

Scripture: Colossians 3

Singing: 150:1-4 – 84:1-2 – 90:1-3, 6-7 – 438:3, 9 – 435:6, 9

Principle 5: *We are not only called to fulfill the law ourselves, but also bound to help others to do this as far as we are able to.*

HONOR GOD'S AUTHORITY

I. THE REASON FOR THE 5TH II. THE INCENTIVE IN KEEPING THE 5TH

III. THE DETAILS OF OBSERVING THE 5TH

I. The reason for the 5th

A. The traditional view sees the 5th as *the first of the second table* (Eph. 6:2)

B. Why does God start our duties to our neighbor with the 5th?

1. Because God the keys to promote and protect our happiness: **honor**

His authority structures

a. most basic is the *family life structure*

b. nothing is more foundation for *our personal well-being as family*

II. The incentive in keeping the 5th commandment?

A. God promises the *long days* (Ex. 20:12; Deut. 5:16)

1. How understand the *long days – prolonged day – go well with us?*

a. either *long life of many happy days*

b. or a *life of happy days as long as it lasts* (Deut 5:16, 29, 33)

2. Prov. 14:34: *righteousness (law-abiding) exalts a nation (prolongs)*

a. such right living is taught in family life

III. What are the details of the 5th commandment?

A. This 5th is far broader than can be covered in one sermon

1. Besides the subjects, the 5th is also God's will for leaders

a. which leaders?

b. which subjects

B. What are the 3 *aspects* in honoring those in authority over me?

1st That we recognize that **God is pleased** to *rule us by their hand*

a. each person given (delegated) *authority* is God's *office-bearer*

2nd That we **honor** God's representative or office-bearers

a. Definition of *showing honor*

● do we honor the *person* or the *office of the person*

b. How do we honor God's office-bearers?

c. What exception does God allow? Acts 5:19

● each parent ought to teach this principle – boundary

3rd That we bear with their weakness, limits or infirmities

a. none of God's office bearers is perfect

b. being sinners, leaders can fail in leading or example

c. it is God's will to *press Master's footsteps*: Luke 2:51-52

C. What is God's will for office-bearers (authority figures)?

1. That in all my actions/ reactions as authority figure *I resemble Him*

a. office-bearers are *stewards to govern on God's behalf*

● as husbands

● as parents (teachers, baby-sitters)

● as government officials (police)

● as church leaders

2. God's clear warning to the abuse of authority

a. either in selfish or angry use (Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:21)

b. or in neglect of using delegated authority (Prov. 29:15)

Closing observation: *The hand that rocks the cradle, rocks the world!*