

## THE ROOT OF CHARACTER: THE FEAR OF THE LORD

### *Honor-What Is Honor?*

**Foundation Statement:** People who walk in the fear of the Lord honor Him and value Him and His things. –  
John 5:23

#### I. Honor vs. Despising

A. We are to honor God (John 5:23, KNOX-Reverence, WE-Respect)

1. Honor (Greek word timios) – Estimate or attach a value to something, to reverence, to honor somebody as sacred or special, to value as of great price, precious, esteemed (valued), to hold especially dear
  - a. To honor something is to value it, to see it as precious, to hold it especially dear
2. 1 Samuel 2:30
  - a. BAS-Those who have no respect for me will of small value in my eyes
  - b. NCV- I will honor those who honor me, but I will dishonor those who ignore me.
  - c. NLT- I will despise those who think lightly of me.
  - d. Honor (Hebrew word Kabad) – (1) Weight, heaviness, great, abundance, (2) To be heavy, be weighty, be rich, be glorious
  - e. In those days when you went to buy something they had scales and how much something was, was determined by a weight
    - 1) If something is really expensive you had to pile a lot of precious metal on that scale to buy it
      - a) The more valuable it was the heavier the price
    - 2) To honor has to do with something that is heavy or weighty and by implication something that is precious or valuable
3. When we honor God it has to do with valuing Him and His things in that they mean a lot to us
  - a. If something is valuable to you, you treat it differently (with respect)
  - b. When you're honoring something it's valuable to you, it's important to you, it has priority in your life
    - 1) Things that aren't important to you aren't valuable to you and consequently they don't have priority in your life

B. Dishonor or Despise

1. In the Bible the word used opposite to honor is despising
  - a. 1 Corinthians 4:10

- 1) Despised (The Greek word atimos which is the opposite of the Greek word timos which is honor)
    - a) Despised-Without honor, dishonor, of less esteem or value
  - 2) Honorable (Endoxos) – Held in great esteem or value
- b. 1 Samuel 2:30
- 1) Despise (bazah) – To despise, disdain, to be vile, worthless, (insignificant, of no value), esteem something lightly, make light of something, neglect, to fail to appreciate, to fail to acknowledge the importance of
    - a) God is revealing to us that honoring is to esteem or value highly and despising is to esteem or value lightly
    - b) When you esteem something highly it's valuable to you and when you lightly esteem something it's of little importance
  - 2) To esteem lightly takes us back to the weights and scales and if something is light it's not very valuable
- c. Lamentations 1:8 – Honor and despising
2. It dishonors God when we make light of (don't value as important) Him, His things and the things that He values
    - a. It's irreverent to esteem lightly God and His things
    - b. We honor God by valuing what He values and despising what He despises
      - 1) God values His Word (2 Peter 1:4)
      - 2) God values church services (Hebrews 10:25)
      - 3) God values His gifts to the church (Ephesians 4:8-12)
      - 4) God values the love commandment (Matthew 22:38)
      - 5) God values His spirit and the anointing (John 16:7)
      - 6) God values our faith (2 Peter 1:1)
      - 7) God values the trying of your faith (1 Peter 1:7)
      - 8) God values the hidden man of the heart (1 Peter 3:4)
      - 9) God values His son Jesus (1 Peter 2:4)
      - 10) God values the blood of Jesus (1 Peter 1:19)
      - 11) God values your body (1 Corinthians 6:20 – Timos, 1 Thessalonians 4:4)
      - 12) God values marriage (Hebrews 13:4)
      - 13) God values wisdom (Proverbs 3:15)
      - 14) God values the lips of knowledge (Proverbs 20:15)
    - c. You can't honor God or value Him highly and not value His things and what He's doing

## II. We see your honor for a person or thing in the time, energy, and resources that you invest into it

- A. You honor a person or thing by investing your time, energy, and resources into that thing (Proverbs 5:7-13)
1. When you value something as important and it leads to you investing your life into it
  2. 7-Who's words you attend to and follow you honor
  3. 9-Honour (splendor, majesty, vigor)
    - a. Vigor – Physical or mental strength and energy; intensity or forcefulness in that way something is done
    - b. Splendor – The condition of being magnificent, impressive, or excellent
    - c. Where you invest your effort, energy, and excellence is what you value
  4. 9-Where you invest your years (life) is where you are showing honor
    - a. What you spend your time doing is what you honor or value
    - b. This Greek word timios is translated honor and it's where we get our word time; Where you give you time you give honor
  5. 10-What you spend your money on is what you honor or value
  6. 12-They took lightly correction and they didn't value it
- B. Many times we're honoring God with our lips, but our lives say something different (Matthew 15:8)
1. Where you invest your energy your effort, you excellence, where you invest your time and where you invest your money is where you have placed your honor. **Don't misplace your honor.**

## III. Our honor has been misplaced and we need to do a much better job of fixing the proper value on things

- A. Jesus honored the Father (John 4:34, 5:30, 8:29)
1. What's important to God is what's important to Him
- B. Fixing the proper value
1. Matthew 13:45-46-This is more valuable to me than anything
  2. Luke 14:16-23,26,33-They said there are things more valuable to us than you; They dishonored him
    - a. When something is valuable to you, you'll drop everything
  3. Philippians 3:1-10 – This is honor and valuing what God values
    - a. He values: 1) The anointing, 2)The knowledge of Jesus Christ my Lord, 3) Being found in him, 4) Not having my own righteousness 5) Knowing him and the power out flowing from his resurrection
- C. There's two different value systems
1. 1 Samuel 16:7 – You value the outward appearance I value the heart
  2. John 5:41,44 – You value men honoring you, I value God's honor

- a. Jesus valued pleasing the Master
- 3. Matthew 7:6-Hogs don't honor pearls because they don't understand the value of them
  - a. What you do understand the value of you won't honor; it becomes vitally important then that we see the true value of things
- 4. What men see as important often times God sees as meaningless
  - a. What God sees as important often times men **don't have time for it** and don't value it and see it as valuable
  - b. Open up the eyes of our heart and help us to see the real value of things

#### **IV. We honor God by giving him our best (Malachi 1:6-13, 2:5, 3:14)**

- A. 6-God uses honor and fear (reverence) almost interchangeably
- B. 6-Give honor to whom honor is due (Romans 13:7)
  - 1. If you call him Master, if you call him Father then you should reverence Him, honor Him, and value Him and His things
    - a. If this is the place I have in your life then why aren't you honoring the place; "The Place" of Master of Father is due honor
      - 1) A child should honor their father and a servant their master
  - 2. The way you owe the government taxes is the way you owe God honor
    - a. He is due honor
- C. 7-They dishonored God by not giving God their best
  - 1. They gave him the bad bread and the blind, lame, and sick animals because to them He wasn't worthy (worth) of the good stuff
  - 2. One major way we honor God is that we give him our best
    - a. We give him our best in time, our best in money, our best in effort
    - b. It's dishonorable that when it comes to the things of God you don't give it your best
    - c. We give his things our best focus, our best attention, our best effort, and demand excellence out of ourselves
    - d. Revelation 3:16 – Get in or get out
      - 1) In God's eyes cold is better than warm
  - 3. We give God our best because He and His things are very valuable and important to us
- D. 7-They didn't give God their best because they esteemed the things of God lightly
  - 1. The table of the Lord is contemptible (Same word "despise" as 1 Sam 2:30)
    - a. That just means you don't honor it, you don't value it, you esteem it lightly and that's why giving it second best is okay to you

2. When believers esteem Him, His Word, His Spirit, His services, and His gifts lightly it's okay to them to give it second best
- E. 8-God says to them, "Go out in the world and try to give them what you give me and see if they accept it?"
1. You wouldn't try to pass that stuff over on your governor, but you're going to try to pass it over on me
    - a. That shows you honor him and his things more than you honor Me
      - 1) Whoever is getting the best of you is who you honor the most
    - b. EX: There's people that would do anything for their kids, but won't do as much for God (They honor them more than God)
  2. It's dishonorable to say, "That's good enough for God or for the church."
    - a. EX: Show up to work whenever you feel like it, in the same way you come to church and see if your boss accepts it. Get up and leave the room during a meeting at work like you get up and leave the service during church and see if your boss accepts it.
    - b. If anybody deserves our best it's God
- F. 13-You made it seem like some annoying inconvenience to give me your best
1. You sniffed at it and thought it's not big deal; you didn't value or honor it
  2. MSG – 12-13 "Instead of honoring me, you profane me. You profane me when you say, 'Worship is not important, and what we bring to worship is of no account,' and when you say, 'I'm bored—this doesn't do anything for me.' You act so superior; sticking your noses in the air—act superior to me, God-of-the-Angel-Armies! And when you do offer something to me, it's a hand-me-down, or broken, or useless. Do you think I'm going to accept it? This is God speaking to you!
- G. 2:5,9-His covenant was you honor me and I'll honor you with a life of nothing missing and nothing broken
1. 1 Samuel 2:30 – He honors those that honor him and esteems them lightly that despise him
- H. 3:14-They didn't attach great value to serving God
1. They said what difference does it make if we do what God says
  2. 16-18-Those that honor him, He will honor
- I. 4:2-3 – Honoring and fearing him will lead to us taking this Earth back from the wicked