

HONOR THY FATHER

774

6/15/97

Text: Exodus 20:12

Introduction: History of Exodus 20:12

Happy Fathers' Day!

A. The relationship of the nation to God

1. He had brought them into existence. Gen. 12 ff
2. He had heard their plea. Ex. 2:23-25
3. He provided a deliverer in Moses. Ex. 6:7
4. Lead them & cared for them 40 years. Deut. 2:7
 - a. Yet His love required punishment. Num. 14:33-34
 - b. To humble them & for testing. Deut. 8:2-3

B. All authority traced back to God, who wants good for all

1. Shows His desire to help parents in their work
2. Teacher and guide of these precious souls

I. The Father's ROLE

A. To rule his household well. 1 Tim. 3:5

B. Physical provider. 1 Tim. 5:8

C. Nurture... Eph. 6:4

1. Not provoke, but encourage. Col. 3:21
2. Education - secular & SPIRITUAL
 - a. For service to God - Prov. 22:6; Isa. 38:19
 - b. Obedience to God - Deut. 32:46
 - c. Instilling confidence in God. Psalms 78:1-8

II. The Children's ADMONITION

A. Honor - to early Greeks = value of a person

1. The "precious" "price" paid. 1 Pet. 1:19; 1 Cor. 6:20
2. Respect due - 2 Pet. 1:17
3. Calvin Coolidge - "No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been a reward for what he gave."

B. Ways this can be done.

1. By wilful obedience. Eph. 6:1
2. Reverence (awareness of God-given authority) Lev. 19:3
3. Listen to him. Prov. 1:8
4. Accept his discipline. Prov. 15:5
5. Learn to "repay" parents. 1 Tim. 5:4

III. The Promise To Children

A. That life may go well. Eph. 6:2-3

1. Shows a respect for authority = good for home, nation, etc
2. Obedience is a denial of self-will & self-pleasing spirit.
3. Guards against excesses and vice which shorten many lives.
4. Prepares for understanding of & submission to God's Will.

B. May we all give due HONOR to the God-fearing fathers

1. Give themselves to the tremendous task of providing for their families
2. they seek to prepare their children for the majestic task of living a life devoted to the glory of God.