

INTRODUCTION: PARENTS DAY

A. PARENTS DAY: A SUITABLE OPPORTUNITY

B. SACRED DUTY W/ GREAT PROMISE (Ex.20:12; Dt.5:16; Mt.15:4f; 19:19; Eph.6:2f; Col.3:20; see/Lk.2:51f)

C. PARENTS & CHILDREN IN THEIR THREEFOLD STATE

INSTRUCTION: THE CHANGING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARENTS & CHILDREN

A. PARENTS & THEIR DEPENDENT CHILDREN (benefactors & dependents)

1. *parents*: provide; model; instruct & discipline; pray (Ps.78:3f; 1Tim.5:8; 2Cor.12:14; 2Tm.3:14f; Heb.13:7; Eph.6:4; Mt.15:22; Job 1:5)

2. *children*: follow; believe & do what hear & see (Dt.21:18f; Prov.23:22; Phil.2:22; 4:9; Heb.13:7)

B. PARENTS & THEIR INDEPENDENT CHILDREN (equals; see “one anothers”; Rom.12:10f; Eph.4:2f, etc.)

1. *parents*: take care of yourselves & your independent children (Jn.3:21f; see 1Th.4:11,12; 3:10f; see Ps.128:6; Prov.17:6; 1Tm.5:4)

2. *children*: take care of yourselves & your dependent children (Gal.4:1f /Ps.78:1f,8; Ezk.18:14f; 20; 30f)

C. CHILDREN & THEIR DEPENDENT PARENTS (benefactors & dependents)

1. *children*: provide (1Tm.5:4,8,16; Mk.7:10f; 1Tm.6:8; see 2Cor.12:14)

2. *parents*: willingly submit themselves (Jn.19:26f; 21:18; see Heb.13:17; 1Pt.2:13)

D. THE LARGER CATECHISM ON THE 4TH COMMANDMENT (Q.122-133; “superiors, equals, inferiors” = “benefactors, independent, dependent” above)

E. SELECTED ISSUES

1. needs vs. wants: discernment (see 1Tm.6:8)

2. guilt: self-examination before God under His Means of Grace (Acts 2:42; see 2Tm.3:17; Phil.4:6f)

3. unfaithful siblings: personal responsibility (see Josh.24:15; Jn.21:22)

4. limitations: delegations (see 1Cor.12:7,25)

CONCLUSION: PURSUE WISDOM & FAITHFULNESS IN EVERY SEASON OF LIFE

A. PRAY FOR WISDOM TO UNDERSTAND HOW TO HONOR YOUR PARENTS (Jms.1:5f; Phil.4:6f)

B. PRACTICE FAITHFULNESS IN HONORING YOUR PARENTS (Ps.37:3f)

Discussion question:

Brethren, what shall WE do? (see Acts 2:37f)