

HONOR AND IMAGE

JUNE 16, 2019

EPHESIANS 6:1-3

From **EPHESIANS 5:21-6:9** Paul teaches the subject of submission and authority out of reverence for God. In that setting, he instructs children to obey their parents and quotes the fifth commandment. Honoring our parents is important to God: **DEUTERONOMY 27:16 (NLT)**, **PROVERBS 30:17**

WHY HONOR DAD

1. It's commanded. **DEUTERONOMY 5:16**
 - A. It's the first of six commandments addressing social relationships.
2. It's the right thing to do. **LUKE 2:51**
 - A. Jesus honored Joseph who wasn't His biological father.
 - B. There is no qualifier. It doesn't say if he's perfect.
3. It's promise. **EPHESIANS 6:2-3**
 - A. One of the most important promises we could ever be given is stated in the command to honor parents.

DAD'S DUTY – GENESIS 1:27-28

Adam was to model the image of God to his children. He was to show them what God was like and to influence them to obey Him. Before the process began, Adam rebelled and brought another fatherly image into the world that marred the image of God, corrupted the world, and forced God to destroy it with a flood. **JOHN 8:43-44**, **MARK 7:9-13**

JESUS' MISSION – JOHN 1:18 (AMPC)

1. Jesus came to reveal God's Father image to man.
 - A. **JOHN 14:7-11** – In the Old Testament God was behind a curtain or on a mountain top. Jesus removed the curtain and revealed God as a loving, caring heavenly Father. **HEBREWS 1:3**
2. An earthly father's primary job is to model the right image of God to his children so they can develop a right concept of God.
 - A. **MATTHEW 6:25-33; 7:9-11** – When a son sees his father provide for him, protect him, love him affectionately, train and guide him, he develops the concept of God being the same way.
 - B. Satan distorted Eve's concept of God which moved her to act apart from His loving provision. **JOHN 10:10** God is good, Satan is evil.

HOW TO HONOR DAD

1. Thank him for what he's done right.
 - A. Gave us life, provide, protect, love, train, guide.
2. Show him mercy and forgiveness for what he's done wrong.
 - A. God is the only perfect Father.
 - B. Our father had some baggage from his imperfect father.
 - A boy grew up with a father who didn't provide. He went to school without shoes thinking others were without shoes also. He was so embarrassed he refused to go in. He grew up to be a dad who became a workaholic so his son could have shoes and a place to sleep. He also failed to attend his sons' games and offer loving affection.

HOW DAD'S HONOR THEIR HEAVENLY FATHER

1. By obeying the first four commandments.
2. By allowing God to be a Father to us.
3. By being the best father we can possibly be to our children.
4. By modeling the right image of God to our children.