul

John 12:26 - "If any man serve me, him will my Father honour"

Although a former enemy of Christ, Paul after conversion identified himself as "a servant of Jesus Christ"

Paul would serve Christ with God's power.

1 Corinthians 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

God would use Paul in a mighty way!

He would write 13 books of the N.T.

Today, Paul is remembered and honored for his service to Christ. Many people have named their children "Paul." I don't know of anyone who ever named their son "Judas" or "Demas" who forsook Christ for the world.

Conclusion:

ILLUS: of a boy in the snow trying to step into his father's giant tracks, and saying, "Look, Mom, I;m walking in Daddy's footsteps!"

Are you the kind of person you would want your son to become?

Would you want your daughter to marry someone like you, Dad?

When you die, will you leave behind memories that point to God?

Will you leave your children a faith and example that will guide them when your voice speaks no more?

MY RESOLUTION

I do solemnly resolve before God
to take full responsibility
for myself, my wife and my children.

I will love them, protect them, and serve them.

I will teach them the statutes of God
as the spiritual leader of my home.

I will be faithful to my wife, to love and honor her,
and be willing to lay down my life for her as Christ did for me.

I will teach my children to love God with all of their heart,
all of their mind, and all of their strength.

I will train them to honor authority and live responsibly.

I will set an example of faithfulness in my walk
with the Lord and in my service for Him.

I will work diligently to provide for the needs of my family.

I will walk in integrity as a man answerable to God.

I will seek to honor God, obey His Word, and do His will.

I recognize that I must rely exclusively upon
the grace and power of God to fulfill this resolution.
I submit to His strength and wisdom.

"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."