

# Honour Our Parents

5<sup>TH</sup> COMMANDMENT

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- ▶ The 5<sup>th</sup> commandment is the first of the six horizontal commands between mankind
- ▶ **Filial piety** was a common theme in the ancient world. What is unique here is the specific promise of a long “lengthened” life (Deut. 5:16; Eph. 6:1-3)
- ▶ Long life is a  **blessing**  from God (Prov. 3:16)
- ▶ Of course this is both right and good, but how should someone honour his or her parents

# This Is Not a Choice



- ▶ First, we are called to **honour** our parents (Exo. 20:12; Eph. 6:2) (meaning to be heavy)
- ▶ (Mark 7:9-13) It is easy to make **excuses** in our busy lives and forget our parents, or we make excuses that they're "old fashioned" or embarrassing...there are many excuses.
- ▶ God did not give us a choice here. We **must** honour our parents (Matt. 15:4-6).

# Honour and Obey



- ▶ Second, we need to **obey** our parents (Eph. 6:1)
- ▶ Obeying our parents is not just right (6:1); but it is also pleasing to God (Col. 3:20)
- ▶ This was the case for thousands of years (all the bad examples in the Bible testify that)
- ▶ To obey means to **hear** (Prov. 1:8; 23:22) and to **keep** their instruction (6:20; 7:1-4)
- ▶ Of course it must be **within reason**—nothing that is sinful or foolishness, according to God' word

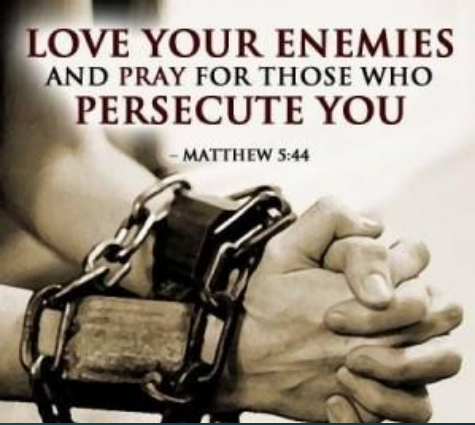
# Give Thanks and Respect



- ▶ It may not be possible to obey our parents in all things, but we should always **honour** them
- ▶ How? By **thanking** them and giving them the **respect** that is due to them.
- ▶ The best way to show our **love** to our parents is to honour them as our parents, just like Jesus has done (John 15:9-10)

# It Is Not Easy

- ▶ What if we think our parents do not **deserve** our honour? (not all parents are honourable)
- ▶ (Rom. 12:10, 16-18) the same **principle** applies to our parents too!
- ▶ If we can even honour our enemies in the battlefield, we can certainly honour our parents
- ▶ We are called to **love our enemies**, therefore we must “do good” to our parents (Matt. 5:44; Luke 6:27)



# Conclusion



- ▶ To all the parents: honour must be **earned**, even if your position deserves the honour (ill: pastor 1 Tim. 5:17-18) (demanding honour never works anyway)
- ▶ God commands us to **honor** our parents. **Blessings** will follow our obedience.
- ▶ The best way to honour our parents is to **thank** them and **spend time** with them
- ▶ Let us take time in the coming days to honour our parents, and to take time to be **with** them