

**BAHRAIN REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH**

*C5: Respect for Authority (Exodus 20:12)*

**February 29, 2024**

Preliminary

Question: What does the fifth commandment teach?

Answer: The fifth commandment teaches the general principle of paying respect to whom respect is due, and honor to whom honor is due by underlining the fundamental and specific responsibility children have to honor their parents, a responsibility that is at the very heart of a nation's well-being.

Honor: (Heb. כָּבֵד; *kaved*) = "to be heavy" – placing great value upon a person; to revere.

Note: The word the OT uses for the glory of God, for the weightiness of his divine majesty

Point: It is to give the parents the recognition they deserve for their God-given authority.

➤ The honor we give to our parents is a reflection of the honor we ought to give to our God the Father... Mal 1:6; cf. Model: Jesus = Lk 2:51; Mt 26:39

1. The Duties of Parents to their Children

Note: Children are gifts from God... it is imperative to parents to give their children back to the Lord... Gen 4:1; 25:21; Ruth 4:12; 1 Sam 1:11, 27, 28

(a) Parents are the first and foremost educators for their children... Pro 4:1-4

➤ To train up in the way they should go... Pro 22:6; Eph 6:4

➤ To be nurtured like tender plants and harvest a fruitful characters... Ps 128:3

(b) Parents must manage their own households well, ensuring that their children obey them with proper respect... 1 Tim 3:4; Pro 13:24

2. The Duties of Children to their Parents

(a) Children are to revere and respect their parents... Lev 19:3

Negative: Pro 30:17; Ex 21:17; Ex 21:15; Rom 12:9

Positive: To speak well of them, respecting them, providing for them and showing them courtesy... Cf. Joseph = Gen 47:7, 11, 12; 1 Tim 5:4

(b) Obedience with their rightful commands... Eph 6:1; Col 3:20; cf. Deut 21:18ff

Note: If anyone (including our parents) demands what is contrary to the law and will of God, then we ought to obey God first... Act 5:29

(c) Submission to their discipline... Pro 15:5; Heb 12:9

3. Implications

Note: God calls us explicitly to honor our parents because the family is the foundation of human society... Cf. 1 Pt 2:17-18

Point: If children do not honor their parents, all other earthly authorities will collapse!

[*Table Talk Magazine*, Ligonier] – "...for those who cannot honor their fathers and mothers will by no means be able to honor those other leaders whom God has established (Rom. 13:1–7)"

(a) Honoring our parents also means that we care for aged people in our congregations, visiting them and seeking to learn from them... Lev 19:32

(b) Members of the Church should obey and submit to their leaders... Heb 13:17

(c) Blessings from God = *To live long and prosper*... Eph. 6:2-3

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