

## The 10 Commandments

# The Power of Honor

## The Fifth Commandment



**The Second Tablet of the Law**  
The first four commandments were about our relationship to God, the last six are about our relationship to each other (human society). The **5th** Commandment

preserves the home, the **6th** preserves life, the **7th** preserves marriage, the **8th** preserves property, the **9th** preserves a person's reputation, and the **10th** preserves contentedness.

### A. The Command to Honor

- 1. Preserving the family:** Preservation of the family is at the heart of this commandment. If it's NOT in your 'heart' it will never be in your 'home' and if not in your home it will never be in your community. See *Deut 6:4-7; Mark 12:28-31*
- 2. To honor is a heavy thing:** The Hebrew word for honor is 'kaved' which means "heavy" or "weighty." It often describes the glory of God, for the weightiness of His divine majesty.
  - **Position vs. personality:** To honor our parents is to give due weight to their position and respect for their God-given authority.
  - **Dishonor:** Widespread dishonor and disrespect of parents is a sign of the last days. *2 Tim 3:2*
  - **Jesus and the 5th:** *Mark 7:9-13* It seems that people will create traditions and 'meaningful sounding reasons' to avoid the commandments.

### B. The Promise

- 1. Live long and prosper:** This is the only commandment with a specific promise and the Apostle Paul mentions it in *Eph 6:1-3* where he captures the full meaning of the Hebrew phrase "living long in the land." It is living in 'abundance.'
- 2. Context of the promise:** The Israelites are still in the wilderness and Canaan (the promised land) is yet to be realized. God provides an added incentive for obedience—long life in the promised land.
- 3. New Testament context:** *John 3:16; 15:10*

"For God so loved the world that He gave  
His only begotten Son, that whoever believes  
in Him should not perish but have  
everlasting life. If you keep My  
commandments, you will abide in My love."

### C. Honor to Whom Honor is Due

- 1. Rule of categories:** Each of the Ten Commandments represents a whole category of sins and duties and their implications.
- 2. A crisis of respect:** There is a crisis of 'respect' in our culture that is in part due to the violation of the 5th Commandment.
- 3. When honor is NOT due:** "It is only by a life of consistent obedience that we earn the right to disobey human authority when such has to be done to obey the higher authority of God."  
*"Truth and Transformation" pg 144 Vishal Mangalwadi*

### Exodus 20:12 (NKJV)

Exo 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 20-21

**:4** "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!

**:5** You shall **love the LORD** your God with **all your heart**, with **all your soul**, and with **all your strength**.

**:6** "And these words which I command you today **shall be in your heart**.

**:7** **You shall teach them** diligently **to your children**, and shall **talk of them** when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

**:8** You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.

**:9** You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

**:20** "**When your son asks you in time to come**, saying, 'What is the meaning of the testimonies, the statutes, and the judgments which the LORD our God has commanded you?'

**:21** **then you shall say to your son...**

### Ephesians 6:1-3 (NKJV)

**:1** Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do.

**:2** "Honor your father and mother." This is the first commandment with a promise:

**:3** If you honor your father and mother, "things will go well for you, and you will have a long life on the earth."