

Exodus 20:12 – The Highest Human Authority

Intro – Transition from 1st Table to 2nd Table of Law. 2 tablets of stone written on both sides. The Law is all about love. Love sums up the law (Matt. 22:37-40). Laws 1-4 = love for God. Laws 5-10 = love for neighbor (Rom. 13:9). Rule #5 is about love and respect for our neighbor who has authority over us. Parents are the primary human authority and the highest human authority that God has given us. We all have equal worth (I.O.G.), but we don't have equal authority. There is a hierarchy to life and children are to honor parents/sons are to honor fathers. This structure of authority is derived from the Godhead....Father, Son and Spirit. All 3 are equal but the Son & Spirit lovingly submit to the will of the Father. This pattern from Deity is to be lived out in society. The dishonor of authority (parental) destroys society. You might say that the preservation or detonation of society begins in the home. Today we look at Rule #5 as the PRIMARY authority... that is also a PERPETUAL authority... which PRESERVES society.

THE PRIMARY AUTHORITY

- God is the ultimate authority & He has established all other lesser authorities - Rom. 13:1
 - The highest of human authority is in the home
 - Parents are the first authority structure we are confronted with – Father/Mother
 - The lessons learned, or spurned, from parents trickle down to all the other authorities – teacher/coach/boss/police/government
 - They also trickle up to the Ultimate Authority - God the Father
 - The primary human authority is to model the Ultimate Authority
- You might have noticed that I ranked parents higher than the other human authority
 - All other authority is built upon & should support the parental authority – (chief)
 - God the Father gave authority to fathers and mothers FIRST. All others are derived from this fountain/source. Parents are top of the pecking order
 - When society loses this perspective, it will suffer
 - The 5th applies to all other authorities
 - But all other human authorities fall under parental authority
- Parents are to have an honor and respect because we derived life from them (Like God)
 - We must show respect to the source of our life
 - Fear and reverence. Lev. 19:3 (mom listed 1st) Lev. 19:32
 - We must obey - Eph. 6:1 Col. 3:20 Prov. 1:8-9
 - The 5th is the most important commandment...for parents ;)
 - Jesus obeyed His earthy parents and His Heavenly Father (Luke 2:49-51)
 - We must never dishonor our parents
 - Deut. 27:16 Ham dishonored Noah (passed out drunk) and was cursed
 - Prov. 30:17 Ex. 21:15 Ex. 21:17 (Prov. 31:28)
 - To break the 5th is a serious offence (Rom. 1:29-32)

A PERPETUAL AUTHORITY

- The 5th Commandment is not just for kids (not like Trixs)
 - There is no graduation from this obligation.
 - We don't age out of honoring our parents. Parental honor is perpetual honor
- Jesus often corrected misconceptions of the commandments
 - He did this with the: 3rd...4th....6th.....7th....and the 5th
 - Matt. 15:3-9
 - they were opting out of parental obligation for a “*religious*” reasons
- Care for aging parents is an honor and an obligation
 - 1 Tim. 5:4 1 Tim. 5:8
 - Watching my wife care for her dying mother was a marvel to behold (example)
 - she honored her mother even when she was old - Prov. 23:22
 - Chest of Broken Glass
- Jesus put the 5th commandment under the heading of love
 - Matt. 19:17-19 the 2nd Table of the Law is all about love
 - Honoring our parents is how we love them. Love and respect
 - We are to love the ones who gave us life - Mother/Father...Heavenly Father
 - We are to be taught it when *WE* are young and not forget it when *THEY* are old.
 - Parents are the primary authority who are to garner perpetual honor

AN AUTHORITY THAT PRESERVES SOCIETY

- Exodus 20:12 “...that your days may be prolonged in land...”
 - The new nation is promised here how to prolong themselves...how to last long
 - The 5th is a preservative for society...it adds longevity to society
 - Deut. 5:16 - “...that it may go well with you...”
- To dishonor parental authority destroys society
 - This can be done by individuals, entities, groups, or governments
 - To attack the nuclear family is to blow up society - it won't last long on the earth
 - Family authority is the first foundation God laid for good society
 - The preservation or detonation of society happens in the home
 - If we love our neighbor, we want to preserve our neighbor and neighborhood
- Proverbs 30:11-14 (NKJV)
 - There is a generation that...
 - I think we are in that generation -ask a teacher/coach/policeman/parent
- Individual application of this
 - Eph. 6:2-3 “...that you may live long”
 - Eccles. 7:17 rebels often die young...so do rebellious societies
- The ultimate longevity of life is eternal life
 - It is only found in a Son who honored His Father - “...not My will but Yours...”
 - It will go well with us because The Father was well pleased with The Son
 - I am guilty of a lot of dishonor to both earthly/Heaven Father - (days be short)
 - Thank God for The SON who honored His FATHER!