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8/14/2022

GOD'S REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUTH

(Ephesians 6:1 - 4)

INTRODUCTION

The Bible speaks to both parent and child: (Eph. 6:1-4; Col. 3:20-21)

Consequences: (Exodus 21:15, v17; Deut. 27:16; Romans 1:28-32; 2 Tim. 3:1-5)

1. (Ecc. 12:1) "REMEMBER NOW THY CREATOR IN THE DAYS OF THY YOUTH"

It is possible to do that: (Psalms 71:17, 119:9; 2 Timothy 3:15)

Why remember God while young?

- 1) To develop a habit of remembering God.
- 2) Youth is a time for learning, and a time to develop talents to be used in service to God.
- 3) It gives church leaders great joy in seeing youth in service to God.
- 4) Two dangers in delay: lose your desire or lose your opportunity.

2. (Ephesians 6:1 and Colossians 3:20) "CHILDREN, OBEY YOUR PARENTS ..."

"Obey" - yield; conform; submit; to comply; to act accordingly.

Why obey parents while young?

- 1) The wisdom of the parent is gained. (Proverbs 13:1)
- 2) It's reciprocal love.
- 3) The habit of obedience is good discipline for the future.
- 4) Society is benefited. (Proverbs 14:34)
- 5) It develops future trust in you from others (proven yourself trustworthy).
- 6) (Eph. 6:1) "for this is right" (Col. 3:20) "is well pleasing to the Lord"

3. (Ephesians 6:2) "HONOR THY FATHER AND MOTHER ..."

Also stated in: (Exodus 20:12; Proverbs 23:22; Malachi 1:6)

"Honor" - hold in high regard; respect; esteem; it is displayed in word and deed.

Why honor parents while young? (honor when you are older, too)!

- 1) (Eph. 6:2) "is the first commandment with promise" - it's a command of God
- 2) (v3) "that it may be well with thee" - it's how to get along with parents.
- 3) (v3; Exodus 20:12) "live long on the earth"
- 4) Obeying your parents will keep you from vices that shorten life.

CLOSE - God and parents ask us to leave those things that would harm us physically, mentally, emotionally, or spiritually; and, stay with the "right things."