

“A Forgotten Commandment, Revere Your Mother & Father”

Leviticus 19:1-3

19 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God *am* holy. ³‘Every one of you shall revere his mother and his father, and keep My Sabbaths: I *am* the LORD your God. Leviticus 19:1–3 (NKJV)

I. A command of holiness –

19 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God *am* holy. Leviticus 19:1-2

1. *A similar command is given in the New Testament showing us this command continues for us, today –*

¹⁵ but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶ because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.” 1 Peter 1:15–16 (NKJV)

2. *Holy, Hebrew - קֹדֶשׁ qo-dos – consecrated, separated, removed from common use. For God’s people it meant to be separate from the people around them / different. Because of sin, disobedient, disrespectful children were EVERYWHERE!*

3. *God’s people would be holy, different, special in the way they revered, feared, honored their mother & father ...*

A. *Different from the ungodly who disrespected mother / father!*

B. *Better than the best of the ungodly who may have shown respect for mother and father, God’s people would show MORE! God’s people would excel in reverence for MOM & DAD!*

II. A command to revere –

³“Every one of you shall revere his mother and his father ... Leviticus 19:3 A

1. *To revere is to fear –*

יָרָא pronounced ya-ray – it usually means to be AFRAID!

It is the word used in Genesis 3 by Adam replying to God’s question “where are you?” Genesis

3:9 - ¹⁰ So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was **afraid** because I was naked; and I hid myself.” Genesis 3:10 (NKJV)

2. *As small children we are afraid of parents because they are charged to discipline us –*

¹³ Do not withhold correction from a child, For *if* you beat him with a rod, he will not die. ¹⁴ You shall beat him with a rod, And deliver his soul from hell. Proverbs 23:13–14 (NKJV)

I lead my two little brothers in calling my Mother Marshall Hag, this was disrespectful, but it also had a bit of the “afraid” type fear in it. My parents were good disciplinarians.

3. *This word has the “revere” aspect in it also, and the command was not only for children, but for adult children who have aged parents –*

⁹ He said to them, “**All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition.** ¹⁰ For Moses said, ‘**Honor your father and your mother**’; and, ‘**He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.**’ ¹¹ But you say, ‘**If a man says to his father or mother, “Whatever profit you might have received from me is Corban”—**’ (that is, a gift to God), ¹² then you no longer let him do anything for his father or his mother, ¹³ making the word of God of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

Mark 7:9–13 (NKJV)

- A. *What Jesus is saying above is aging parents deserved CARE, even FINANCIAL, FOOD, PROVISION from their children –*
- B. *Claiming “corban” according to the laws of the Pharisees, not God, excused a person from providing for mom & or dad. It was a wicked unbiblical loophole.*
- C. *Notice Jesus connects not providing for parents, to cursing and a death penalty, this is where reverence, FEAR came in, there was a death-penalty for mistreating parents –*
- ¹⁵ “**And he who strikes his father or his mother shall surely be put to death.**

¹⁷ “**And he who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death.**
Exodus 21:15 & 17 (NKJV)

4. *Note in Leviticus 19:3 the “mother” is mentioned first –
... revere his mother and his father ... Leviticus 19:3 A*

A. *This is different than the similar commands in other places –*

¹² “**Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.** Exodus 20:12 (NKJV)

- B. *Usually, the father is mentioned first, and other commands are before this one.*
- C. *Here this command is first, and mother is first before father ...*

I believe this is because God is teaching “holiness” as something that would begin with children, (even SMALL children) and mothers are the first teachers of children. Both mom & dad are responsible to teach children –

6 “**Now this is the commandment, and these are the statutes and judgments which the LORD your God has commanded to teach you, that you may observe them in the land which you are crossing over to possess,** ² that you may **fear the LORD your God**, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged. ³ Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe it, that it may be well with you, and that you may multiply greatly as the LORD God of your fathers has promised you—‘a land flowing with milk and honey.’

⁴ “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. ⁶ “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. ⁷ **You shall teach them diligently to your children**, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. Deuteronomy 6:1–7 (NKJV)

III. *A command to keep Sabbaths –*

... and keep My Sabbaths: I am the LORD your God. Leviticus 19:3 (NKJV)

1. *In the OT there were different kinds of Sabbaths, but this is probably not an emphasis on the variety of kinds ...*

2. *Sabbaths plural here means Saturday, after Saturday, after Saturday, keeping Sabbaths faithfully ... this is how a person showed, at least one of the ways, he (she) LOVED God -*

¹³ “If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, From doing your pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight, The holy day of the LORD honorable, And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, Nor finding your own pleasure, Nor speaking your own words, Isaiah 58:13

¹⁹ I am the LORD your God: Walk in My statutes, keep My judgments, and do them; ²⁰ hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the LORD your God.’ Ezekiel 20:19–20 (NKJV)

3. *Sabbaths are different for us in NT times.*

A. *We do not have all the rules OT sabbath keepers had to keep.*

B. *We have a different day, not Saturday, but Sunday, the Lord’s Day*

- *They had Saturday because of creation / They had Saturday because of redemption, God brought them out of Egypt. That redemption foreshadowed the redemption we have in Jesus Christ -*

- *Because He resurrected on Sunday, we worship on Sunday ...*

4. *In common with the Old Testament Sabbath, we show our love for God and Jesus Christ by not forsaking our assembling together –*

²⁴ And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24–25 (NKJV)

A. *The Day approaching is the LORD’s Day, the day of judgment –*

¹⁴ The great day of the LORD is near; It is near and hastens quickly. The noise of the day of the LORD is bitter; There the mighty men shall cry out. ¹⁵ That day is a day of wrath, A day of trouble and distress, A day of devastation and desolation, A day of darkness and gloominess, A day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶ A day of trumpet and alarm Against the fortified cities And against the high towers. ¹⁷ “I will bring distress upon men, And they shall walk like blind men, Because they have sinned against the LORD; Their blood shall be poured out like dust, And their flesh like refuse.” ¹⁸ Neither their silver nor their gold Shall be able to deliver them In the day of the LORD’s wrath; But the whole land shall be devoured By the fire of His jealousy, For He will make speedy riddance Of all those who dwell in the land. Zephaniah 1:14–18 (NKJV)

B. *Even this Book of Hebrews predicts judgment / calamity upon those who fail –*

²⁶ For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has rejected Moses’ law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. And again, “The LORD will judge His people.” ³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. Hebrews 10:26–31 (NKJV)

- C. *The sabbath being “a delight” Isaiah 58:13 NOT a time of not finding our own “pleasure” seems to me to apply MORE today than ever, let’s not make our Sabbaths into McSabbaths - Fast Spiritual Food!*

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.
Fanny Crosby

- ³ **From the rising of the sun to its going down The LORD’s name *is* to be praised. Psalm 113:3 (NKJV)**



- ²⁰ **My son, keep your father’s command, And do not forsake the law of your mother. ²¹ Bind them continually upon your heart; Tie them around your neck. ²² When you roam, they will lead you; When you sleep, they will keep you; And *when* you awake, they will speak with you. Proverbs 6:20–22 (NKJV)**

If you can remember a stricter time, if your mother or grandmother would be shocked by today’s SIN(s) ... Part of reverence is remembrance. Remember the law of your mother↑

Don’t let yourself be led astray by today’s LAWLESSNESS! This is part of holiness too, because the whole world RUNS for sin they call – “NEW.” It is NOT NEW!

- ³ **Every one of you shall revere his mother and his father, and keep My Sabbaths: I *am* the LORD your God. Leviticus 19:3 (NKJV)**

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