

Proverbs 4; Lord's Day 38
HONORING GOD'S AUTHORITY

- I. The honor required.
 - A. To “honor,” is to render respect, soul submission. God requires that His children show all honor, love, and fidelity.”
 - 1. Honor is an inner respect, to think highly of them, giving reverence.
 - 2. Honor is always required – even and especially when we cannot obey or they sin against us or are wrong.
 - 3. Fidelity is faithfulness shown also when parents are old; there is no age limit to the honor commanded.
 - B. Honor is the only good source of obedience and submission.
 - 1. Obedience is a yielding of myself so I do as commanded.
 - 2. Honor submits when we may not obey, being willing to bear the consequences of not obeying them.
- II. The great reason for honor is because of the presence of God's authority in all of our life.
 - A. Always we are under authority, so we may never do whatever we want, when we want, and how we want.
 - B. Authority is the God-given right to rule (determining the standard, the demand to conform, and to judge).
 - C. All authority is God's.
 - 1. It is His because he created, upholds, and governs all things (Rom. 11:36).
 - 2. God delegates the exercise of His authority chiefly to Christ when He ascended: Matt. 28:18; Eph. 1:19ff; Phil. 2:11,12.
- III. Why are we to honor God's authority?
 - A. Our heavenly Father encourages us by adding a promise to this commandment.
 - B. Compliance to authority (obedience and submission) is for our good.
 - C. More importantly, this is well-pleasing to God (Col. 3:20).
 - D. Finally love God and show your love for Him by obeying Him and His will.