

HONOR

Will You Do It For Me?

Foundation Statement: *Humility and honor; Does God use everybody to the same degree? Are there some that he is using more than others? People who are humble and flexible, meek and yielding and teachable and those that value his things will be used the most. Humility and honor, not perfection, humility and honor. The ones who value His things the most and the ones who are humble the most will be used the most.*

I. What does it mean to honor? When we honor God it has to do with valuing Him and His things. –

Romans 13:8

- A. Honor has to do with valuing something so much that you treat it with great respect
 - 1. Your honor for a thing is seen in how you treat that thing
 - 2. If something is valuable to you, you treat it differently and with a greater level of honor and respect
(EX: Two watches)
- B. Honor Definition
 - 1. **Honor** (*Timios*)-To honor somebody as sacred/special, to value as of great price, precious, esteemed, hold especially dear, reverence
 - 2. **Honor** (*Kabad*)-Weight, heaviness, great, abundance, To be heavy, be weighty, be rich, be glorious
 - a. In those days when you went to buy something they had scales and how much something cost, was determined by a weight; If something is really expensive you had to pile a lot of precious metal on that scale to buy it; The more valuable it was the heavier the price; To honor has to do with something that is heavy or weighty and by implication something that is precious or valuable
- C. The opposite of honor is to **despise**-Esteem something lightly, Treat something as unimportant, To care little for, regard lightly, make small account, Fail to acknowledge the importance of, To see a thing as worthless, to not value something

II. Your honor for God is revealed in how you treat His things-Malachi 1

- A. 6-8-They aren't honoring the Lord, they aren't valuing Him/His things and we will see that in how they treat his things
 - 1. If God is your Father and Jesus is your master then honor should be present in you valuing His things, treating them with great respect
 - 2. **The spirit of this here is that with these offerings they are saying to God you are not worth the good sacrifices, you are not worth our best and it's dishonor and despising because they don't value God and His things enough to give him the good/best sacrifice**

- a. They said the table of the Lord is worthless; it's not worth the good bread and the good sacrifices
- B. ***8-What some are willing to do for others they are not willing to do for God: This dishonor of the highest order***
- 1. The serious thing here is they were willing to do it for someone else (governor), but not for the Lord
 - a. The insulation was they WEREN'T offering their governor these second rate offerings
 - b. The reality is they value their own livelihood more than they value the Lord and his things; because if they try to do that to the governor they'll go to jail; so they (their own livelihood) was worth it, but God's not
 - 2. **When you are are willing to do things for your job, for your kids, for money, that you are not willing to do for God it shows more honor for those things than Him (God gave them a natural example to show them that you value other things more than you value me)**
 - a. Some will do anything for their family, but won't wake up in the morning to spend time with me; Some will do anything for money, but won't go to church when I tell them to; Some will do anything for their career, but won't serve in the church for me; Some will wake up early and stay up late, but not for me; Some will work long hours, but not for me
- C. 10-The Lord is saying if you're going to give me some second rate, lukewarm, half-hearted effort I'd rather have nothing from you
- 1. God doesn't receive every offering and doesn't accept every offering; This is unacceptable to the Lord because it is devoid of honor
 - a. **Is it possible to "do something for the Lord," and get no credit for it and it not be accepted by God because of the half-hearted effort with which you do it**
 - b. This attitude, "It's good enough for the church," is unacceptable and reeks of dishonor
- D. 7,12-You don't locate honor by looking at what a person says they honor, but rather by looking at what they value
- 1. **They're not saying the table of the Lord is despised with their words, but rather with their actions; With their actions they are saying it's not worth it, it's not that important, and we don't value it that much**
 - a. Sometimes you're saying it even if you're not saying it
 - b. **Matthew 15:8**-*This people draws nigh unto me with their mouth, and honors me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.*
 - 1) **Jesus said they honor me with their lips, but their heart (what they treasure, what they value-Matt 6:21) is far away from me**
 - 2) You can say, "God I honor you," and not really honor him

2. Malachi 1:6-Most people who are despising the things of God don't call it that so if you tell them they are they say, "No we are not."
 - a. **This area of dishonor or lightly esteeming the things of God is an area where you can think are honoring God, but you are not so we need for God show us so that we can get it corrected**
 3. 3:13-14-They're saying God is and His things aren't worth it (His services, Fellowship with him, etc.)
 - a. **You're saying it's not worth it by not being here, by not being on time, by not paying attention, by not being prepared, by not doing it with excellence**
 - b. **You might not be saying it with your mouth but the things you do speak so loudly that I can no longer hear what you say**
- E. ***13-Familiarity is a big enemy to honor – Because this didn't used to be drudgery to them***
1. They do not value God and His things and these sacrifices anymore, but they used to at one time
 - a. **VOICE-Don't you see how boring all these required rituals are**
 - b. They acted like making this sacrifice and bringing this offering was putting them out; that it was drudgery
 - c. When you act like it's a drudgery what you are saying is it's not even worth my time
 2. 2:5-The Levites got off but God chose them originally because they did honor God and value God's things
 - a. **Some are getting picked to do things that others are not because some value God's things more than others**
- F. How God treats you is directly connected to whether or not you honor him and his things
1. 2:9-God is treating them differently than He would have had they honored him

III. 1 Samuel 2:30-Everybody gets the same opportunities, but not everybody gets the same treatment

- A. A lack of honor is seen in how they treat God's things (They are taking the best for themselves rather than giving it to God)
1. 12-Eli's sons were taking the best of the sacrifice because they didn't value God and His things
 - a. *12-17 Eli's own sons were a bad lot. They didn't know GOD and could not have cared less about the customs of priests among the people. Ordinarily, when someone offered a sacrifice, the priest's servant was supposed to come up and, while the meat was boiling, stab a three-pronged fork into the cooking pot. The priest then got whatever came up on the fork. But this is how Eli's sons treated all the Israelites who came to Shiloh to offer sacrifices to GOD. Before they had even burned the fat to GOD, the priest's servant would interrupt whoever was sacrificing and say, "Hand over some of that meat for the priest to roast. He doesn't like boiled meat; he likes his rare." If the man objected, "First let the fat be burned—God's portion!—then take all you want," the servant would demand, "No, I want it now. If you won't give it, I'll take it." It was a horrible*

sin these young servants were committing—and right in the presence of GOD!—desecrating the holy offerings to GOD.

2. 29-He was treating God's offering with contempt, not valuing it
 - a. To them God wasn't worth the best, but they were worth the best
 - b. **He valued his sons above God because he gave his sons the best; He would do it for His sons, but not God**
 - c. **People don't tithe because God's not worth their 10%, but they are**
- B. ***Dishonor disqualifies you***
1. Something changed the plan of God for Levi and His house; The Lord said that Levi's house should walk before Him forever and that they priesthood would stay with him and his sons after him, but now the Lord says Be it far from me and something changed and something that was theirs from the Lord and should have been their children's after them, they lost and it wasn't God who changed it was them; God's will/plan didn't change, but they disqualified themselves from it by failing to honor and value his things
- C. 30-Does God honor everybody the same? Does He even honor all his children the same? Or are there some who He is honoring more than he is honoring others? And is that fair?
1. According to God who should get more? Those that value and appreciate His things-Mark 4:24-25
 - a. The guy who does have something has something because he valued it and honored it and they guy who doesn't have anything doesn't have anything because he doesn't value it so we're going to give the one who does value it more and take from the one who doesn't have what he does have
 2. **God does not honor everybody with the same amount of blessings, grace, revelation, His presence, greater assignments, greater anointings and the people who get more should be the ones who value God and his things more**
- D. How does God honor us?
1. **Psalm 91:15-16**- *He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.*
 - a. God honors us with (1) His presence, (2) His protection, (3) With long life (4) With victory and prosperity
 2. **Proverbs 29:23**-*A man's pride shall bring him low: but honor shall uphold the humble in spirit.*
 - a. God honors us by supporting us, by keeping us, by holding us up and sustaining us
 3. **2 Timothy 2:20-21**-*But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honor, and some to dishonor. 21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.*

- a. **God honors us by choosing us (sanctified), using us (meet for His use), equipping us (fit for every good work)**
- 4. **Proverbs 3:9-10**-Honor the LORD with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all your increase: 10
So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.
 - a. God honors us with more than enough

IV. If we can locate your time, your energy (excellence), and your resources we have located your honor and we have located what you value and what is important to you-Proverbs 5:7-13

- A. ***Honor is not something spiritual and unknown, it's tangible and you can give it to whom you choose***
 - 1. Honor (Vigor, Splendor, Majesty) means:
 - 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
 - 2. Where your energy is, your effort is, your excellence is your honor is and that's what you value the most
- B. Your honor consists of your years (time), your labors (energy), your wealth (resources)
 - 1. If you truly do value God/His things you invest your time into them, your energy/effort/excellence into them, your resources into them
 - 2. If you don't tithe and you don't spend time in the Word and you're not coming to church and when you do something for God you do it halfway then you don't honor God
- C. Excellence is an expression of honor, Excellence is honor on display
 - 1. **You do things with excellence not to impress people, but to honor God**
 - 2. **Excellence is the attitude of the heart that says God and His things deserve my best because I value Him and His things the most**

V. Convenience and casualness are the two greatest enemies to honor; *Convince is I don't want it to cost me much, Casualness is I don't want to have to make that big of deal about it*****

- A. Luke 14:16-33-Honor and convenience don't go together because when honor is in place you go and do whether it's convenient or not
 - 1. 16-20-This is dishonor, this is despising because they are saying we have other things to do that are more important than your things
 - a. 21-They wanted to be excused, but did the Master excuse them? NO
 - b. 21-Did the master say, "Well people have lives and I can't just expect them to come at the last minute." NO
 - 1) Peoples lives are getting in the way of God honoring them
 - 2) This attitude that people have lives – It's Dishonor

- c. **There were things that they were supposed to get and this supper that they were supposed to get to be apart of that they didn't get to be a part of and somebody else did who valued it more than they did**
 - d. **Their problem is not their busy schedule; and that's what they're trying to do in making excuse; Their problem is their lack of honor and they don't value the things of God enough; This supper is not that important to them**
 - 2. 28-Many say they want the greater things of God, they want to be used of God in a greater way and they want the honor of God in great degrees but they say so without first counting the cost
 - a. David didn't want to give something that cost him nothing-2 Samuel 24:24
 - b. Many believers today won't give anything if it does cost them something
 - c. Most believers today want a Christianity that doesn't cost them anything because to them it's not worth it
 - 3. **If it costs you nothing it contained no honor**
 - a. The greater the sacrifice it is to you the more honor it brings to me. There is more honor in the "hard" stuff
 - b. The less a sacrifice it is and the more convenient it becomes the less honor there is in it
 - c. There is no honor in convenience because in convenience there was no sacrifice
 - d. In an attempt to make church and Christianity convenient and comfortable we are losing honor and as we do we will miss out on God honoring us with His presence.
 - 4. What's it worth to you is the question that has to be answered
 - a. **It's not that it's too hard or that the price is too great, but it's that you don't value it enough; It's only too hard and the price is only too great when you are not willing to pay it**
 - b. **Matthew 13:44-46-Just how valuable is God honoring you to you; Is it valuable enough to you to pay whatever the price is and be happy to do it?**
- B. God doesn't look on the outward appearance and he does look on the heart, but the outward appearance is often times a reflection of the attitude of the heart-Exodus 19:9-16
 - 1. Wash your clothes – I thought God was spirit and didn't care about what you wear
 - 2. Why wash your clothes? Respect
 - a. You think there was anything they ever cleaned up for; Weddings, To go to town; Was there every a time they cleaned up and put on their good clothes; If you'd do that for that and not for God what's going on; there's a lack of respect
 - 3. 14-They washed their clothes, but just how clean were these clothes? Not that clean, but that's not the point

- a. It's not that God is going to examine how much dirt is remaining on these clothes until they can get it clean to his standard; It's not all about clean clothes; As clean as you could ever get, God could look at and go that's pitiful
 - 1) It's the effort that matters; God is coming
 - 2) Just out of respect you want it as presentable as possible; out of respect you want to do the best you can and if you don't do the best you can then there is a lack of respect and you didn't value it enough to go the extra measure
- b. We know it's not about natural things we know God looks at the heart, but what you do or don't do with natural stuff reveals the heart-Proverbs 4:23
 - 1) We spend extra money on things; we don't want to waste a dollar, but can you make it too nice for the things of the Lord?
 - 2) Should you reach out and do the best you know how to do and the best where your faith is right now and believe to do it better next time around and that directly shows how much you value something
 - 3) If you say whatever, that's good enough, that's close enough, that's a lack of respect and honor
- c. We live in a world that says God doesn't care about this stuff, but He used to care, when did He change
- d. 19-This is an awesome experience and God is honoring them
- e. **Does God care with stuff is printed in low quality, when things are misspelled, when stuff is unorganized, when people are not prepared, when things are not ready? YES it because it reveals a lack of honor in the heart of his people**

**C. People have a problem with honor because it's not a reality to them that they are doing this for and unto the Lord and all they see is flesh and natural things so to them it's not that big of a deal-
Colossians 3:23**

VI. Honor for His Word is the foundation to all other honor

- A. Proverbs 1:20-33-They didn't honor the Word
 - 1. 20-22-God is giving them an opportunity to get light, to get knowledge so they can change and not perish
 - 2. 24-He called and they refused he stretched out his hand to help and they paid it not attention at all
 - a. Refuse-To decline to accept what is offered (**You don't accept what is offered when you don't value what is offered**)
 - b. I've stretched out my hand (to help) and nobody paid any attention to it
 - c. 29-This is dishonor, this is disrespect

- d. 30-They didn't regard this correction, this word as worthy of regard and they slighted it and neglected it because to them it wasn't important
- 3. 33-If you'll honor him by trusting him and doing what is word said you'll be safe
- B. Proverbs 13:13-If you will honor the Word you will be rewarded by God honoring you