

# **“The Commandment With A Promise”**

## **Practicing Principles Of Parentage**

Ephesians 6:1-4; Matthew 15:1-9; Exodus 20:1-12

The Voice From The Fire Part 7 of 12

The fourth commandment links a divine directive with a God-given guarantee! In his kindness God give us a foundational, cause-and-effect principle that largely determines the course of nuclear families, family trees, and entire civilizations. But what happens when the “golden chain” of wisdom between generations gets clipped? When rebellion breaks out? This is a sobering question with many examples today. So parents, protect and cherish and \_\_\_\_\_ your children. And children, \_\_\_\_\_ God’s promise that “it will go well with you” (Deu. 5:16) when you honor him by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ those in authority over you. Make your parents happy to be your parents!

I. Paying \_\_\_\_\_ (Ro. 13:1) to those who gave you \_\_\_\_\_ (and others)

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ use: to \_\_\_\_\_ in our consciences God’s holy purpose for his world, and the \_\_\_\_\_ that erupts from our depraved hearts.
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ use: to clarify God’s \_\_\_\_\_ on the rebellious (Ex. 21:15, 17 but Gal. 3:13).
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ use: to guide the church into the \_\_\_\_\_ (physical AND spiritual!) he will use to accomplish his purpose in the \_\_\_\_\_ covenant (Ge. 12:3).

II. \_\_\_\_\_ as God’s \_\_\_\_\_ (Eph. 6:4)

- 1) The purpose of \_\_\_\_\_ is not mere \_\_\_\_\_, but human \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) The greatest gifts of a parent (or mentor!): \_\_\_\_\_, Exhortation, \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Are you leading your flock into God’s \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_?

III. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 2:39) that make us who we are

- 1) Settle down in your \_\_\_\_\_ identity:
- 2) Apply the fifth commandment in \_\_\_\_\_ relationships.
- 3) Children, do you want a long and \_\_\_\_\_ life? Trust God and \_\_\_\_\_ dad and mom!
- 4) Instruct children in \_\_\_\_\_ leaders (He. 13:17) and \_\_\_\_\_ submission!

Application Questions:

1. Discuss how “it would go well” (Deut. 5:16) if children honored parents. What would happen?
2. When is honor visible in your home? Marriage? Office? Church? Community?
3. Does your family, church, and political speech respect Biblical leaders (Ro. 13:1)?
4. How could you demonstrate respect for a superior this week (see WLC #125, 127)?