



GOD'S LAW WRITTEN IN YOUR HEART

Class Three

Because I Say So!

Honoring God AND our Parents: simply because it's the right thing to do.

• Exodus 20:1-17

- 1) And God spake all these words, saying,
- 2) I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
- 3) Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
- 4) Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.
- 5) Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;
- 6) And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.
- 7) Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.
- 8) Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- 9) Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:
- 10) But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:
- 11) For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.
- 12) Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.
- 13) Thou shalt not kill.
- 14) Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- 15) Thou shalt not steal.
- 16) Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
- 17) Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

- The Fourth and Fifth Commandments both have to do with Respect...

- The Fourth Commandment regards respecting God

- Exodus 20:8-11

- 8) Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- 9) Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:
- 10) But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:
- 11) For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

- What did the Fourth Commandment actually Command?

- Remember the Sabbath day
- Six days shalt thou labour
- The Seventh Day thou shalt not do any work

- Let's take a look at a familiar parable...

- Luke 15:11-32

- 11) And he said, A certain man had two sons:
- 12) And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.
- 13) And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.
- 14) And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.
- 15) And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.
- 16) And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.
- 17) And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!
- 18) I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,
- 19) And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.
- 20) And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

- 21) And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.
- 22) But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:
- 23) And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:
- 24) For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.
- 25) Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing.
- 26) And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant.
- 27) And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound.
- 28) And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.
- 29) And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends:
- 30) But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.
- 31) And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.
- 32) It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

- Now, keeping in mind the Fourth Commandment...

- Six days shalt thou labour
- The Seventh Day thou shalt not do any work

- Do you notice anything about the Two Brothers and their relationship to work...

- I think that BOTH of them were disobeying the Fourth Commandment

- One Brother clearly was disobeying the Commandment to Work Six Days

- He was lazy
- Looking only for fun
- Not industrious...

- We are commanded to work...

- 2nd Thessalonians 3:10-12

- 10) For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

- 11) For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.
- 12) Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.

- He was disregarding God's Laws

- He was not showing God the respect that He deserves...

- He was not working...

- What was the problem with the other Brother?

- He worked too much!

- What is his complaint with his father?

- *"thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends"*

- Does this seem like the kind of Father that would have rejected this kind of request?

- Of course not...

- The other Brother was just too wrapped up in his work to take time

- He also disregarded God's Law regarding the Sabbath

- He didn't show respect to God

- Exodus 20:8-11

- 8) Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- 9) Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:
- 10) But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:
- 11) For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

- The point of the Sabbath was to take time to REMEMBER God...

- To set aside your financial pursuits and to think about your Creator

- The purpose of the Sabbath was to Remember!

- God

- His Work

- His Blessings

- We have a Sabbath also...

- We call it a Memorial Service

- The purpose of our Sabbath?

- To Remember!

- 1st Corinthians 11:24-25

- 24) And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.
- 25) After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

- How often do we remember the Sabbath?

- 1st Corinthians 11:26

- 26) For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

- We aren't limited to just one day out of seven...

- We are to remember God at all times...

- Jesus chose to act on the Sabbath specifically to teach a lesson...

- Matthew 12:1-13

- 1) At that time Jesus went on the sabbath day through the corn; and his disciples were an hungred, and began to pluck the ears of corn and to eat.
- 2) But when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto him, Behold, thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the sabbath day.
- 3) But he said unto them, Have ye not read what David did, when he was an hungred, and they that were with him;
- 4) How he entered into the house of God, and did eat the shewbread, which was not lawful for him to eat, neither for them which were with him, but only for the priests?
- 5) Or have ye not read in the law, how that on the sabbath days the priests in the temple profane the sabbath, and are blameless?
- 6) But I say unto you, That in this place is one greater than the temple.
- 7) But if ye had known what this meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless.
- 8) For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day.

- 9) And when he was departed thence, he went into their synagogue:
- 10) And, behold, there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days? that they might accuse him.
- 11) And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out?
- 12) How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days.
- 13) Then saith he to the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other.

- Jesus often chose the battleground of the Sabbath to fight with the Pharisees on...
 - Why?
- He wanted to show us that God's intention of the Sabbath wasn't just to sit around...
 - Worshipping God isn't just withdrawing into yourself and concentrating on your own personal issues and personal righteousness
- To Remember the Lord our God is to reach out to others
 - To help others
- We are not bound to one day of this
 - We are to do this everyday
- Jesus showed that the best way to Remember our Creator is to live a life of service to others
 - This is what God wants from us
- ***Rewrite the Commandment in your own words...***

- The next Commandment, #5, is also about Respect...
- Exodus 20:12
 - 12) Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.
- You've heard this one a 1,000 times, so I won't dwell on it...
- I do have one question:
 - Does Honor only mean "Obey"?
- What does Honor mean?
 - *Honor*:
 - Webster's - "To show regard for..."
 - To Respect
 - To Take Care Of
- Look what Jesus taught...
- Matthew 15:4-6:
 - 4) For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.
 - 5) But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me;
 - 6) And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.
- EXPLAIN
 - You can't get out of your responsibility...
- But what if your parents don't deserve your honor and respect
 - What kinds of things could they do to not deserve your honor?
- You have to Honor then anyway...
 - Not necessarily because they have done great things to earn it...
- But, because God tells us to
 - We do it in order to please him...

- Colossians 3:20

- 20) Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

- It's all part of the family relationship...

- Colossians 3:19-21

- 19) Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.
- 20) Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.
- 21) Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.

- When we talk about Honoring your parents, one story comes to mind...

- The Rechabites

- Jeremiah 35:1-19

- 1) The word which came unto Jeremiah from the LORD in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, saying,
- 2) Go unto the house of the Rechabites, and speak unto them, and bring them into the house of the LORD, into one of the chambers, and give them wine to drink.
- 3) Then I took Jaazaniah the son of Jeremiah, the son of Habaziniah, and his brethren, and all his sons, and the whole house of the Rechabites;
- 4) And I brought them into the house of the LORD, into the chamber of the sons of Hanan, the son of Igdaliah, a man of God, which was by the chamber of the princes, which was above the chamber of Maaseiah the son of Shallum, the keeper of the door:
- 5) And I set before the sons of the house of the Rechabites pots full of wine, and cups, and I said unto them, Drink ye wine.
- 6) But they said, We will drink no wine: for Jonadab the son of Rechab our father commanded us, saying, Ye shall drink no wine, neither ye, nor your sons for ever:
- 7) Neither shall ye build house, nor sow seed, nor plant vineyard, nor have any: but all your days ye shall dwell in tents; that ye may live many days in the land where ye be strangers.
- 8) Thus have we obeyed the voice of Jonadab the son of Rechab our father in all that he hath charged us, to drink no wine all our days, we, our wives, our sons, nor our daughters;
- 9) Nor to build houses for us to dwell in: neither have we vineyard, nor field, nor seed:
- 10) But we have dwelt in tents, and have obeyed, and done according to all that Jonadab our father commanded us.
- 11) But it came to pass, when Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon came up into the land, that we said, Come, and let us go to Jerusalem for fear of the

army of the Chaldeans, and for fear of the army of the Syrians: so we dwell at Jerusalem.

- 12) Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah, saying,
- 13) Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Go and tell the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, Will ye not receive instruction to hearken to my words? saith the LORD.
- 14) The words of Jonadab the son of Rechab, that he commanded his sons not to drink wine, are performed; for unto this day they drink none, but obey their father's commandment: notwithstanding I have spoken unto you, rising early and speaking; but ye hearkened not unto me.
- 15) I have sent also unto you all my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, saying, Return ye now every man from his evil way, and amend your doings, and go not after other gods to serve them, and ye shall dwell in the land which I have given to you and to your fathers: but ye have not inclined your ear, nor hearkened unto me.
- 16) Because the sons of Jonadab the son of Rechab have performed the commandment of their father, which he commanded them; but this people hath not hearkened unto me:
- 17) Therefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring upon Judah and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the evil that I have pronounced against them: because I have spoken unto them, but they have not heard; and I have called unto them, but they have not answered.
- 18) And Jeremiah said unto the house of the Rechabites, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Because ye have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father, and kept all his precepts, and done according unto all that he hath commanded you:
- 19) Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Jonadab the son of Rechab shall not want a man to stand before me for ever.

- RETELL - Jeremiah 35:1-10

- Jeremiah 35:10

- 10) But we have dwelt in tents, and have obeyed, and done according to all that Jonadab our father commanded us.

- Jeremiah 35:18-19

- 18) And Jeremiah said unto the house of the Rechabites, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Because ye have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father, and kept all his precepts, and done according unto all that he hath commanded you:
- 19) Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Jonadab the son of Rechab shall not want a man to stand before me for ever.

- Jonadab, Jonadab, Jonadab...

- Jonadab was the leader of the family, the strength, the visionary...

- The Rechabites honored their father Jonadab...
 - Jonadab honored his father Rechab also...
 - He was mighty, but they didn't call themselves the Jonadabites...
 - Jonadab taught the generation that followed him to respect their elders, by himself respecting his elders.
- Ephesians 6:1-3
 - 1) Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.
 - 2) Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;
 - 3) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.
- Paul says that if we honor our Father, "it will go well with thee"
 - There is a blessing involved in honoring your Father
 - We must all learn this lesson
 - If we are to teach our second generation, we must do it by example
 - They will not learn to honor their parents, unless we do
 - Our children will not learn to respect their elders, unless we do
 - They will not learn to obey the authorities, unless we do
- We must all learn to Honor our Father
- But, I'm not here to talk about parenting
- We all have another Father to consider
- Romans 8:14-17
 - 14) For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.
 - 15) For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.
 - 16) The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:
 - 17) And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.
- Give honor to our Heavenly Father and "it will go well with us"
 - How do you "honor" your Heavenly Father

- Honor: Glory, Respect, Esteem, Distinction...
 - What honors me as a father?... Obedience.
 - When my children obey me, I feel honored...
 - Respected, highly esteemed...
 - When my children disobey me, I feel greatly dishonored, disrespected...
 - That was the same way that the Rechabites honored their father Jonadab
- Jeremiah 35:10
 - 10) But we have dwelt in tents, and have obeyed, and done according to all that Jonadab our father commanded us.
 - As a natural Father, does it “go well with” my children when they Honor me...
 - It sure doesn’t if they don’t
 - For the Rechabites, it “went well with them” when they honored their Father
- Jeremiah 35:18-19
 - 18) And Jeremiah said unto the house of the Rechabites, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Because ye have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father, and kept all his precepts, and done according unto all that he hath commanded you:
 - 19) Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Jonadab the son of Rechab shall not want a man to stand before me for ever.
 - For our Heavenly Father... We must obey him to Honor him...
 - Obedience to God’s Word is what Honors our Father...
 - How does a parent want their child to obey them?
 - Do you want your children to follow the letter of the law?
 - Or do you want them to understand the spirit of the law? And live by the spirit!
 - You want your children to come to understand you
 - To understand what your goals and beliefs are...
 - And then to “buy in” to those same goals and beliefs and pursue the same things together.

- Not just find the lines of your rules, and walk within them, but actually pitch in to make the family a better place, a happier place...
- God wants the same from us...
 - He doesn't want us to search for the boundaries of his "rules"...
 - He wants us to get with the program. To become more like Him, so we don't need to be bound by rules, and we can proceed onwards with the work
- That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.
- Jesus honored his Father
 - "Not as MY will, but as THY will be done"
 - Obedience sums up Jesus' life
 - It went well with him
 - Obedience unto death that we are here to remember
- God will bless us...
 - If we obey our Father
 - If we honor our Father
- If we "*Honour thy father and thy mother*"
- The 10 Commandments divide interestingly into two sections...
 - The First Five deal with our relationship to God
 - The Second Five deal with our relationship with other people
- It's interesting that the Commandment regarding our Parents fall within the first five...
 - Kind of a transition between God and others...
- Predominantly, you have to come to understand the role of your parents as a direct connection to God
- They start out very much filling the role of God in your lives...
 - Without them you would not have life
- They brought you into this world...

- Everything you have comes from them...
- They care for you
 - Feed you
 - Provide for you
 - Protect you
- But, in the big picture, those days are really a very small part of your life...
- You soon grow to begin to care for yourself...
 - And to think for yourself...
- You begin to disagree with your parents
 - You begin to think that you know better..
- And you very well might!
 - But, that doesn't do away with your responsibility to Honor them...
- You have to learn to Honor and Obey them, BECAUSE OF YOUR HONOR AND LOVE FOR GOD, and no other reason...
 - Otherwise you won't...
- Let's talk about how this goes on today...
- ***Write it in your own words...***