

“The thing that impresses me most about America is the way parents obey their children”

— Edward VIII



Children, Obey Your Parents



Children, This Command Is To You!



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- Understanding Ephesians
 - Chapters 1-3: God's gracious plan of salvation
 - Chapters 4-6: Salvation's impact on your life
 - 4:1: Walk worthy of the calling
 - 4:17: Don't walk in former sins
 - 5:1: Imitate God
 - 5:18: Be filled with the Spirit



Children, This Command Is To You!

- Understanding Ephesians
 - Marks of worthy walking in a Spirit-filled life:
 - Wives, submit to your husbands
 - Husbands, love your wives
 - Children, obey your parents
 - Fathers, train your children
 - Slaves, obey your masters
 - Masters, treat your servants well



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- Who is commanded to obey?
 - All children
 - Ephesians 6:1 written to those who **understand**
 - **Directly** addresses children
 - **Directly** addresses relationship with God
 - **Directly** indicates why the need to obey



Learning From The Law

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Handwritten text on the right stone tablet, consisting of approximately 15 lines of cuneiform script.

Learning From The Law

- No other gods before Me
 - No graven images
 - Name not taken in vain
 - Remember the Sabbath

**Reasons For Removal
From The Land (see 20:12)**

- Honor Father and Mother
 - Do not murder
 - Do not commit adultery
 - Do not steal
 - Do not bear false witness
 - Do not covet

Learning From The Law

- Serious Language:
 - Whoever strikes his father or his mother **shall be put to death** (Exodus 21:15)
 - Whoever curses his father or his mother **shall be put to death** (Exodus 21:17)

Learning From The Law

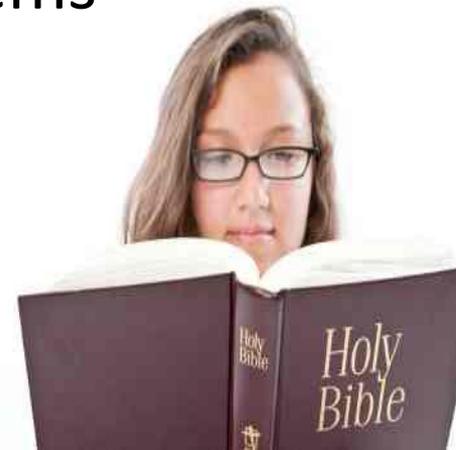
- Serious Language:
 - He who **does violence** to his father and chases away his mother is a son who brings shame and reproach (Pr. 19:26)
 - Whoever **robs** his father or his mother and says, “That is no transgression,” is a companion to a man who destroys. (Pr. 28:24)
 - The eye that **mocks** a father and **scorns** to obey a mother will be picked out by the ravens of the valley and eaten by the vultures. (Pr. 30:17)

Learning From The Law

Rebellion is **not** simply
“a part of growing up!”

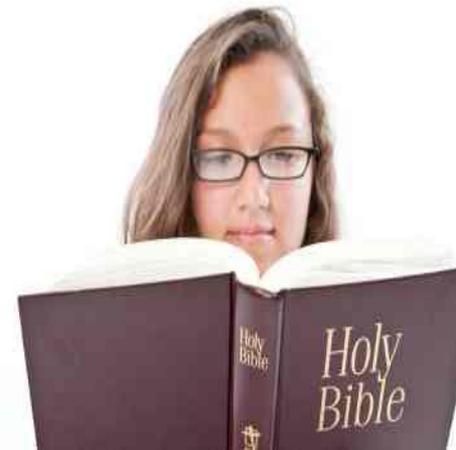
God's Expectations For Children

- **Obey:** Recognition of authority
 - Children, obey your parents **in everything**, for this pleases the Lord (Colossians 3:20)
 - Same word used for slaves/masters
- Obedience: an early test of faith
 - Refusal to obey parents indicates problems in relationship with Christ



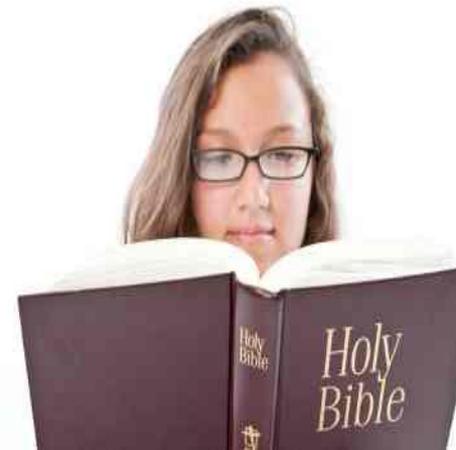
God's Expectations For Children

- **Honor:** Respecting, valuing, and reverencing
 - Obedience recognizes authority; honor respects it
 - Hear, my son, your father's **instruction**, and forsake not your mother's **teaching**, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck (Pr. 1:8-9)
 - Training for our relationship with God



God's Expectations For Children

- **Living** long in the land
 - Christians retain citizenship through obedience
 - Ungodly behavior can remove hope of “Promised Land”



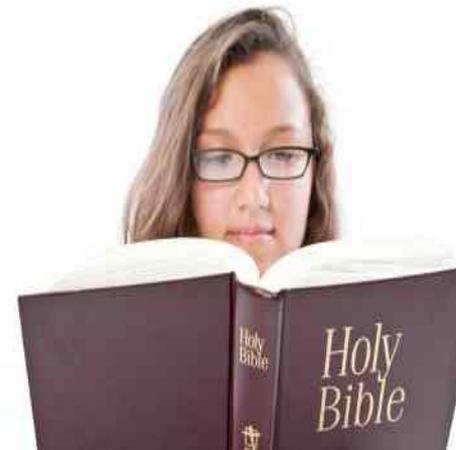
And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, **disobedient to parents**, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

– Romans 1:28-32

But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, **disobedient to their parents**, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people
– II Timothy 3:1-5

God's Expectations For Children

- **Living long in the land**
 - Everyone submits to some kind of authority
 - Obedience to parents is better than devil's alternatives
 - This will help “things go well with you”





Do You Honor Your Father In Heaven?