

## THE HONOR OF GOD

### Judge Yourself Worthy

#### I. Matthew 10:34-40-You're going to have to make a choice about who and what is first and the most important in your life

A. 32,33-This sounds like those who honor me I will honor and those who despise me I will lightly esteem

1. Confessing vs. Denying

a. 32-Confess Definition – This is honor

- 1) **Praise**-Declaring of esteem bestowed on a person for his personal virtues or worthy actions; To extol (opposite despise) in words or song; To do honor to; To glorify which means to honor
- 2) **Celebrate**-Praise, Extol; To honor or distinguish by ceremonies and marks of joy and respect
- 3) **Profess**-To make open declaration of; To profess oneself as a worshipper of one
- 4) **Confess**-To own or acknowledge; publicly to declare a believe in and adherence to; To declare to be true or to admit or assent to in words as opposed to deny
- 5) **Concede**-To yield; to admit as true; to grant; to allow
  - a) To same the same thing as another (The opposite of that is to contradict what someone says)
  - b) To agree with
- 6) **Delcare**-To make known to others by words; To publish, to proclaim
- 7) Not deny, not refuse

b. Deny Definition – This is dishonor

- 1) To **reject**-To throw away as anything useless or vile; to slight, to despise, to refuse to receive
  - 2) To not receive or **embrace**-To seize eagerly, to lay hold on, to take with willingness what is offered, press to bosom in token of affection
  - 3) To refuse to grant, to not afford, to withhold
  - 4) To refuse or neglect to acknowledge (receive with respect)
  - 5) Contradict, Oppose one's words (Confess means say the same thing as another and to agree with)
  - 6) **Refuse**-To decline to accept what is offered; To deny a request, demand, invitation, or command
2. There are different degrees of this "denying and confession" the same way there are different degrees of "honor and dishonor."
- a. If Jesus wants you to be somewhere and you aren't you denied him versus if you're there you've agreed with him

3. **He is not going to confess (honor you before the Father) while you refuse and dishonor him**
  - a. 33-Jesus didn't say if you deny me I won't love you; He loves the person who denies him, but loving you and honoring you with precious things are two entirely different things; If you dishonor him he still loves you, but that doesn't mean he's going to honor you with precious things
  4. 2 Timothy 2:11-12-I will honor those who honor me is NT principle too
    - a. If you with him you'll possess supreme honor with him
- B. 31-36-Jesus came to separate so that you have to make a choice about who's going to be Lord and who's going to be first
  1. 34-Jesus is telling us don't think this way so we need to not think this way
    - a. **You can assume something to be scripture and it not be and you can imagine something to be true and it not be true**
      - 1) *HCSB-Don't **assume** that I came to bring peace on the earth; Philips-**Never think**; Voice-**Do not imagine***
    - b. Don't think that when Jesus shows up that everybody is going to get along because in fact the opposite will happen
      - 1) **Peace**-Peace between individual's, harmony, **concord**-agreement, union in opinions, views, sentiments
      - 2) **Sword**-Persons at variance, disputants, strife, contention, cutting, battle, fight or combat; **Variance**-Disagreement, lack of agreement, state of dissension or controversy
      - 3) **When Jesus was done preaching there was never harmony and agreement, there was dissension and discord**
      - 4) Everybody on the earth is not supposed to get along and agree; You shouldn't be getting along with darkness
    - c. **What he says is the truth and a sword; When the truth is preached it doesn't unite, it cuts and divides into 2 sides-Jn17:17, Heb4:12**
      - 1) What he says is not going to bring harmony and agreement among all people; What he says is going to cut and divide and then you're going to have to pick Jesus and follow him or follow something else
  2. 35-He came to set a man at variance against his father, the daughter against her mother
    - a. **You can't be clinging to them and they can't be first**
      - 1) **Variance**-To cut into two parts, sever, cleave asunder; Twice, two, DI
      - 2) For I am come TO – This reveals his purpose in coming
        - a) *DLNT-For I came to cause a separation*

b) MSG-<sup>34-37</sup> "Don't think I've come to make life cozy. I've come to cut—make a sharp knife-cut between son and father, daughter and mother, bride and mother-in-law—cut through these cozy domestic arrangements and free you for God. Well-meaning family members can be your worst enemies. If you **prefer** father or mother over me, you don't deserve me. If you **prefer** son or daughter over me, you don't deserve me. <sup>38-39</sup> "If you don't go all the way with me, through thick and thin, you don't deserve me. **If your first concern is to look after yourself**, you'll never find yourself. But if you forget about yourself and look to me, you'll find both yourself and me.

b. Eli did this with his boys, he preferred them over the Lord, he honored them over the Lord, they were more important to him than the Lord was and it cost him **and** them and because his boys were ahead of the Lord it hurt his boys; 1 Samuel 2:29-You honor your sons above me

1) **You hurt your family when you put them ahead of the Lord (and it's teaching them the wrong thing)**

2) If God would have been first he would have put his boys out and maybe they would have woke up to how serious it was and repented and got restored; but he was clinging to them

c. You can't be clinging to them and preferring them more than you do Him and He came to sever you from that clinging to them, from that preferring them to clinging and preferring Him

1) He's not going to show up and tell you he'll share first place with your family and it's all good; he's going to show up and say you're going to have to pick it's either them or it's me because you can't have two firsts

C. What makes them unworthy?

1. 36-The biggest enemy you have to choosing him and following him and making him first is your own family

a. **Jesus should be more important to you than them and if he's not then you are not worthy of him**

2. **What makes them unworthy is that something is more important than He is and that means you don't honor him the way you should**

a. He didn't say, "He that's conduct is not up to snub or he that is bad or he that's not good enough is not worthy of me," He said he that love someone **MORE THAN** they love me is not worthy of me

b. **It's not your bad conduct that makes you unworthy, it's that something is more important to you than the Lord and His things**

3. The problem is not loving your family, the problem is loving them MORE THAN Him

a. There are some people who would do absolutely anything for their family and won't get to church once a week for the Lord

- 1) **It's not that what you're doing for your family is bad, what's bad is that you'll do it for them and not for Him**
- b. The problem is not in just loving your family more than him, the problem is when you love anything more than him
  - 1) You shouldn't love/honor anybody or anything more than love/honor the Lord
- c. **It's amazing the things we take more pleasure in than we do the Lord (AMP-And takes more pleasure in)**
4. **If He and His things aren't important enough to you to be the biggest thing in your life than you have judged yourself unworthy to partake of Him and His things**
  - a. 38-Follows-Side with his party; Amp-Cleave steadfastly to Me; Siding with him, cleaving steadfastly to Him makes you worthy of him
  - b. If you don't recognize how more valuable and precious he is than your family you're not fit to have him; You're not fit to have me because you don't know the value of me
- D. 39-This is how you find your life and the life that God wants you to have and the life that He wants to honor you with: You allow Jesus to become your life and when he becomes your life and he is the biggest thing in your life you'll find your life
  1. **Ephesians 2:10 (AMP)-God has prearranged and made ready for you're a good life this is how you find that life**
    - a. *EXB-Those who try to hold onto cling to seek to preserve their lives will give up true life. Those who give up their lives for me will hold onto true life*
    - b. *TLB-If you cling to your life you will lose it; but if you give it up for me you will save it*
    - c. *VOICE-To find your life you must lose your life*
  2. **Trying to teach how people how to live a victorious life while God is not first place in their life is like trying to build a house with no foundation – IT WON'T WORK**
- II. **If you can judge yourself unworthy to have these precious things, then you can judge yourself worthy to have them; by honoring God and His things you can judge yourself worthy to get into and experience and have the precious things of God**
  - A. You can prove yourself, deem yourself worthy and fit to have and handle and experience the precious things of God
    1. 2 Corinthians 13:5-Prove yourselves (Deem yourselves worthy, approve yourself)
    2. Acts 13:46-They deemed themselves unworthy, unfit
  - B. You can initiate more of God's honor in your life
    1. God does not honor everybody with the same amount of blessing, grace, revelation, His presence, greater assignments, greater anointings so then to whom does God choose to give these precious

things? Can you initiate Him honoring you more and experiencing these precious things more?

Could you deem yourself worthy and fit to have and handle and experience these things?

a. **Why does God use whom He does? Why does He choose whom he does? Why does he anoint he does? Why does He manifest himself to whom He does? Why does give some greater assignment and greater responsibility? God looks on the heart (how you value him and his things) and he looks at how you treat what he has given you**

2. **Our attitude ought to be there may be some more talented, more gifted, more experienced, but there won't be one who honors God more, who God and his things mean more to**

a. **When God looks at your heart he sees your treasure and what you value the most and that's why God looks on the heart because the most important thing to him is to find out what's most important to you**

C. Judges 6-Why did God choose Gideon?

1. 6-Greatly Impoverished-Exceedingly, abundantly

2. 10-Dishonor has them in this position

3. 11,15-He's not that impressive naturally

4. 18,19-In a time of great, exceeding, abundant poverty he gives an offering the Lord

a. **In a time where they were greatly impoverished and his hiding threshing wheat in a winepress just how valuable is goat and approximately 40 liters/10 gallons of flour? In a time of famine this had to be precious to him and yet he gives it to the lord-Prov3:9**

b. This was more than about money and stuff this revealed his heart and his honor for God

5. 24-This meant enough to him that he built an altar to the Lord

a. **It didn't say God told him to build one he just built one; God's things mean something to him**

b. Altars were places where people would worship God by making sacrifices and they were memorials for his goodness

6. 27-This is why he got picked because the Lord's words mean something to him

a. Gideon knows he's going to catch trouble because of this, but this is so important to him he does it anyway

7. 7:1-Dishonor deserts, but honor sticks with the Lord when it doesn't understand

a. 1-7-He doesn't understand this, but honor doesn't have to understand

8. There might have been people more gifted, more talented, but there was no one who honored God more

a. **He didn't get picked because he had perfect conduct and didn't have any faults; he judged himself worthy to have this because God's things meant something to him**

D. Why did God choose David?

1. 1 Samuel 16:7-In David's day there were many more qualified, more gifted, with more experience
  - a. God's look on the heart and by doing so he finds out what you value and what means the most to you because where your treasure is there is your heart also
2. Acts 13:22-God said he was a man after my own heart
  - a. This man after God's heart will do fully what the Lord wants because what the Lord wants is the most important thing to Him
  - b. **I have found a man after my own heart – God was looking**
    - 1) **Found**-To come upon after searching, to find a thing sought, to find by enquiry, examination, scrutiny, observation
  - c. **This man was after what was important to the Lord because if you are after God's heart you are after His treasure/what He values/what's important to Him (Where God's heart is there is treasure his also); David was after what was important to the Lord**
    - 1) *CEB-A man who shares my desires*
    - 2) *EXB-A man whose heart is like mine*
    - 3) *MSG-Whose heart beats to my heart*
  - d. 1 Samuel 13:14-The Lord has sought him a man after his own heart
    - 1) **Sought**-To seek to find, Desire, Require
    - 2) **God not only seeks this and desires this, He requires it if He's going to honor a man with precious things**
3. 2 Chronicles 16:9-Is God really looking for this?
  - a. **Run to and fro**-To go eagerly or quickly to and fro
    - 1) **God is eager about finding something who is after his heart**
  - b. Throughout the whole earth
    - 1) **You can't hide honor from God; you may feel like you're in a place he wouldn't find it, but God's going to find honor**
  - c. He's looking for somebody who He has all of
    - 1) If something is valuable enough to you, you'll give all of yourself to it (**Perfect**-Complete, Whole, Full)
      - a) *EXB-For people who have given themselves completely to Him, He wants to strengthen them*
      - b) *ICB-Who have given themselves completely to Him. He wants to make them strong*
      - c) *MSG-God is always alert, constantly on the look out for people who are totally committed to Him*
  - d. If God showed himself strong on your behalf that's him honoring you

- 1) *ESV-To give strong support; VOICE-To strongly support; TLB-So that He can show His great power in helping them*
- e. **God values honor and honor is what's important to him**
  - 1) **If he is really looking for this, then this ought to become your great quest**
  - 2) **This is huge that God has revealed to us what he's looking for**
4. Three examples of why David was chosen
  - a. 1 Samuel 24:10-By treating God's choice with honor and respect, David treated God that way
    - 1) 5-His heart smote him because his heart was right
    - 2) David said about Saul, "He is the Lord's anointed," and David wouldn't touch him
    - 3) Dishonor would say oh it doesn't matter, he's just a man and after all he's going nuts and doing the wrong stuff
    - 4) This right here showed that David was a man of honor, a man after God's own heart, and this had so much to do with why David was picked to be the next king and why God used him the way he did
  - b. 2 Samuel 2:24-David didn't want to give something that cost him nothing
  - c. 1 Chronicles 17:1, 22:5-David said it's not right that I live in a house of cedars and God lives in a tent; We're going to build him something and it's got to be exceedingly magnificent

**III. Dishonor disqualifies you (1 Samuel 2:30-Spend Some Time Here)-Loving Father or mother or son or daughter more than him is dishonor and it disqualifies**