



## Why The Bible Says Honor Your Parents!

by Rev. Michael J. Burns

### **Ephesians 6:1-3**

1. Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.
2. ***“Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise:***
3. **“that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.” NKJV**

When it comes to the Father and Mother we had there are two biblical things we are to do from the children's perspective. **OBEY** and **HONOR** them. I realize that some have had a difficult upbringing, perhaps due to the parents who simply did not want to take their god-given role as a parent very seriously. Thankfully that is not everyone's reality. Some were blessed with great parents and are reaping the benefits in life from those relationships.

In my many years as a pastor I have had several people ask me about the verses above. They would ask me, *I'm an adult now, do I still have to obey my parents as it is stated in Ephesians 6:1?* The obvious answer is **NO, you do not have to Obey them, but you are still commanded to Honor them.** When **verse 1** says, *Children,...* the scriptures are speaking to adolescents or little children who are still under the roof or tutelage of their parents.

The benefits of **verse 1** is all you are supposed to receive from your parents such as; *a loving home environment, the sustenance of food, education, discipline, and the lessons that you will take with you as you enter adulthood.* Certainly God does not expect any child to obey a parent

who would do harm to them or involve them in illegal activity. Yet this type of parenting goes on in various segments of our society today.

Recently I saw a clip from a *Good Morning America* episode, where they had a boy who could not have been more than 12 or 13 years old who claimed to be *transgender*. He was dressed up as a girl, long blonde hair, make up, red lipstick, eye lashes, stockings, sparkling shoes and gloves, wearing women's jewelry. As sad and pathetic as this was, the audience cheered as this confused child did a cat walk down the aisle. He was introduced by host, *Michael Strahan* who seemed to be celebrating this debauchery.

As far as I am concerned as a Christian and an American citizen, this child has been the victim of parents who have done him an injustice in not raising him as God created him...*a male!* It is illegal in the high court of heaven and should be criminal here on earth to have parents like this. This is a part of the so called, ***Woke Generation***, that is attempting to indoctrinate our society and change our Christian culture. They have targeted the young children and truly are following the philosophy of men like Hitler, Mussolini, Stalin and even Sal Alinsky who wrote, *Rules For Radicals*.

Let me say that ***Parents are to protect their children from these types of predators*** and realize that *they have a mandate given to them from God to raise their children in the nurture and admonishment of the Lord*. People who reject Christ are not only putting themselves in eternal peril but also their children for whom they are setting the wrong example. Life is not complicated but people have made it complicated by deviating further and further away from the standards that God through His servants have laid out in scripture.

In ***Hebrews 11:23*** we are told...

23. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a ***proper child***; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment. KJV

Pharaoh feared that the children of Israel would become too powerful and tried to put an end to it by commanding ALL new born boys be thrown in the Nile River and drowned. Moses' mother did not comply because she saw something in her son. The term ***SAW***, is the Greek word, *eido*, and

means to **perceive, discern, discover, to literally KNOW intuitively and implies a knowledge beyond the natural senses.** Most new mothers would argue that their baby is special and the most beautiful baby in the world. Moses' parents knew by revelation that there was something different about him that went beyond cuteness. The words, **PROPER CHILD** gives us the answer.

**Proper Child** comes from the Greek words, *asteios* and *paidion*, and means *Urbane or a City dweller* or you could say, **A Child of the City**. Moses' parents had a supernatural realization that their child had a destiny. Parents today rarely, if at all, see beyond the natural beauty of their new born child. This really needs to be taught so that parents will seek God's plan for each of their children because there is a PLAN that God has for each and everyone of us. Especially our children and it is the parents job to steer them in that direction.

Most translations say that Moses was a *beautiful child, a fair child or comely*. The New Living Translation says, **They saw that God had given them an UNUSUAL Child...!** The New International Version says, **they saw that he was no ordinary child.** Any thing that God creates is extraordinary, beyond anything natural or physical! People of all ages have a future and a destiny. A pre-planned outcome by God for their life. *Whether that plan comes to pass has much to do with the type of upbringing they have or not.*

**Obeying** our parents is only for the time we are living under their roof as little children. As a child grows older and enters adulthood, **obeying** should turn to **honoring** your father and mother. The Amplified Bible says of **Ephesians 6:2**, *Honor (esteem and value as precious) your father and your mother...* The Easy To Read Version says, *to RESPECT your father and your mother...* The Apostle Paul told Timothy that one of the signs of the last days would *children who are disobedient to their parents* in **2 Timothy 3:2**.

Verse 2 says, that **honoring** our parents is the *first commandment with a promise attached to it.* verse 3 says, 3. **"You will prosper and live a long, full life if you honor your parents"** in the Passion Translation. There are two blessings associated with **honoring our parents**, Prosperity & Long Life. If ever there was a situation where you had a material or

financial need OR you had an issue with your health, **this promise in Ephesians 6:3** can be your way out of those troubles if you will simply and consistently ***honor your parents*** whether they are alive or dead. God has made a solemn promise to you of Long Life which includes divine health and you will be prosperous for it will be ***Well*** with you!

## HOW DO YOU HONOR YOUR PARENTS?

- 1.** Be thankful for them and show your gratitude.
- 2.** If they are still alive then *communicate with them*.
- 3.** Talk to them and treat them with respect.
- 4.** Seek their advice and wisdom.
- 5.** Pray for them and with them.
- 6.** Encourage them with both words and actions.
- 7.** Forgive your parents.
- 8.** Tell them the truth. There are few things that can honor your parents then telling them the truth.
- 9.** Take care of your parents as they get older.
- 10.** Talk well of your parents both privately and publicly.

Your mom and dad will not be around forever on planet earth so make the effort to stay connected to them and remember that there was a time when you could not take care of yourself and they took care of you. This is the time of their life when you can do the same for them with the promise of **Ephesians 6:2-3**.

(You can find more information about Rev. Michael J. Burns at [www.mjbministries.org](http://www.mjbministries.org). You can find Free Audios and links to our FREE Monthly E-Newsletter and Archives. We also have links to our YouTube Channel and our FREE Mobile App for both the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store. To invite Michael J. Burns to your church or ministry please fill out your request at [www.mjbministries/invite](http://www.mjbministries/invite)).