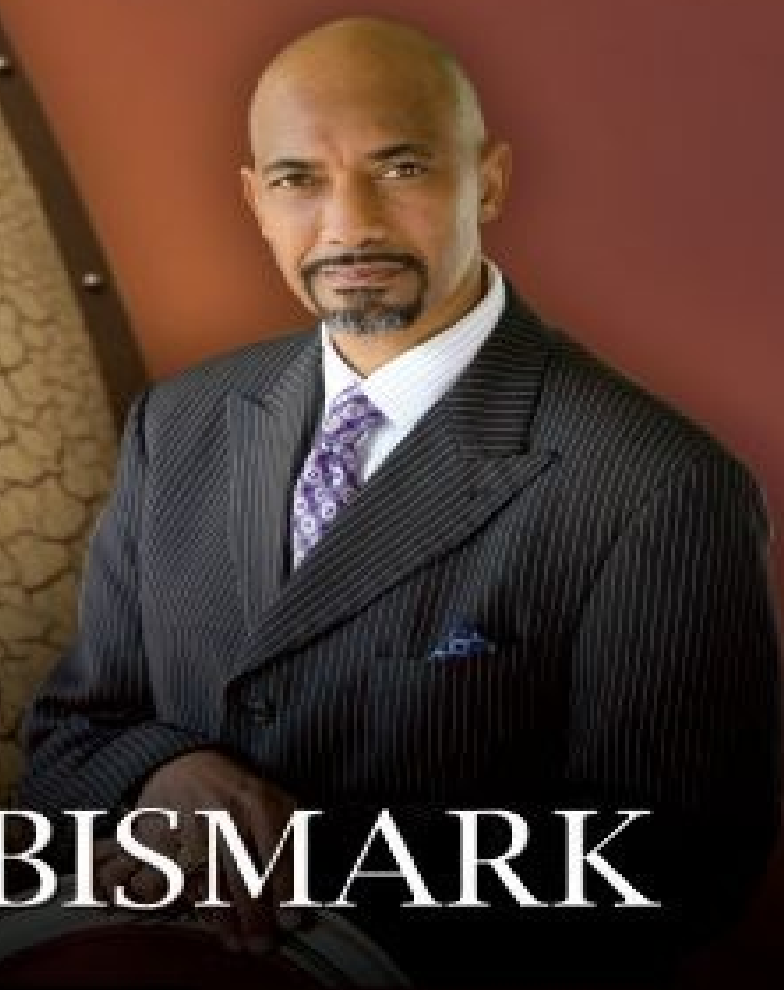
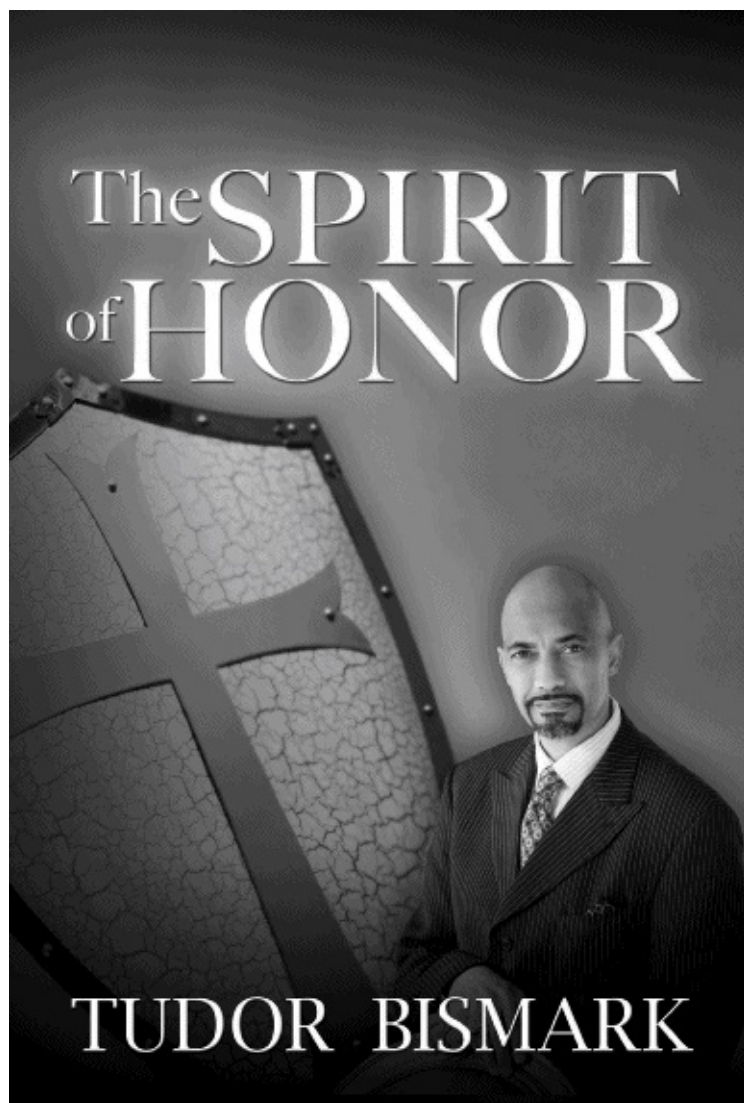


The SPIRIT of HONOR



TUDOR BISMARCK



The Spirit of Honor

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Library of Congress—Catalogued in the Publication Data Bismark, Tudor

Printed in the United States of America by Tudor Bismark Ministries

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Introduction

In this series on Honor, you will examine the Scriptures from a different perspective. More than an in-depth study, this is an opportunity to both examine your heart and your role in the corporate body of Christ.

My prayer for you is that you actively participate in changing the culture in the body of Christ from dishonor to honor. As you allow the Holy Spirit to help you with these concepts, and make the necessary changes where He instructs, then you will inspire a new model in your local church. I want blessing to be unhindered in your life as you develop the spirit of honor.

If you are a senior pastor, my hope is that you boldly teach your people and begin building a strong spirit of honor. Understand that your current condition—whether good, bad, or somewhere in between—did not sprout up overnight. Take the time. Make the investment. Bring the revelation knowledge and impartation of the Kingdom of God. Change is coming.

SUGGESTIONS FOR MAXIMUM BENEFIT

We suggest you read this brief overview to get acquainted with the format in order to gain the most from this teaching. These lessons are targeted for individual study between corporate sessions. To assist you with this study on honor, we've included the edited transcript of the audio presentations in each chapter as well as the following:

- Honor Promise—promises from the Word of God relative to honor. Read, meditate on, and even memorize them. The Word of God will change your life!
- Truth Principles—powerful one-liners from Bishop Bismark's teaching in the DVD and audio CD presentations. We want to emphasize some important points about honor.
- True Riches—expanded teachings not included but alluded to in the DVD and audio CD presentations. They are deeper truths that will enrich your experience in developing a spirit of honor.

This is a 4-week interactive course designed to orient you with the biblical concepts of honor, honor's rewards, dishonor's penalties, and how to reverse

negative occurrences in your own life that exist because of acts of dishonor. Each week has five lessons for detailed study of the Word of God on thoughts expressed in the DVD and audio CD presentations. An edited transcript of the audio portion is included for better comprehension. You may follow along with it and make notes in the margins.

This week is dedicated to addressing ways we can show or sow the seeds of honor. Week two will cover specific biblical instances of honor and dishonor. Week three explains how to build honor in the local assembly. Week four will highlight the rewards of honor and the penalties of dishonor.

IDEAS FOR STUDY

- **Prayer**—We encourage beginning and ending your personal study time with prayer, inviting the presence, wisdom, and illumination of the Holy Spirit.
- **Meditation**—This teaching on honor is important to your personal development and should increase your participation and contribution in your local church. We suggest you make time to hear from the Lord specifically about the spirit of honor in you.
- **Thoroughness**—Each daily lesson is designed to help you develop the spirit of honor. Read (and reread, if necessary) each session completely and make notes to further your understanding.

God bless you for making this worthy investment in yourself. You will learn more about who you are and why certain things are (or are not) occurring in your life. Prayerfully pay attention to any patterns you notice in your own heart, and determine to reverse the course of any harvest of dishonor coming your way as the Holy Spirit leads.

Week One: Sowing Seeds Of Honor

Please watch DVD #1 on *Sowing Seeds of Honor* or listen to the audio CD before beginning the daily sessions.

Introduction

Welcome to *The Spirit of Honor*. Our goal is to create a counter culture of honor in the body of Christ, one person and one local church at a time. The themes of our study are based on the example of Jesus.

Each lesson in this week's focus on sowing seeds of honor is designed to give you an elevated view of the concept of honor. Lesson one will build line upon line to identify the spirit of honor and its effects. In lesson two, we will learn how to research the power structures in a city or region and discover the principles of honor within them. In lesson three, we will address honoring God and the representatives of God—apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. In lesson four, we will study the Bible's promises for honoring parents and the elderly. Finally, in lesson five, we will learn how to honor our own personal anointings.

Also included are three segments of *True Riches*. These are Bishop Bismark's explanations of certain specific concepts highlighted in the audio summary. First, he will explain how death is the result of dishonor. Slowly, one's senses begin to dull until death occurs—in ministry and in other areas of life. Next, he will explain the concept of life sources and God's regard for them. Finally, he will expound on honoring the people, customs, and ranking spiritual authority of a particular place or land, and the land itself.

Take the time to search your heart and thoroughly answer the personal study questions. They will enhance your individual efforts to develop a greater spirit of honor.

Audio Summary

Let me have a word of prayer with you and then we'll start.

Father, thank you for tonight. We pray, God, firstly, for your anointing because without that we can't do anything. Secondly, we pray for wisdom, knowledge, and revelation to flow. We pray for the spirit of impartation, that we will be imparted to and ministered to. We pray for great grace to be upon us and a tremendous anointing to be released. We thank you for your blessing, and for every person that is here. In Jesus' name. Amen.

We want to welcome all of you this evening to this series of teachings on the subject of Honor. Honor is a very important aspect of human existence, but even more so, for those of us that are Christians. I find in the body of Christ corporately a tremendous lack of honor because there is a lack of teaching on this subject. We are going to look at the various aspects of honor—what it is, what it entails, how to create it, its advantages, disadvantages, and the curses that dishonor brings into a person's life. The greatest seed a human being can sow is an honor seed. There is no seed greater than the seed of honor.

So, tonight I want to start in Matthew 13:54–58 (KJV). Matthew 13 is the second major discourse Jesus gives. This discourse is dealing with Kingdom, and the dynamics of developing His church. The first discourse that Jesus gives in [the book of] Matthew, which is written to the Jewish nation, is in chapters five, six, and seven. Here, Jesus lays the foundation for His ministry and the foundation for Kingdom instruction. After giving this instruction on how the Kingdom of God functions, He lays out the dynamics of how the Kingdom of God exists and what it looks like. In Matthew 13 there are seven parables. These parables are the blueprints of what the Kingdom of God will look like, and are congruent with what [the apostle] John saw in the book of Revelation, chapters one, two, and three—the seven church ages with their specific characteristics.

At the end of this discourse in Matthew 13, after the disciples questioned Jesus on various points, [the Bible] says in verse 54, “And when he was come into his own country...” In other words, after He's given the principles of building the Kingdom of God He is now going to go to His own country because that is where you actually start your ministry—from your own place, your launching pad. He taught them in their church, in their synagogue, where He was raised (verse 54).

Even though it was His own country, the people there were so astonished. It's amazing that once God imparts to you an anointing and gives to you revelation knowledge, and it begins to grow in you, the people you've been raised with

become totally astonished as to what God has done in you and what He is doing through you. When the anointing of the Holy Spirit kicks in, it moves in such an incredible way that you can mature and grow rapidly—literally overnight.

And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not all with us? When then hath this man all these things? And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house. And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

Anytime you have dishonor displayed, it inhibits the supernatural, the spirit of revelation, the visitation of the Messiah, and the Christ anointing doesn't manifest in force. That's because they dishonored his prophetic and apostolic gift. When Jesus said, "A prophet is not without honor, save in his own country," He was literally saying that familiarity in many places breeds dishonor and discontent. People from a distance—not in the same locale, as you are—tend to pull on the anointing in a greater way.

Let's go to Romans 13:7–8 (KJV).

Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour. Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

When we're dealing with specificities of honor, Paul explains how honor and its dynamics function. Before dealing with dues, though, he deals with power structures beginning in Romans 13:1.

Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resists the power, resists the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

Then he begins to explain that even secular rulers placed in the world (e.g., police forces, political forces) have been placed there by God to execute on God's behalf the force of God's kingdom so that the demonic spirits do not advance. After he addresses power structures, Paul says in Romans 13:7,

“Render therefore to all their dues.” In other words, if we don’t understand the various power structures in the world, and the variables to their placement in the world—whether Christian or non-Christian, an Islamic or non-Islamic nation, Christian nation, or a nation that is Shintoist or Hindu—if people don’t understand those power structures that are in place, they will reap to themselves, the Scripture says, tremendous damnation—judgment.

Watch the precedence that he’s setting here—tribute to whom tribute first, custom to whom custom second, fear to whom fear third, and honour to whom honour. Then he says to owe no man any thing. This series of verses is important when we begin to understand how honor is released, because we must also understand the variables in terms of power, protocols, and how we respect what God has authorized in the earth.

So, now let’s look at what the word honor means. Honor comes from an AngloFrench word *onur*. This word also connotes elevations. It comes from the Latin word *honos* that means honor. Firstly, honor is one that has high esteem or high public esteem; they are people or individuals of reputation. Secondly, these are individuals that have notoriety or recognition. Thirdly, these are individuals that have certain privileges conferred upon them **in lieu of** their anointing, their gifting, and their ranks.

The word honor, also then, is going to connote credit that’s due an individual due to their profession. It’s one that has been decorated by their office and decorated by ceremonial rites. It also connotes the word integrity; this is an individual that through their performance is guaranteed certain levels of notoriety or honor. Some of the synonyms of honor are homage, deference, praise, and an expression of recognition. It is important that we understand these terminologies because when we begin to deal with Scriptural principles, we will see how there is a lack of honor, reverence, and respect for certain dignitaries.

The word honor is also the root word for the word *honorarium*. Especially to those in the evangelical church, for the ministry one renders they are given an honorarium. The word literally means payment in recognition of one’s performance, one’s service professionally. It also means a fee rendered to a professional person for services rendered. Most times, you can tell if you are honored by the honorarium you’ve been given.

As a result, in the world today we have this crazy behavior—I think it’s crazy—

where individuals go and do ministry and before they ever get there, there's a tenpage or twelve-page contract because the individuals that they are going to don't understand what it means to honor a gift that is coming. There are some people who are audacious enough not to honor a gift that has come. So, in various places people have gone and ministered their very best, and the people there don't appreciate it. It's been reported that people will leave a place and not be given financial remuneration.

This is a culture that has developed, especially in the American church, where contracts precede ministry presentation. Instead of there being reciprocity—presentation or gift given and impartation released, then people sowing into a gift—we now have an entire business operation where there is very little impartation, it's all performance oriented, and it's business contracts. The result is that the very factors of honor and its reciprocity are not given and seen.

So, when we talk about honor, let's return to Romans 13:7.

1. Give tribute to whom tribute is due. Tribute here means that we have to honor the laws of the land. Tribute means taxes, duty, and certain levels of structure within civil government. Paul says you have to honor the government; honor the laws of the land. Many times, when individuals visit other countries, even though mightily gifted of the Lord, if they do not honor the laws of that country their ministry is drastically inhibited and the anointing levels go down.

2. Give custom to whom custom is due. That means honor the people of the land. Anytime you go to any place in the world, and you have tremendous anointing, if you dishonor the people and their customs—provided their customs do not violate the Scriptural requirements of human life—the anointing levels go all the way down.

3. Give fear to whom fear is due. In other words, fear means you have to honor the rank and the dignitaries of the land. It's very dangerous to go into a different country or a different region if you don't know who has rank because you can be violating the ranks that have been set in place by God's anointing. So sometimes, when we are doing prophetic ministry or apostolic declarations, we will say things under the anointing like, "This is the church that God has chosen, and revival is coming through this church." Even though that is well intentioned, sometimes that can be irresponsible, especially if you are not cognizant of the other churches and ranks in the region. So if you make one church solely

responsible for revival or a move of God, chances are we are not giving fear to whom fear is due.

Fear there means reverence and respect. It's always important to research an area before one goes in there. When you prophesy, the Bible says that the spirit of a prophet is subject to the prophet. We have seen many times prophetic gifts come into a region and speak a word to a specific church without researching the dynamics of the fathers, the apostles, the prophets, and the generational words in the region and it upsets the equilibrium of what is happening in that particular region.

4. Give honour to whom honour is due. In other words, you have to now honor the anointing in the land. It's important that we honor the anointing in the land. I would encourage that if you are ministering in a particular region as a local pastor or apostolic gift, there could be apostolic gifts in your city that are higher in rank who have greater anointing. Every now and then, it wouldn't hurt just to take an offering to that leader without necessarily seeing them, just dropping an offering in there to honor that gift. When you show that kind of honor, there is automatic spiritual reciprocation. The greatest seed you can sow is an honor seed. There is no seed greater than the seed of honor.

It is required by God that we honor and respect every life source. So when he says, 'Give honour to whom honour is due,' he specifically means here that you have to honor a life source. Anytime people dishonor a life source, it unleashes demonic attacks, satanic generational curses, poverty, all kinds of barrenness & famine. All life comes from God, and when people blatantly dishonor a life source, no matter what life source it is, it violates the principles of God's sovereign existence. Anytime a life source is violated, God withdraws His blessing at any time and on any level.

Watch me closely now as we deal with the levels of honor.

1. Honor God

Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Proverbs 3:9–10

You have to show honor to God. It's very concerning, to me anyway, when I see Christian leaders around the world who actually violate the principles of honor in terms of honoring God. It's very dangerous for individuals who should know better to be inappropriate in their conduct (moral failures), especially those that are teaching the Word. There should not be sexual affairs. There should not be homosexual affairs. There should not be wife swapping. There should not be blatant sin. There should not be inappropriate conduct in terms of ministry. That is total dishonor for God, and anytime you have that level of dishonor there is always a harvest and catastrophe is to be reaped.

2. Honor the Prophet

Jesus said, "A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house."

Matthew 13:57

Here's the principle. The reason many countries never get the benefits of the great gifts that God has given that country is because they do not show honor to that prophetic gift. Every gift is given to a region to match the need of that region. But generally speaking, especially in our part of the world [Zimbabwe], people have greater respect for ministries that come from outside the country.

Speaking from personal experience, in the last five years in Zimbabwe, we're beginning to see a lot of the ministries recognize ChiChi and I in a more credible way. I've been traveling into so many different parts of the world, being received so well, and yet in Zimbabwe [we] were never considered, really. And when we started hosting the African Apostles Council of the major churches in Africa, there were pastors in the city that were saying, "Who does he think he is? Who made him an apostle?" And many of the individuals who were saying those things never got the benefits of the anointing that was upon our lives. Now that that's shifting in the last five years, I've been doing considerable ministry for churches and ministries in Zimbabwe. Many of the churches we've ministered for, God has opened such tremendous doors for them based on the anointing and prophetic gift that's on our life. But it's not just that. It's the fact that they are showing honor to the gift that God has placed.

If you dishonor in your own country or in your own house the prophetic gift, you are actually dishonoring God. If a country or a government does not honor the spiritual leaders in that country, that country cannot be blessed. So, it is a

concern that in different countries, including this one [United States], where the government has launched attacks against spiritual leaders, that country cannot be blessed.

I know we have to live our lives above board, but when a government or a people or a media attack spiritual leaders, that country cannot walk in blessing. In the Communist Block before the Berlin Wall came down, in countries like the Soviet Union—Russia in particular—when they dishonored their spiritual leaders, those countries could not be blessed. When China under Mao dishonored spiritual leaders, that country could not be blessed. But the minute they changed their position and began to recognize spiritual leaders, look at what's happening in those countries today. When you recognize spiritual leaders and you honor those leaders as such, when you allow them to say certain prayers and speak into government, then the blessing of God flows because of honor.

Second, the Bible says a prophet is not shown honor in his own house. It's so amazing that you can preach a word Sunday after Sunday after Sunday after Sunday. And then a visiting preacher comes in and says the same thing you've been saying for the last six months, and those crazy people give him a bigger offering than you've raised for your own life the entire year. The problem is that the reason the people are not elevated significantly under your ministry or under your direction is not because you are inadequate or lacking anointing, but because they show dishonor. Because they show dishonor, God cannot bless them. I guarantee you, when people begin to show greater honor for the gift in the house, they will be elevated according to the anointing that is on your life.

Honor is not having a bunch of armor bearers. Honor is not having someone wash your car and all of that. Honor is reciprocation in terms of the way we receive the anointing and the way people act on what has been released. The greatest form of dishonor is when you preach to people year after year after year and they don't act on the word that's been preached. They can put money. They can wash your car. They can take your clothes to the dry cleaning. The fact that they don't hear what you're saying is the greatest level of dishonor.

What happens then is people in other houses receive that gift and they grow and are multiplied because they are showing honor. They are sowing the seeds of honor.

3. Honor Fathers

A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? And if I be a master, where is my fear? Saith the Lord of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name?

Malachi 1:6

Corporately, it's important that we honor fathers. We need to know in a region, who has God raised in that region to be fathers? We have a problem because a father's message and a son's message have been distorted in some places, imbalanced, and not presented correctly. Then we have individuals that won't acknowledge they are fathers. And we have individuals who are not fathers that are making themselves fathers. Then we have these triangle kinds of ministries where guys are tithing up, and the only reason we've got this father-son thing is because we want the money going up. So we have misdirection on fathers.

Deep down in every person's heart—if we talk about the city of Dallas, the city of Harare, or the city of London—we know from experience who the fathers are in the city and we need to honor those fathers. There are various ways in which we do that. If I come into a city, I never discredit the fathers of a city, even if they've fallen from grace, even if there's been inappropriate behavior. It's always dangerous to “dis” the fathers. David never dissed his father Saul. Even when he cut a piece of Saul's garment David felt so bad. Because by cutting a piece of Saul's garment, which was a type of Saul's anointing, he was actually cutting away a piece of his life. And he felt so bad by cutting away a piece of his father's anointing.

So we must honor fathers. There are individuals that serve as fathers over this house, as is the case with other churches. It's important that we honor the fathers of different houses. There are certain people around the world we look to as fathers. They are not my fathers. They are not my spiritual fathers, but we honor them as fathers because they are a life source. Don't ever speak badly against fathers God has raised up in nations and regions.

4. Honor Your Parents

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Exodus 20:12 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

Ephesians 6:2 Honour thy father and thy mother, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged...

Deuteronomy 5:16

This has a duality to it. Firstly, we honor our physical fathers and mothers—our paternal and maternal parents. We honor highly. We show them great respect. We may not agree with everything they say, with their philosophies and ideologies, but we must never ever dishonor them. It's a real tragedy that in many parts of the world there are children who have been raised without their fathers. We have generations of individuals who literally have hate for their fathers because their fathers were absent or they don't know who their fathers are. We need to shift that. People need to start showing honor, even if your dad or your father was a scoundrel there needs to be the seed of honor so that we can break death and generational curse cycles. If we continue to perpetuate these problems, our days cannot be prolonged. Our money cannot be prolonged. Our business cannot be prolonged. Our ministries cannot be prolonged. So, when we begin to show honor we break those death cycles.

5. Honor Old People

Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the Lord.

Leviticus 19:32

You must stand up when a person with white hair enters the room. You must honor the face of the old man and fear the Lord your God. So, when somebody comes into a room that has white hair, you are showing honor when you stand up for them. In principle, you are honoring their life experience. If they've gone through all these years with all the battles and struggles that life presents to an individual, when they walk in the room and you stand up you are honoring their survival skills. You are honoring their ability to impart knowledge. And when you stand up and honor them in that regard, you are literally saying, "God, we honor you for bringing this person through all of these hell experiences." When you show that kind of honor, the battles that they have fought and succeeded in, God gives you that grace that is upon them so you can go through the battles you will face in the future. Anytime you dishonor anyone that is older, you are expressing tremendous disrespect for the struggles and the battles that they have gone through. And that grace they had to go through that cannot come on you.

What was a success for them becomes a defeat for you because you showed dishonor.

Read II Kings 2. The children of the prophets dishonored Elisha and they said, “Go up, o bald head.” They actually were showing the prophet tremendous dishonor. When he lifted his covering from them, the Bible says that two shebears—which is a type of the antichrist—devoured the next generation of the prophetic gift simply because they did not honor an older person.

6. Honor the Gift and the Anointing in You

What is man, that thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet...

Psalm 8:4–6

In that phrase “made him a little lower than the angels” the translation is “you’ve made him as Elohim.” In other words, you put the God factor in man. So you have God and then man right beneath God because he’s made in the image and likeness of God. Then man was crowned with glory and honor. If an individual does not respect the honor that God has placed in them, then they are disregarding the gift of life in their lives.

We’re going to conclude this session with Psalm 49:11–12, 20 and show you how people dishonor the anointing in their lives.

Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names. Nevertheless man being in honour abideth not: he is like the beasts that perish... Man that is in honour, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish.

Nevertheless, a man who has honor and doesn’t understand the honor, that individual is like the beasts that perish. In other words, a man that has been anointed with honor and doesn’t understand he’s been crowned with honor that man functions with beastly instincts. Here’s the point. The reason we have gang crimes, drug problems, and sexual problems like prostitution and pornography is because human beings around the world don’t understand the gift of honor

they've been crowned with. When a human being doesn't understand the honor they've been crowned with, they become just like a beast. We operate like the beasts in the jungle; it's appetite driven. We become scavengers, predators, and carnivorous. We kill when we feel like killing. We play with life. We have drive-bys.

In the last six weeks in London, England, so many teenagers are being killed brutally by stabbings and knife crimes. They had amnesty for teens from the ages of eighteen and under. This platform would be too small for all the knives handed in by teenage kids. Kids as young as twelve and thirteen with heinous brutal killings because they don't understand they've been crowned with honor. Why would a woman walk the streets and sell her body? There's a lady we've been praying for whose had in the last two years 600 different sex partners in prostitution. How can a woman relegate her life to such abhor behavior? It's because a human being does not understand they've been crowned with honor. How can you have suicide bombings in innocent neighborhoods? Because individuals don't understand they have been crowned with honor. How in the world can we have an adult man raping a six-month-old baby? It doesn't even make sense!

When we violate the principles of honor, we violate the gifts God has given to us. In this introduction on what honor is and what honor means, we need to grasp the importance of showing honor—firstly to God, secondly to those God has placed over us in leadership. This includes our parents and spiritual leaders, but it must include our personal lives. We have people with such low self esteem that they don't walk in spiritual dignity. That's because we don't understand we've been crowned with glory and honor.

My concluding Scripture is Ecclesiastes 10:1.

Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour.

It's like a foolish person that doesn't understand wisdom and honor. When a person doesn't understand wisdom and honor, there is the spirit of death. There is an odious spirit of death about their lives. Any time you see a bad odor in human society most of the time it's an honor problem. It's an honor problem. If you look at all of our prisons and the numbers of young men and women in them, the bottom line is an honor problem. They did not honor life, their

neighbors, their teachers, their spiritual leaders, and their parents. They don't honor government, or laws, or the rights of spiritual life. The dangers of that are people who become incarcerated, not just in physical prisons, but in a spiritual maze, are not able to release themselves.

So, we want to pray with you now; those of you struggling in your personal life, those of you struggling to submit in ministry. The lack of submission in ministries is a lack of honor. We don't know how to show honor. We don't know where to show honor. Let's pray.

Father,

We thank you for all those who are here tonight and all that are watching or listening to the CD or DVD. We pray you would bless them mightily. I pray for the spirit of honor. As you honored your Son as a Father, and as your Son honored you as a son to a father, we pray that you impart to us the spirit of honor. We hallow your name. We respect you. Give us the grace to respect each other, to honor and respect our parents, to honor and respect ministry, to honor and respect the nations you have placed us in and the nations we are responsible for. We now open our hearts to receive this spirit of honor so that death does not prevail in our lives.

Say this after me: I refuse to show dishonor. I will show honor all the days of my life.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

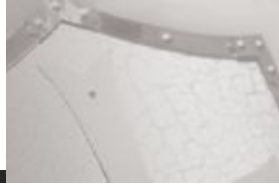
Lesson One WHAT A DISHONOR?

And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And his brethren, James, Joses, and Simon, and Judas? And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things? And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honor, save in his own country, and in his own house. And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

Matthew 13:54-58

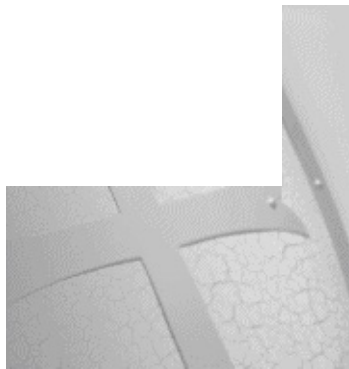
Background

This is the second major discourse of Jesus in Matthew 13. It deals with the Kingdom and the dynamics of developing His church. The first discourse in chapters 5–7 is the foundation for the Kingdom—how it looks, exists, and functions.



Honor Promise

...for them that honor Me I will honor... I Samuel 2:30



Being Anointed in Your Own Country

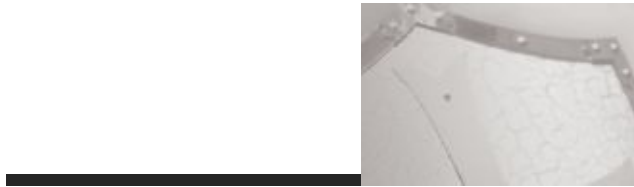
As a ministry leader, have you ever experienced dishonor in your place of greatest service (e.g., your local church)? Describe briefly.

Jesus returned home to his country of origin because that is where one's ministry launches—from home. He taught in the church, the synagogue where He was raised. Even though He was at home, the people's reaction to Jesus was pure astonishment. They had such common ties to Him (v. 55) and possibly had never seen Him in this light, so they were surprised when He spoke with wisdom and completed mighty works.

Think of a place where your ministry was most honored. Was it in your hometown?

Think of when you started your ministry. Were you in or near your hometown?

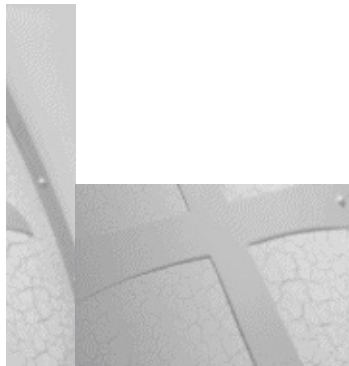
How did God use you? Were your relatives and common relationships shocked? Explain here.



Truth Principle

██████████

“The greatest seed a human being can sow is an honor seed.”



Blocking the Supernatural

Whenever dishonor is displayed, the supernatural is restricted, the spirit of revelation is inhibited, and the visitation of the Messiah and the Christ anointing do not manifest in force. Jesus' apostolic and prophetic gifts were dishonored by the residents of His hometown. Their familiarity with Him bred dishonor and contempt.

What has been your experience? Has your gifting been hindered or restricted because of dishonor? List three instances:

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

Did you, during any of these times, consider the foundation Scripture in Matthew 13:54–58? Why or why not?

noteS

[illegible]

True Riches ~ Honor in the Land

“Anytime you go to any place in the world, and you have tremendous anointing, the anointing levels go all the way down if you dishonor the land, its people, and their customs.”

Tudor Bismark

There are four kinds of honor to bestow, especially when travelling to a foreign nation. There is a popular phrase that says, “When in Rome, do as the Romans do.” This is appropriate here. As a visitor to a land, you are obligated to adhere to the policies and culture in that land as long as they do not violate the Word of God.

Honor with Tribute

You are subject to the tax structure and civil government of that land. Tribute is honoring the laws of the land. Tribute means taxes, duty, and certain levels of structure within civil government. Paul says you have to honor the government; honor the laws of the land. Many times, when individuals visit other countries, even though mightily gifted of the Lord, if they do not honor the laws of that country their ministry is drastically inhibited and the anointing levels go down.

Honor Customs

Essentially, custom is honoring the people of the land. Honor the people and their customs, provided their customs do not violate the Scriptural requirements of human life. Anytime you go to any place in the world, and you have tremendous anointing, if you dishonor the people and their customs the anointing levels go all the way down.

Honor with Fear

Fear is honoring the rank and the dignitaries of the land. Know who they are so you do not violate the ranks set in place by God's anointing. Sometimes, well intentioned apostolic declarations are irresponsible when under the anointing a man or woman of God says, "This is the church that God has chosen, and revival is coming through this church." It sounds good, but is a bit reckless, especially if the one making the declaration is not cognizant of the other churches and ranks in the region. For this reason, it is always important to research an area before going there. Fear is reverence and respect.

Honor the Land

This is honoring the anointing in the land. One way to do this is to sow an offering into higher ranking apostolic gifts with greater anointing in the region where you minister. Without necessarily seeing them, just drop an offering in there to honor that gift. When you show that kind of honor, there is automatic spiritual reciprocation. The greatest seed you can sow is an honor seed.

Lesson Two honorIng PoWer StructureS

Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom for whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

Romans 13:7

Definition of Honor

Honor comes from an Anglo-French word *onur* and the Latin word *honos*. Let's examine three connotations for honor.

Elevations

One is honored or esteemed highly in public view. This kind of honor is given to those with reputation. In the financial world, for example, Warren Buffet is an elevated name. In the world of real estate, there is Donald Trump. In the entertainment and music industry, Quincy Jones has a reputation. In ministry, we might consider Billy Graham or David Wilkerson as men of reputation worthy of honor.

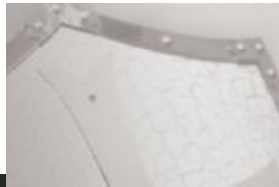
Where you work or serve, who are the people of reputation that receive great honor?

Professional Credit

There are individuals who are honored for their professional accomplishments. They are decorated by their office and ceremonial rites. This kind of honor rewards integrity and an individual is guaranteed certain levels of honor. We might even call this “ranking honor,” where individuals receive ascending levels of honor according to their promoted rank. In the ministry world, bishops, archbishops, and church fathers are honored with highest honor for achieving a certain place in their calling, ministry, and journey with the Lord. In the military, high ranking leaders are honored for their years of service and dedication.

Can you think of another example of an industry where greater honor is bestowed as one is promoted because of accomplishment?

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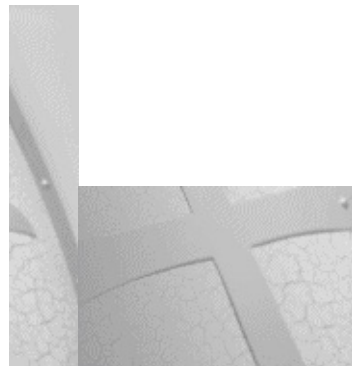


Truth Principle

“Most times, you can tell if you are honored



by the honorarium you’ve been given.”



Honorarium

The word ***honor*** is a **root word** for honorarium. It is given in the church/ ministry world for the ministry or service one renders. It is a fee or payment for a professional service.

A culture has developed in the American church where contracts precede ministry presentation because certain individuals do not know how to honor the gift that is coming to their church or ministry.

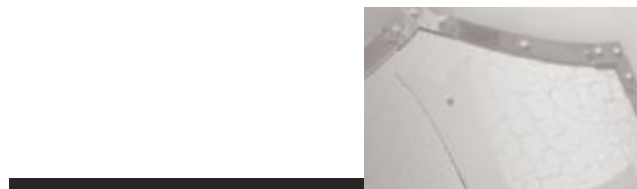
Instead of reciprocation—presentation or ministry gift given and impartation released, then people sowing into a gift—we now have a business operation. There is very little impartation; it's all performance and contracts. The result is a lack of honor, reverence, and respect for certain dignitaries.

Synonyms for honor are:

- Homage
- Deference
- Praise
- An expression of recognition

Describe a time when you were honored for presenting your ministry gift (e.g., preaching, teaching, the arts, etc.).

Let's look at honor from Romans 13:7.

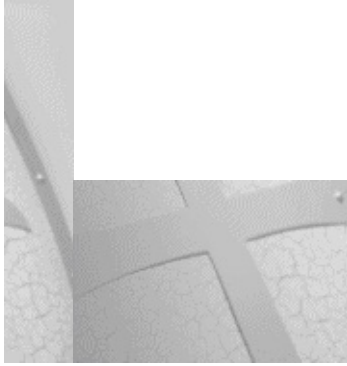


Honor Promise

Obey them that have the rule over you, and



submit yourselves... Hebrews 13:17



Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom for whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

Tribute

n Tribute refers to taxes, duty, and certain levels of structure within civil structure. Paul's instruction is to honor the laws of the land. We must honor the laws of the land.

n TRIBUTE TO WHOM TRIBUTE IS DUE;

There are laws, rules and regulations in a Kingdom, a Country, a Nation or Land that have been put in place to govern the people that live in these respective places. So observing these laws, rules and regulations, and aligning to them, shows honor as it pertains to the specific protocols of the Land. Jesus said honor Caesar by giving Caesar what is his and God what belongs to God. When people violate tax laws, or trade agreements, tariffs of customs duties they actually bring curses on their lives and this could even remain generationally.

What are some ways that we show tribute?

Custom

n We must honor the people of a land and their customs, provided their customs do not violate the scriptural requirements of human life.

n CUSTOM TO WHOM CUSTOM;

Every people group or ethnic group, tribe, or nationality has their individual

cultures that make up the uniqueness of the people there. Honoring the People of the Land by respecting their culture shows honor. If customs and cultures do not violate Scriptural standards and requirements for living, the customs and culture must be respected, observed, and kept, and even preserved. To disrespect and disregard customs shows dishonor and therefore the rewards of dishonor will be reaped.

What kinds of customs would you honor in a region? Consider an international

traveling experience.

Fear

FEAR TO WHOM FEAR;

There are seven Kingdoms:

1. Sovereign Kingdom
2. Angelic Kingdom
3. Planetary Kingdom
4. The Kingdom of Man
5. The Animal Kingdom
6. The Vegetable Kingdom (trees and plants)
7. The Mineral Kingdom

Fear to whom fear has to do with the Fourth Kingdom. All human beings are equal, but not all have the same gifts, anointing, endowments of ability. Matthew 25:15 says that talents were given to three individuals “according to their several ability.” In the kingdom of human beings there are different ranks given in every sector. Honor the rank that has been placed in the Land. Fear means respect and honor must be given. 1 Peter 2:17—Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king. Clearly seen here honor must be shown to whom honor is due. 1 Timothy 5:17 says, “Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor.”

Fear refers to honoring the rank and the dignitaries of the land. It is important to research an area before going there to minister.

Sometimes prophets enter a region and speak a word to a specific church without researching the dynamics of the fathers, the apostles, the prophets, and the generational words in the region. When they do this, it upsets the equilibrium of what is happening in that region.

When have you done research—whether researching prophetic words spoken over a region or learning who the ranking spiritual authorities are there?

Have you ever been on the receiving end of “an upset equilibrium” when a

2

visiting prophet has spoken over your local church or city? If so, what was your experience?

Honor

Honor the anointing in the land by giving an offering to one of the local apostolic gifts in the region you are visiting to minister. There is automatic spiritual reciprocation when this kind of honor is shown. No seed is greater than the seed of honor.

Have you ever sown a monetary seed to a higher ranking apostolic gift in your city, or in another region?

After sowing the honor seed, what impact did you see in your personal ministry and/or in your local church?

noteS

[illegible]

True Riches ~ Honoring Life Sources

“It is required by God that we honor and respect every life source.” Tudor Bismark Life Source Definition:

A life source is a being, an entity that is a giver, an originator, a releaser of life. In direct reference to this work, a life source would be: 1) a physical father and mother giving human life, 2) a spiritual father/mother giving spirit life, and founders of ministries, (this would apply to Apostolic, Prophetic Pastoral gifts), and 3) Heads of State over nations.

God is life, and God has life, and God has given life legitimately to all those that are eligible as carriers and as custodians of life. All carriers of life must be honoured as they carry certain aspects of the extension of Gods life. They possess the God factor of reproduction. A Life Source then is every part of creation that possesses the ability to produce fruit, offspring (children), physically and spiritually.

All life comes from God. Life sources are those people (and systems) that can produce life. When Paul said to “give honor to whom honor is due,” he meant honoring life sources. Anytime people dishonor a life source, demonic attacks, satanic generational curses, poverty, and all kinds of barrenness and famine are unleashed. When people blatantly dishonor a life source—regardless of which life source it is—they violate the principles of God’s sovereign existence. God then withdraws His blessing at any time and on any level.

Honor with a Guarantee

Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

Ephesians 6:2–3

We are guaranteed a long and blessed life if we honor our natural parents, the source of our earthly existence. Regardless of the circumstances surrounding our conception—whether wanted or unwanted, left on a doorstep or the product of a rape—we honor our parents. Apart from their actions, whether they were model parents or were abusive or abandoned their children, we honor their role in giving us life. If we do, then God promises to honor us with a long life that goes well.

Honoring Fathers

A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? And if I be a master, where is my fear? Saith the Lord of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name?

Malachi 1:6

Beyond our natural fathers, we must recognize those with the spirit of a father in the Kingdom of God. There are fathers in the faith, fathers in ministry, and spiritual fathers. Each has a significant role to help us continue with God and accomplish His purpose in our lives. Our fathers in the faith were there when we received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. They laid the foundation we stand on today. Ministry fathers are more our guides and mentors. They help position us in our respective callings and mold us for kingdom service. Spiritual fathers are those whose spirits we have caught. We are like them, taking on their image in our lifestyle, in our processing of information, and even our ministry presentations.

Lesson Three honor god, then the ProPhet

The first two levels of honor are honor God and honor the prophet, respectively.

Honor God

Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

Proverbs 3:9–10

Honoring God is the first level of honor. Total dishonor for God reaps a harvest of catastrophe. There are Christian leaders who know better, and yet have inappropriate conduct morally and in ministry. It is dangerous for these individuals to live like this, especially those who teach the Word.

There should not be blatant sin. Blatant and willful sin shows total dishonor,

disrespect, and disregard for God. God's status as a FATHER is such that any willful act of wrong-doing brings dishonor to God, His name, and His "family." Willful sin is always a danger as this brings discredit to the Kingdom of God. There is a difference between an individual's mistake and blatant willful sin. Willful sin is generally unchecked weaknesses that have produced a behavior pattern revealing character flaws thru an undisciplined life.

Soul Search:

Are there areas in your life right now where you are dishonoring God? Acknowledge and confess them. List three steps on your action plan of repentance (turning).

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

_____ We must show honor to God.

Honor the Prophet

Jesus said, "A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.

Matthew 13:57

Honoring the prophet is the second level of honor. Not honoring the prophetic gift in your country or in your local assembly is dishonoring God. A country that does not honor its spiritual leaders cannot be blessed.

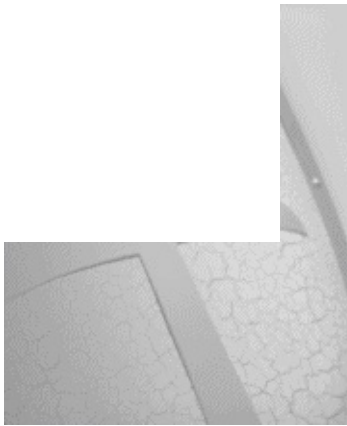
What happens, then, is that many countries do not reap the benefits of the prophetic gifts God has given them. This is also true in the church. A senior pastor not fully received in the ministry where he or she leads people will go to other places and minister under greater levels of anointing. Often the members are surprised, unaware that this is what they have had all along. The difference is honor.



Truth Principle
“People are not elevated under your



ministry because they do not show honor where honor is due.”



If you are a senior pastor, have you dealt with any unforgiveness or bitterness toward your congregation because of their lack of honor?

What was the response of the congregation when you began to teach on honor?

The greatest form of dishonor is when the people to whom you consistently preach and teach do not act on what they have heard. Their lack of elevation is not because you, pastor, are not adequate or lack anointing. Because they show

dishonor, they disqualify themselves from the blessing of God.

Senior pastor, does your congregation show you dishonor? If so, how does this make you feel?

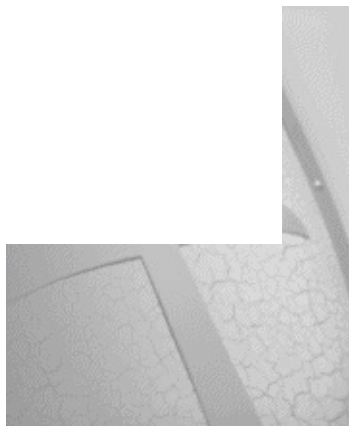


Honor Promise

Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto



him that teacheth in all good things. Galatians 6:6



Honor Fathers

What will you do now that you are armed with this understanding about the growth (or lack thereof) of your members?

A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? And if I be a master, where is my fear? Saith the Lord of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, wherein have we despised thy name?

Malachi 1:6

Honoring fathers is the third level of honor. By *fathers* here we mean spiritual fathers or coverings. It is important to know in a region who God has raised up to be fathers. There has been misdirection on fathers. As a result we have:

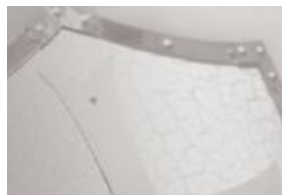
- Individuals that will not acknowledge they are fathers
- Individuals who make themselves fathers but are not
- Triangle kinds of ministries where sons tithe up and the father/son “bond” exists because of money

Even with this error creeping up, we must still honor fathers. Do not ever speak badly against fathers God has raised up in nations and regions. They are a life source, and as such should be honored.

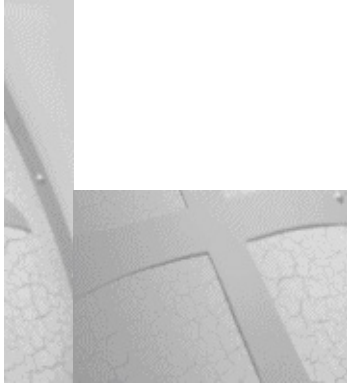
Who are the fathers in your life? _____

If asked, could you name the fathers in your city? Who are they?

Truth Principle
“A father’s message



and a son's message have been distorted in some places and not presented correctly."



Have you personally dishonored any of the fathers in your city? How?

Have you repented yet? If so, how did you change your dishonor to honor?

Closing Prayer Time

Consider going before the Lord in vulnerable honesty about how you have sown dishonor to spiritual leaders, and how you may have been dishonored.

noteS

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Lesson Four cont

The fourth and fifth levels of honor are honoring parents and the elderly. Both of these kinds of honor carry with them a promise in the Word of God. We will examine the benefits of honoring parents and the elderly, as well as what an individual misses out on for sowing dishonor.

Honoring Natural Parents

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Exodus 20:12 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

Ephesians 6:2

*Honour thy father and thy mother, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee;
that thy days may be prolonged...*

Deuteronomy 5:16

Honoring parents is a command of duality. First, we honor our physical fathers and mothers. We honor them highly, regardless of our disagreement with any of their ideals. Consider the promises of God in connection with honoring parents.

1. The days of your life may be _____. [See Exodus 20:12 and Deuteronomy 5:16]

2. Your life will go _____ in the _____ the Lord gives you. [See Deuteronomy 5:16]

What was the turning point in your life that caused you to give true honor to your parents?

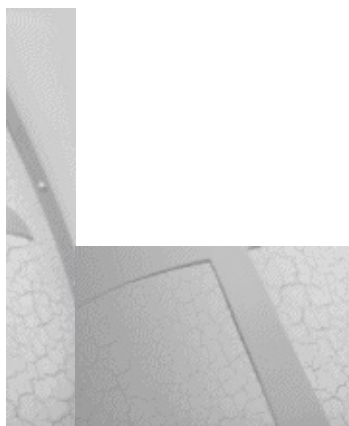


Honor Promise

Honor thy father and mother...that it may



**be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.
Ephesians 6:2, 3**



When this event occurred, were your parents alive to reap the benefits of your new understanding and revelation about honor?

Can you identify areas of your life that are failing? If so, what are they and

can you trace them back to acts of dishonor committed toward your parents?

Commitments

Take some time now to pray about your parents. From your heart, acknowledge all acts of dishonor. Invite the Holy Spirit to complete any and all works of restoration in your heart—closure, forgiveness, healing old memories, etc.—and receive perfect love.

If one or both of your parents are still alive, ask the Lord to teach you how to show them proper honor. If one or both are deceased, then pray for a full release from any dragging weights—guilt, shame, condemnation, bitterness, etc.—and ask for the ability to honor your deceased parent in your conversation.

Honoring Spiritual Parents

Secondly, we honor our spiritual fathers and mothers. There are varied definitions of spiritual fathers, so let's provide some clarity. For the purpose of this study, consider that there are three kinds of fathers: fathers in the faith, spiritual fathers, and fathers in the ministry.

Fathers in the Faith

These are the ministries through which you first came to saving faith in Jesus Christ. These are the people who gave you your first foundation in the things of God. They should be honored as the vessel who preached the word of truth when you received Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Who is your father in the faith?

Spend some time thanking God for the foundation He set in your life through this person when you first came to know Him. Address any issues that have come up during the years in your relationship with your father in the faith.

Spiritual Fathers *To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.*
II Timothy 1:2

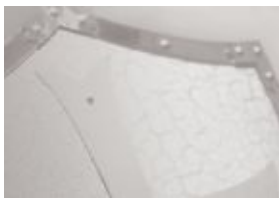
Although a common term in the body of Christ today, the concept of the spiritual father is crucial when studying honor. This person is your model for spiritual things. He guides you in the things of God, and always points you toward the authority of the Word of God, by the spirit of God, and the work of Jesus Christ.

Fathers in the Ministry

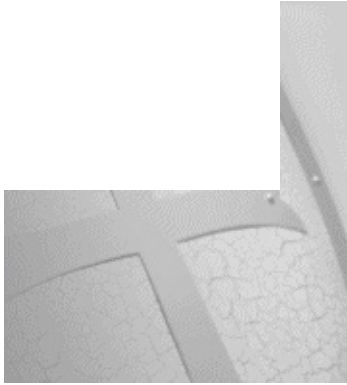
Ministry fathers provide instruction and guidance during your seasons of service. As an individual is promoted by God, he is sent father figures to counsel and lead him in his service. Fathers in the ministry are much like sounding boards for decision making, and mentors throughout the varied phases of ministry service. They offer practical wisdom and help you apply what you know to achieve God's purpose for your life and ministry. They are worthy of honor.

Who are your fathers in the ministry?

Truth Principle
"We honor [our



parents] highly... when we begin to show honor we break death cycles."



Spend some time thanking God for their wisdom and influence in your life. Consider asking Him for opportunities to influence the lives of those around you with His wisdom and understanding.

Jesus said in John 14:9, “He that hath seen me hath seen the Father.” Consider the following reflection questions in a time of focused meditation and prayer about spiritual parents and covenant alliances.

In whom do you see the Father, or the nature of God?

Define the relationship you have with each ministry you listed in the previous question. Are they linked to your faith, your ministry, or your life?

Be deliberate now. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any dishonor on your part toward any of these ministries. List them below. Spend some time praying and hearing God’s instruction about the seeds of honor you should sow.

Honoring the Elderly

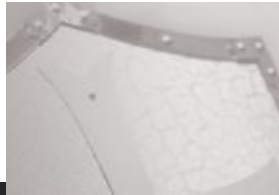
Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the Lord.

Leviticus 19:32

Standing when a white-haired person enters the room honors their life experience and releases for you the grace to endure circumstances in your life.

Honor the survival skills and success of older people in overcoming struggles. If dishonor is shown, what was a success for them becomes a defeat for you and the grace that they had to go through cannot come on you.

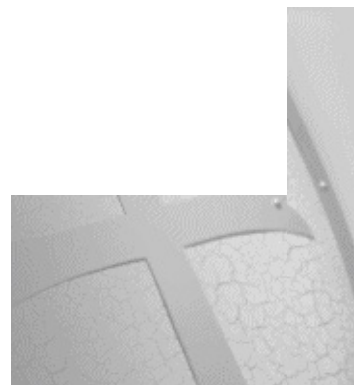
Even if you were not raised to honor the elderly, you can change your course now. Allow the Holy Spirit to remind you of instances of honor and dishonor toward the elderly. Where there has been dishonor—even if these persons are now deceased—bring your actions before the Lord for forgiveness.



Truth Principle



“You are honoring their ability to impart knowledge.”



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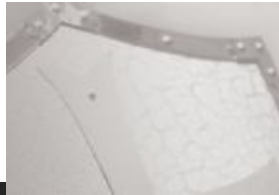
What is man, that thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet...

Psalm 8:4–6

In that phrase “made him a little lower than the angels” the translation is “you’ve made him as Elohim.” In other words, you put the God factor in man. So you have God and then man right beneath God because he’s made in the image and likeness of God. Then man was crowned with glory and honor.

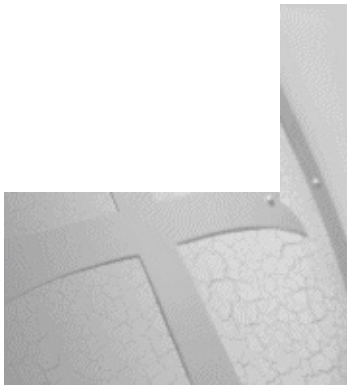
If an individual does not respect the honor that God has placed in him, then he disregards the gift of life in his life.

Before we proceed, list some ways you have dishonored the anointing in your life.



Honor Promise

... The beauty of old men is the gray head. Proverbs 20:29



Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names. Nevertheless man being in honour abideth not: he is like the beasts that perish...

Man that is in honour, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish.

Psalms 49:11–12, 20

Let's examine how individuals can dishonor the gift God has deposited inside of them.

Beastly instincts are the result when a person does not understand he has been crowned with glory and honor. Gang affiliation and criminal activity, drug problems, and sexual deviancy like prostitution and pornography are ways individuals can dishonor their God-given anointing.

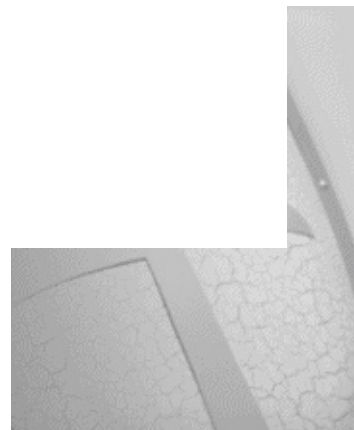


Truth Principle

“A man who has honor and does not



understand the honor is like the beasts that perish.”



Who do you know that is unaware of their God nature, that they are crowned with glory and honor? After you list their names pray for them, that they would come to see, acknowledge, and understand the honor God placed in them.

Review your list of ways you dishonored your anointing. After reading the text above, can you think of other ways one can dishonor their anointing? If so, please list them.

Low self esteem, lack of confidence in one's gift, the spirit of rejection, and under-estimating one's ability are just a few ways in which many people dishonor themselves. Evidence of self-dishonor is seen in Moses, Gideon and Jeremiah.

notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on its right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

4 the spirit of honor

True Riches ~ Death is the Result of Dishonor

*Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour:
so doth a little folly to him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour.
Ecclesiastes 10:1*

It is a foolish person who does not understand wisdom and honor. When a person doesn't understand wisdom and honor, there is the spirit of death. There is an odious spirit of death about their lives.

The danger is that people become incarcerated, not just in physical prisons, but in a spiritual maze, not able to release themselves.

Week Two: The Spirit Of Honor

Please watch DVD #2 on *The Spirit of Honor* or listen to the audio CD before beginning the daily sessions.

Introduction

Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

I Timothy 5:17

If there is a requirement to show double honor, it means that the minimum requirement is to show honor. Here is the problem that we have. If people do not know how to show honor, how then do they calculate double honor? And so, in this week's daily lessons we want to address developing the spirit of honor.

Honour widows that are widows indeed. But if any widows have children or nephews, let them first learn to show piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God.

I Timothy 5:3, 4

There are different levels at which we show honor. So, if you're going to show an elder double honor, the person does not become an elder automatically by the laying on of hands. The person becomes an elder by serving consecutively and consistently over a period of time. And by their service, that individual is then a candidate for honor.

As we look at how to develop the spirit of honor, we will look at five biblical examples where dishonor has been shown—Moses, Lucifer, Noah, Jabez, and Absalom. The True Riches will explain how one becomes a candidate for honor, what the cure for dishonor is, and the reason not to curse the ruler of your people.

Audio Summary

We want to welcome you to this presentation on the subject of honor. In our first session on the subject honor, we talked very briefly and very basically as to why

we have problems around the world and in the body of Christ. It generally is an honor problem. We talked very briefly on the areas where we need to show honor. Jesus said that a prophet is not without honor, save in his own country and his own house.

In the buildup to the presentation we talked about how people don't show honor firstly to God. Secondly, how they don't show honor to their spiritual leaders which would be the prophet or apostle God has set over them or their pastor. We tend to honor gifts that are far away, and as a result, we don't get the benefit of those gifts. Then we talked about very briefly the need to honor parents and fathers, and also the gifts that are within us, because if we don't show honor, we are dishonoring God who is the principle life source. It is God's requirement that we honor every life source that He has given. The law of the universe is the law of reciprocity—when you give something, God then entitles the universe to give back to you.

And so, I want to welcome you to this second session. We want to read our keynote Scripture from Romans 13. I want to read Romans 13:7–8 again.

Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour. Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

In this particular session, we are going to be looking at how we develop the spirit of honor. Let's go to I Timothy 5, and I want to read verse 17. I Timothy 5:17 says, *Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.*

If there is a requirement to show double honor, it means that the minimum requirement is to show honor. Here is the problem that we have. If people don't know how to show honor, how then do they calculate double honor? And so, we want to look at how to develop the spirit of honor. The Scripture says in I Timothy 5:3, 4:

Honour widows that are widows indeed. But if any widows have children or nephews, let them first learn to show piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God.

In other words, there are different levels in which we show honor. It says “show honor to widows that are widows indeed.” Then he says if you have somebody

that's much younger, that's become a widow, they have to learn instruction first because honor is developed and honor has to be earned. So, if you're going to show an elder double honor, the person does not become an elder by the laying on of hands automatically. The person becomes an elder by serving consecutively and consistently over a period of time. And by their service, then that individual is a candidate for honor.

Now, I want you to watch something here, very carefully as we develop the subject on how to develop the spirit of honor; for us to do that, we have to look at areas where dishonor has been shown. I want to go now to Numbers chapter twelve, beginning at verse one. This is a classic example of how dishonor can be shown. This is a classic example.

Here we have the first family in the nation of Israel. This is the first family. This is one family where their mother was absolutely incredible. Her name was Jochobed. She gave birth firstly to Miriam, who was the praise and worship leader of the church. She gave birth secondly to Aaron, who was the priest, the custodian of blessing in the church. And thirdly, she gave birth to Moses, who was the apostolic gift. He was the prophetic gift, the deliverer for the people of God. Moses was the man. And so after the deliverance out of slavery, after Moses has been given the law and so on, the Bible says in Numbers 12:1,

And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

In our research here, we are not sure if this woman was his first wife Zipporah or if this was another woman. Speculatively, we are now making the assumption based on the research that this was another woman besides Zipporah, the first and the oldest daughter of Jethro, priest of Midian. Moses is no "spring chick" here; I mean, he's in his nineties and he's marrying this young black girl from Ethiopia. That's enough trouble anyway. This is what they said.

And they said, Hath the Lord indeed spoken only by Moses? Hath he not spoken also by us? And the Lord heard it.

Now, the point here was that when Moses was born, number one, Miriam, was thirteen years old. Aaron was seven years old when Moses was born. Miriam was appointed as Moses' chief intercessor. The Bible says in Hebrews that from the time when they saw that Moses was a proper child, Miriam was put to watch

over Moses. So when his mother puts him in an ark, and he's put into the river Nile, Miriam is watching over her brother and interceding for her brother. And when Pharaoh's daughter finds Moses and pulls him out of the water, Miriam is there to see to Moses and finds a Hebrew woman who is Moses' mother to nurture him and feed him.

And all the years that went by, Miriam prayed for him—forty years she prayed for Moses until he was released by the Spirit of God to go into the wilderness. And then she prays for him for another forty years while he's in the custodianship of Jethro. So here is an intercessor that's been praying for her future leader for eighty years. She is in eighty years of intercession. Eighty years of intercession and one would think that after praying for the leader for eighty years she would have some spiritual rights over his life.

But God is going to show us something here that is of high importance so that we don't walk in a curse. So the Bible says "the Lord heard it." The Lord said "I want to meet you in the tabernacle." And when you read that Scripture, the Bible says the Lord met them at the door of the tabernacle. We have to understand the law. According to the law, God was not permitted to come beyond the veil. God was to stay on the inside of the veil because of legal issues. You know, only on the Day of Atonement could God bust out. But because of dishonor showed, and because of destiny that was inappropriately being violated, God couldn't wait for the Day of Atonement. He busted out anyway and He met them in the door of the tabernacle.

Now, if you look at Numbers twelve, the chapter after Numbers twelve, Numbers thirteen, which is the chapter that they are going in to take the Promised Land. That's where they sent out the twelve spies. Now watch this very carefully. Anytime you have the seed of dishonor being sown, or conduct of dishonor being sown, most of the time it precedes a tremendous spiritual breakthrough.

So, as a spiritual leader, if anyone in your ministry begins to show dishonor in any way... [To] all the pastors who are male pastors, if there are members of your church that are showing dishonor to your wife do not overlook it. It must be dealt with because if they are dishonoring your wife they are actually dishonoring you. And most times when individuals—I don't care how long they've been in the church, I don't think anybody has been interceding in your church for eighty years—show the seeds of dishonor they are about to inhibit the

breakthrough that you've been believing for.

And so the Scripture says that the Lord spoke to them and said to them, "Moses is my friend. If I want to speak to the people I will raise up a prophet who will speak to them in visions and in dreams. But Moses, I speak to him face to face. And what you have done," God says, "you have violated the laws of honor. Granted, you are older than he is. Granted, that you have been praying for him for almost eighty years each. But the way you have addressed the situation, you have sown the seeds of dishonor."

Now watch what's going to happen here. The Bible says in Numbers twelve, starting in verse thirteen. When the Spirit of the Lord lifted, Moses saw that his sister was vexed with leprosy. She became a leper and she had to be banished from the camp.

And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee. And the Lord said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? Let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again.

If her father was here and she showed this kind of conduct, her father would have spat in her face. So Miriam, even though she may not have agreed with Moses marrying this woman, she could have presented the situation to him in a different manner not to dishonor and discredit the man. And so God, literally, in the tabernacle door when Miriam walked up to Him, God spat in her face.

And anytime God will spit in the face of a ministry, that ministry is going to suffer leprosy. Isolation. Leprosy is the disease that attacks the nervous system. You can't feel anymore. People who have leprosy, your nervous system is attacked. You lose sensitivity—sensitivity to the Spirit, sensitivity to the times, sensitivity to the season, sensitivity to your gift, sensitivity to the people in your life. And Miriam had to be taken outside the camp because this leprosy, this dishonor, could have been contagious. Lesser people could have caught the spirit of dishonor and inhibited the process of what God wanted to do. And so she had to be cured from the spirit of dishonor.

And it's so amazing that the person she dishonored was the only person that God would hear their prayer. There was no one else in the camp that could intercede on behalf of that person. We need to understand this: if a person in your ministry

shows you dishonor you have the power to enslave them or you have the power to set them free. It has to do with spiritual covering.

Watch this very carefully. Anytime the spirit of dishonor is shown, the individuals that show it begin to die systematically. They begin to lose their spiritual sensitivity. They become critical. They become cynical, almost facetious. They start gathering a camp of people around them to start attacking you. Then, they start fabricating stories, one story upon another, and crazy people start to believe stuff that they know doesn't even make sense! Whenever the spirit of dishonor is being shown, there has to be a confrontation of that because if you let it slide, the individual showing dishonor will destroy your years of ministry. I don't care if she's your sister. I don't care if she's been praying for you for eighty years. God says "I'm drawing the line right here. I will not tolerate dishonor."

In Chapter 28 of the book of Ezekiel, and chapter fourteen of the book of Isaiah, Lucifer blatantly in heaven dishonored God his creator. And God said "You're out of here! I'm not waiting for the midnight train to Georgia. You're out of here now! You're checking out of this hotel right now." The principle is that there are people in the church—ask Lucifer—who will believe the person showing dishonor more than they will believe the creator of the ministry. God was the creator of the ministry, yet one-third of the angels believed the person showing dishonor.

So if you have people leaving the church because of dishonor, don't be discouraged. They left God. They left God. So lift up your heads, o ye gates and be ye lifted up ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Amen.

The first way you generate or show the spirit of honor is that you sow a seed of honor. Moses did not disregard his sister. Moses did not rebuke his sister. Moses did not cut his sister off. Moses sowed a seed of honor for his sister. One translation says that he actually offered a sacrifice every evening, a sacrifice of honor for his sister. So, the first way you come against a spirit of dishonor is when you begin to sow the spirit of honor. I'm not saying you have to tolerate the people that are causing you grief, but what you have to do is instead of you talking stories about them as they are talking about you, you just get a blank. You just ignore it. You speak good. You speak not evil, but sow good seeds. You just say, "I'm not listening to that."

And if you're a member of a church and not a leader and there are individuals in the church that are dissing your leader, all you do is say, "I'm not talking to you about this. That's my pastor. That's my apostle. I don't believe that story." You sow the seed of honor. If any person listening to this or watching this have sown the seed of dishonor in any place, this Sunday you give an offering to God which is an offering of honor to reverse that curse. If you don't do that, leprosy will eat you to the core. It will eat your toes. It'll eat your ears. It'll eat your discerning gifts, and you won't feel God. You'll be in the presence of a mighty revival, and you won't feel it.

Ladies and gentlemen, watch me very carefully here. In chapter thirteen and chapter fourteen [of Numbers] when they went the first time to take the Promised Land, only two men from the previous generation were able to go in. Miriam, who was an intercessor for eighty years, lived another fifteen years. So she was interceding for Moses for 95 years. Even with all her track record of intercession, Miriam was not permitted into the Promised Land. Aaron was a high priest for forty years. Forty consecutive times he saw the Shekinah glory of God fall. Every day he prayed the prayer, "The Lord bless you and keep you. His face shine upon you." Aaron, because of this incident of dishonor, was not allowed in the Promised Land. Moses was not allowed in the Promised Land because of one act of dishonor. He did not honor God's word; he smote the rock when he was supposed to speak to it. Dishonor will keep you out of the promise of God. Dishonor will keep you out of the promise of God.

Now, let's look at the second level of what dishonor does. I want to go to chapter nine of the book of Genesis, starting from verse nineteen. In Genesis 9:19, Scripture says here,

These are the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread. And Noah began to be a husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: and he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent.

Of these boys the whole earth was populated. The Bible says that Noah began to be a husbandman. He planted a vineyard, drank the wine, became inebriated, and he was uncovered within his tent.

Anytime you have an individual who goes away from their corporate mandate and anointing, they become inebriated on the byproduct of their gift. So Noah was told to dominate the whole earth, but he builds a vineyard and becomes

intoxicated with the sideline ministry. God has called you an apostle to the nations, but you are now intoxicated with this television ministry or this internet ministry or this crazy business stuff.

What happened is, the Bible says, that he became uncovered not in the world. He became uncovered in his tent, in his church. In other words, he lost his covering. He lost his covering. He was naked and open. Watch what's going to happen now. The Bible says that Ham came into the tent and Ham saw his father's nakedness. He saw his father uncovered. When he saw his father uncovered, it opened an avenue for him to be uncovered. Because if your father can do something and get away with it, you tend to feel like you can do the same thing and get away with it. That's why it's important for fathers to act right and behave right because you are teaching your sons. If you want to know what a father is doing, watch what their sons are doing and that gives you an idea of what their father is.

Ham, the father of Canaan, came in and saw his father's nakedness and he went outside and told his brethren. Now, watch what the two boys are going to do. We don't have an implication as to what Ham did. Someone said in some translation that Ham kind of mocked his father. Some of the implications are there that he may have sown a dishonor seed. The Bible says when he told his two brethren; the implication is that he didn't tell them in a nice way. He spoke about his father's nakedness and his father being uncovered in a very cynical and facetious way. And in so doing, he sowed the seed of dishonor.

So the two boys, Shem and Japheth, came in backward with their covering. Because whenever you have a father that uncovers himself, and the son speaks bad about that covering, you open the door to the curse your father has initiated. So you, then, have to take your gifting and your anointing. You have to back up now and provide a covering for your father so that you save him and you save yourself.

I was in a country in Africa and there was a certain gentleman that came to me and said, "I'm one of the fathers of the Pentecostal movement in this country." He said, "I'd like for you to come and preach for me." I just said, "We'll see" and so on because I wanted to do my homework on this certain individual. I then spoke to a very close friend of mine in that particular country and mentioned the person's name. And he said to me in a very respectful way, "That man is a father in the nation, but he's not functioning as a father." And he mentioned some of

the misconduct, you know, sins that he committed, problems he had caused and so on. And he said, “We still show him honor and respect, but we do not allow him to preach in our pulpit. We don’t allow him to sow his seed in our area.”

So if you have fathers who have committed crimes by the Spirit, the sons must sow an honor seed by providing their gift, their anointing, and their prophetic power to cover the father so that he’s not torn up by the demonic forces in the region.

Watch what happens. Even though Ham was wrong, Noah, who was the king of the world, was still anointed even though he made this mistake. When Noah wakes up and finds out that his son had sown the seed of dishonor, Noah then cursed not the man. He cursed his lineage. This is what he said:

And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.

The word “servant of servants” means “you are going to be a slave.” A servant works for wages; a slave works for nothing. A slave works harder than a servant, and yet gets no remunerations. So when you sow the seed of dishonor, you work hard for the money, but you don’t get paid for it. You don’t get paid for it. Because of the seed of dishonor, your next generation will work very very hard and they won’t get paid for it. The ministry won’t develop; it won’t develop a generational seed.

He says of Canaan that Canaan shall be a servant. And then he says of the others that showed honor, Japheth and Shem—because they showed honor by providing their gift and anointing to cover the nakedness of their father—“you will be enlarged. Your tents will be enlarged. And those that show dishonor will be your slaves.” So, here’s the principle: for people who show honor, you always grow and you are enlarged. For people that sow dishonor, you become a slave to the system.

If you track Pentecostalism as it is with all the church splits and all the bickering and all the fighting and all these business meetings—Robert’s Rules of Order and all this voting and politicizing—and all this cursing and all this licensing stuff that becomes so political and people are denied licenses because of this and that, and people’s anointings not released and given. You’ve got presbyters that don’t understand what’s really going on. You know, and all kinds of stuff going

on. All it does is produce the spirit of dishonor. And you have young lions who look at men who are supposed to be leaders and curse them in their dining room, curse them in their house, curse them in their bedroom. And it's no wonder so many leaders and preachers die of sicknesses that don't even make sense—horrible cancers, cirrhosis of the liver. All kinds of crazy things in their lives. That's because of dishonor. It's because of dishonor. If you sow the seed of dishonor, you reap the harvest of dishonor. Your life becomes a living hell—a living hell.

Watch this now. Let's go to Exodus 22:28. *Thou shalt not revile the gods, nor curse the ruler of thy people.*

Notice the word “gods,” small “g”. In other words, if you don't understand ranks and protocols... the Bible says in Jude that Michael would not pass a railing accusation against Lucifer. If we even dishonor those kinds of ranks, we reap the harvest dishonor brings. And so we have people who don't have experience in intercessory prayer, and they stand up in church binding the prince of this area when they are not anointed to do that. There was a certain church that I know of where the intercessors were very, very inexperienced. Their pastor was out of town, and they put a chair on the platform, and they said, “We summon Lucifer into this judgment seat.” It unleashed all kinds of hell that they are still struggling from today.

The Bible says, “Thou shalt not revile the gods.” In other words, you have to show honor to whom honor is due. If you don't have an anointing to deal with certain stuff in the spirit, let it be. And you are not to curse the ruler of your people. I live in Zimbabwe and it's a very difficult environment we're in right now. Here in the United States I have a very interesting ministry. One conference night I'll be in an African-American church that's very anti-President Bush and very democratic and very Obama-ish at this time. And the next night I'm going to be in a church in the South somewhere that's White Caucasian, that's very pro-Bush, and very John Hagee-ish. I'm in between all this stuff and I'm amazed at the Holy Spirit. Everyone's entitled to an opinion. Everybody's entitled to his or her viewpoints, but no one is authorized to rebuke or curse your ruler. You're not authorized to do that. It breeds dishonor. So you bless your leaders. Amen. Thank you Jesus. Hallelujah. Amen, I'm preaching to me right now.

Leviticus 19:14 *Thou shalt not curse the deaf, nor put a stumblingblock before the blind, but shall fear thy God: I am the Lord.*

In other words, if you show dishonor to lesser people that have lesser gifts... Deaf means they can't hear. It means spiritual lack. They can't hear a word from the Lord. Blind means they can't see by revelation. If you dishonor them in any way, the Bible says "I am the life source. You get what they are." Everyone say, "Show honor." Say it again.

Now watch this in the first part of this conclusion of this presentation. Honor grows generations. So when you show or sow an honor seed generations are blessed. When you sow a dishonor seed generations are cut off. Honor grows generations. Dishonor castrates destiny. Any time a person sows dishonor, their seed—their ability to possess the future—is cut off.

So, let's go to I Chronicles 4:9–10. *And Jabez was more honourable than his brethren: and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bare him with sorrow.*

They [Jabez's brothers] were honorable, but Jabez was more honorable. The Scripture tells us why. His mother named him "born in sorrow" or "caused me pain." But Jabez did not ever "dis" his mother or dishonor his mother or hate his mother. Instead he showed honor to his mother for being a life source. And the Scripture says he prayed to God.

And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh that you wouldst bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldst keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested.

He wasn't more honorable because he prayed the prayer. He wasn't more honorable because he had this act of intercession. He was more honorable because he was the least of his brothers, but he showed the most respect for his mother. There were individuals who were born in decent homes, in decent families—1.8 family members, nice Lexus, nice neighborhood, good school. Here is Jabez born in a slum, didn't know who his father was, [he] was so messed up. Even though he had the legitimate cause to be bitter and angry and renounce and denounce his mother, he showed more honor than those that should have shown honor.

He wasn't honorable because he prayed the prayer. Neither was he the first person to pray that kind of prayer. The reason he was more honorable was

because he showed honor where legitimately others may not have. That's why he was more honorable, and the Bible says, "And God granted him that which he requested." Well, why would He grant that? He [Jabez] wasn't the only person that prayed that prayer. The reason God granted him that is because Jabez learned how to sow the seeds of honor. He learned to sow the seed of honor.

You know, many years ago, my wife and I were part of a major Pentecostal movement. For various reasons we had to leave. When we got sued—and all kinds of things came from that—the man that was our father in the Lord said some horrible things against us. I spoke to some of his sons and family members and I said, "Whatever has transpired, I want you to hear from me. I will never speak a bad word against your father, who is my spiritual father." Even though it caused us much pain. Even though it caused us much grief. ChiChi and I had to sell some of our stuff to pay some of those lawsuits and lawyer fees and so on. Not one time did we have any guile or bitterness or anger in our heart because if we'd done that, we would not have the kind of ministry we have today.

You can be a very powerful person. You can be very anointed. Watch the entrapment of the devil. If you sow a dishonor seed, with all of that anointing, you cancel your ministry. You cancel it because dishonor breaks the generations. Honor enlarges your coast.

Look at Jesus as our example. On the cross, while He was dying, He prayed the prayer, "Forgive them." In other words, I am showing honor to them irrespective of what they've done to me. Because he was purchasing His generations. Everyone say, "Give me honor." Say that again.

I'm going to close with the story of Absalom. This is one of the most tragic biblical stories. It's one of the most tragic stories of all of life. Here is a man that has everything going for him. He probably was the heir for David's kingdom. The Bible says he was extremely good looking. In other words, he was very desirable to look at. He's got that going for him. The Scripture says—and this is very important—that his hair was so thick and so massive. Hair in the Scripture speaks of covering. In other words, he had the ability to grow massive covering. His hair grew over his shoulders. The government shall be upon his shoulders. So he had the ability to cover governmental issues.

Once a year he would cut his hair in the gateway where elders gathered and put his hair on a scale. The Bible tells us how heavy that covering was, and in one

year he could grow it back again. What a gifted young man! And he was ensnared when a family issue broke out. His stepbrother abused his sister (they had the same father and mother), and his stepbrothers [had the] same father [and] different mothers— physically raped his sister Tamar. Absalom grieved in his heart and began to connive. He was going to take care of his brother Amnon. The Bible says he does.

The story comes now in II Samuel 16. But then when you read in the latter part of that verse when Absalom comes back, and he begins to rise up against his father, the Scripture says that in his attempt to overthrow his father his counselor said to him in II Samuel 16:20,

Then said Absalom to Ahithophel, Give counsel among you what we shall do. And Ahithophel said unto Absalom, Go in unto thy father's concubines, which he hath left to keep the house; and all Israel shall hear that thou art abhorred of thy father: then wheel the hands of all that are with thee be strong.

Here is my counsel. Get all your father's concubines. We'll set up a tent above the roof and you sexually have intercourse with them in front of everybody. [This is] the height of dishonor. He dishonored his father in the most degrading way. Perhaps if he tried to overthrow his father there could have been some forgiveness. But doing this with what was his father's personal possessions—those that were the incubators for his father's seed—he abhorred his father. When he did this, that's where he crossed the line. He crossed a line and lost absolutely everything.

Now I want you to look at the Scripture with me in II Samuel 18:18. Here is the most tragic story of anyone who sows the seed of dishonor.

Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's dale: for he said, I have no son to keep my name in remembrance: and he called the pillar after his own name: and it is called unto this day, Absalom's place.

He raised up a stone and named the stone after his name. I just read to you how he had sexual intercourse with all his father's concubines, and yet none of them got pregnant. The seed of dishonor can't make the generations pregnant. It's impossible. And he named a stone after his name. When you raise up a building after your name, someone else will come and tear up that building and a few

years from now no one will even know you were the pastor of that church.

But when you sow the seed of honor, when you sow the seed of honor... Look at Solomon. Solomon, the Bible says, in II Kings 11, had 700 wives and 300 concubines. It's a principle. It's a principle. He showed his father, David, so much honor. When David was sick and when David was almost dying, they got a gentile virgin girl to come and keep his father warm. In other words, he was protecting the life seed. He was honoring the life seed. He was trying to keep his father warm, trying to keep him alive as long as possible. He wasn't trying to feed him poison so he could take over the throne. He wanted his father to live forever. Because of that honor seed, Solomon had 1,000 options to possess the future.

You sow a seed of dishonor; your options are cut off. You sow a seed of honor, God will give you options in every area—in the political world, in the economic world, in the ministry world. You'll make stuff pregnant that you didn't even know had a womb when you sow the seed of honor. Oh, that America, oh that Africa would learn how to sow seeds of honor. Generations depend on it.

Here's your homework:

I want you to, in the next few days, find someone—physical father or mother, spiritual father or mother—to whom you can show and sow some honor.

Let me pray with you now. Please repeat after me:

Father, I repent for all acts of dishonor that I have shown and sowed in my life. Cover me by the blood of Jesus. Give me other chances to sow the seeds of honor so my generations can be blessed. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

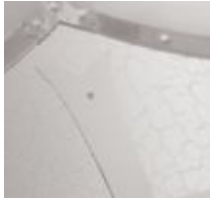
Lesson One MIRIAM, AARON& MOSES

And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. And they said, Hath the Lord indeed spoken only by Moses? Hath he not spoken also by us? And the Lord heard it.

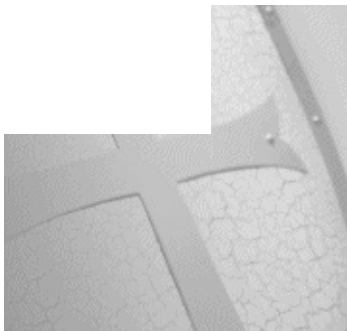
Numbers 12:1–2

Truth Principle

“He was the



prophetic gift, the deliverer for the people of God. Moses was the man.”



There are many characters in the story of Moses. His mother, Jochobed, gives birth to him at a time when the Pharaoh issued a death decree on all Hebrew boys ages two and younger. To hide him, she places baby Moses in a basket in the river.

Moses’ sister, Miriam, acts as an intercessor and watches the basket that carries him make its way to the bathing area of Pharaoh’s daughter. She was protecting Moses, as his intercessor and remained in that roll and function for over ninety years. Miriam intercedes while Pharaoh’s daughter raises Moses in Pharaoh’s house.

Jochobed, Miriam, Aaron, and Moses are the first family of Israel. Jochobed gave birth firstly to Miriam, who was the praise and worship leader of the church. She gave birth secondly to Aaron, who was the priest, the custodian of blessing in the church. And thirdly, she gave birth to Moses, who was the apostolic gift. He was the prophetic gift, the deliverer for the people of God. Moses was the man.

Our study in numbers 12:1–2 begins after the deliverance of Israel out of slavery and after Moses has been given the law.

Reread these verses. Why were Miriam and Aaron upset with Moses?

In our research here, we are not sure if this woman was Moses' first wife Zipporah,

the first and the oldest daughter of Jethro, priest of Midian. For the purpose of this study, we are making the assumption based on the research that this was another woman besides Zipporah. By this time, Moses is at least ninety years old.

A Statement of Spiritual Rights

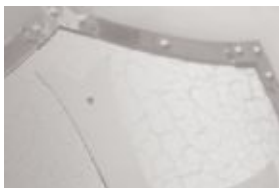
When Moses was born Miriam was thirteen years old and Aaron was seven years old. From the time they saw that Moses was a proper child, Miriam was put to watch over Moses and was appointed his chief intercessor. She watched over and interceded for him when he was put into the river. She arranged to have Jochobed feed and nurture him.

Her statement against Moses for marrying the Ethiopian woman was a statement of rights.

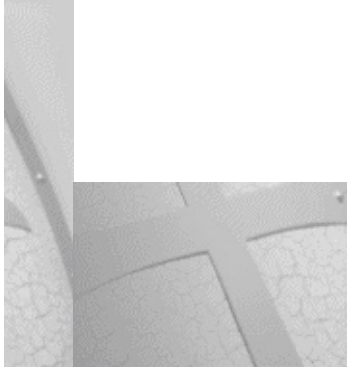
All total, Miriam invested eighty years of intercession for Moses. Forty years she prayed for Moses until he was released by the Spirit of God to go into the wilderness. Then she prays for another forty years while he's in the custodianship of Jethro.

Honor Promise

It is an honor for a



man to cease from strife: but every fool will be meddling.
Proverbs 20:3



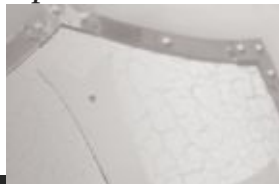
Have you ever taken spiritual risks by speaking against your leader, and felt justified because of what you had invested? Why?

Why do you think Miriam and Aaron had such a strong opinion about Moses' choice for a wife?

And the Lord Heard It

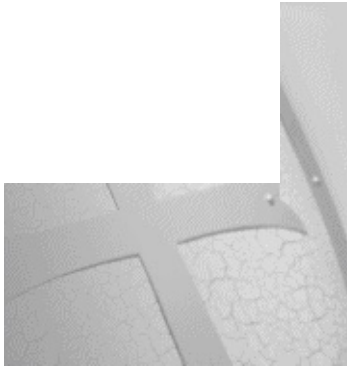
When they spoke against Moses, Miriam and Aaron were overheard by the Lord. He called them all to stand before Him, including Moses, at the door of the tabernacle. This is important because according to the Law, God could not come from behind the veil except on the Day of Atonement. However, in the case of dishonor shown against Moses, God came anyway and met them at the door. Consider the placement of Numbers twelve. In the following chapter, Israel would take the Promised Land.

Anytime you have the seed of dishonor being sown, or conduct of dishonor being sown, most of the time it precedes a tremendous spiritual breakthrough.



Truth Principle

“The seeds of dishonor can inhibit the breakthrough for which you believe.”



Now consider the recent patterns in your life. Can you identify any areas where dishonor crept up to hinder you from a breakthrough moment?

How was the dishonor confronted? Did the Lord “hear it” and fight for you?

Confronting Dishonor

If you are a senior pastor, you must deal with dishonor. Men, if an individual dishonors your wife do not overlook it. They are dishonoring you as well. These seeds of dishonor can inhibit the breakthrough for which you have believed.

Whenever the spirit of dishonor is being shown, there has to be a confrontation of that because if you let it slide, the individual showing dishonor will destroy your years of ministry. I don’t care if she’s your sister. I don’t care if she’s been praying for you for eighty years. God says “I’m drawing the line right here. I will not tolerate dishonor.”

God lets Miriam and Aaron know they violated the laws of honor. He says to them in response to their words,

Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak to him

in a dream. My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the Lord shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses? And the anger of the Lord was kindled against them; and he departed.

Numbers 12:6–9

How has correction come to you after you've sown seeds of dishonor?

Did you ever discuss the situation with your leader?

Leprosy

When the Lord departed from the door of the tabernacle, Miriam was stricken with leprosy. This is a disease of the nervous system where feeling and sensitivities are cut off. By law, it was the kind of sickness that required one to be isolated from the rest of the population. Miriam now had to be banished from the camp.

But, why leprosy? Do you have any thoughts on this?

Leprosy was God spitting in Miriam's face. If her father was there and she showed this kind of conduct, her father would have spat in her face. So Miriam, even though she disagreed with Moses marrying this woman, could have presented the situation to him in a different manner so as not to dishonor and discredit the man. And so God, literally, in the tabernacle door when Miriam walked up to Him, spat in her face.

What does this do to you, knowing the severity of God's response?

5

Miriam had to be taken outside the camp because this leprosy, this dishonor, could have been contagious. Lesser people could have caught the spirit of dishonor and inhibited the process of what God wanted to do. She had to be cured from the spirit of dishonor.

Redemption

It's so amazing that the person she dishonored was the only person that God would hear their prayer. There was no one else in the camp that could intercede on behalf of that person. We need to understand this: if a person in your ministry shows you dishonor you have the power to enslave them or you have the power to set them free. It has to do with spiritual covering.

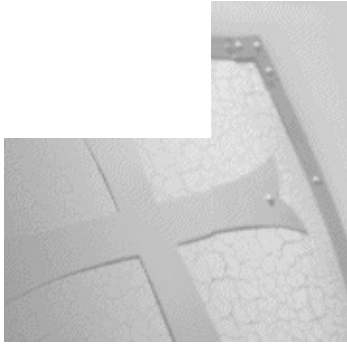
And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee. And the Lord said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? Let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again.

Numbers 12:13–14



Truth Principle

“Moses sowed a seed of honor for his sister.”



Moses did not disregard his sister. Moses did not rebuke his sister. Moses did not cut his sister off. Moses sowed a seed of honor for his sister. One translation says that he actually offered a sacrifice every evening, a sacrifice of honor for his sister. So, the first way you come against a spirit of dishonor is when you begin to sow the spirit of honor.

Systematic death occurs when dishonor is shown. An individual begins to lose spiritual sensitivity and becomes critical, cynical, and almost facetious. He starts gathering a camp

of people around him to attack you. Then, he creates stories, one upon another, and crazy people start to believe stuff that they know does not even make sense!

Have you experienced these symptoms of spiritual leprosy and systematic death?

Before you received the revelation about dishonor seeds, to what did you attribute your lack of spiritual sensitivity?

Has the situation been resolved since you have gained understanding? If so, how? If not, what is your action plan?

For many of you, this is a lot to take in about honor and dishonor, especially if

you have been on the receiving end of God's judgment for dishonor. Dedicate sufficient time to bring your situations before the Lord. Gain understanding from today's lesson and hear what the Holy Spirit wants you to do.

Conclusion

Miriam, who was an intercessor for eighty years, lived another fifteen years. So she was interceding for Moses for 95 years. Even with all her track record of intercession, Miriam was not permitted into the Promised Land.

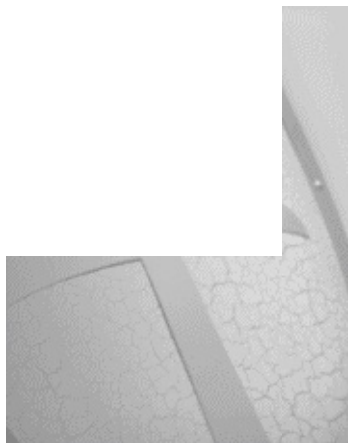


Honor Promise

Exalt her [wisdom], and she shall promote thee: she shall bring



thee to honor, when thou dost embrace her. Proverbs 4:8



Aaron was a high priest for forty years. Forty consecutive times saw the Shekinah glory of God fall. Every day he prayed the prayer, "The Lord bless you and keep you. His face shine upon you." Aaron, because of this incident of dishonor, was not allowed in the Promised Land.

Moses was not allowed in the Promised Land because of one act of dishonor. He did not honor God's word; he smote the rock when he was supposed to speak to it. Dishonor will keep you out of the promise of God.

noteS

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

True Riches ~ The Cure for Dishonor

The story of Miriam in the context of honor and dishonor is frightening. It is a familiar account that takes on quite a personal meaning when one considers any dishonor he has shown in his life. In review, though, there is one important question to consider. Was leprosy and the necessary isolation from the camp the judgment or the cure?

Both—It was the judgment because there needed to be a true penalty for Miriam's action. It was the cure because a nation saw God's esteem for Moses and his wrath at Moses being dishonored.

Lesson Two Lucifer

Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee...Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

Ezekiel 28:15, 17

How thou art fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Isaiah 14:12–15

The principle behind the Lucifer example is this: there are people in the church who will believe the person showing dishonor more than they will believe the creator of the ministry. God was the creator of the ministry, yet one-third of the angels believed Lucifer, the one showing dishonor.

Healing from Division and Church Splits

As a church leader, have you experienced a member who has shown severe

dishonor by attempts to turn the congregation against you? How did you handle it?

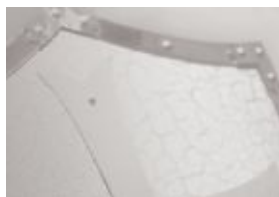
How does one person's rebellion affect the cohesion of the entire congregation?

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How does a ministry "pick up the pieces" and move on to achieve God's best?

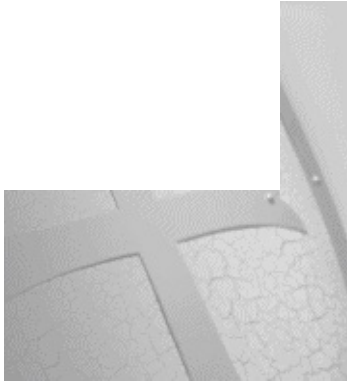
What are the lessons you can learn from this Lucifer example?

Truth Principle
"If you have people



leaving the church

because of dishonor, don't be discouraged. They left God."



Judge Your Motives

In an example like this, one of the easiest things for you to do might be pointing the finger out at situations you have either seen or experienced firsthand. But let's dig deeper. Pray this prayer, or something like it.

Holy Spirit,

I am about to address any tendencies in my heart that are like Lucifer before his fall from glory. Come, and help me see clearly in three areas—sin, righteousness, and judgment. I am willing to acknowledge the truth, with your help. Heal this part of me, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

[See John 16:8–11]

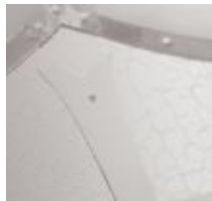
Ask yourself these questions, and take time to search your heart as you answer.

What are my ministry ambitions?

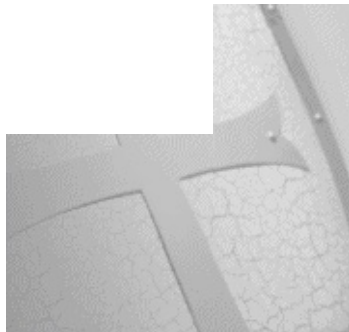
Am I fulfilling any of these goals in my local church?



Honor Promise
And he said unto



them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Luke 10:18



What are my motives for serving in the areas where I serve in my local church? [Be honest.]

If any of these motives are not pure, then why am I still serving in these areas?

What are my three strongest gifts?

1.

2.

3.

Do I exhibit harmful pride in these areas of giftedness?

Do I want to be recognized by a position for people to know who I am?

Am I now or have I been the instrument of an insurrection? Am I now leading or have I by my words planted suggestion in the hearts of my fellow church members that cause them to dishonor our leaders?

How will I deliberately be an instrument of unity in my local church?

Closing Prayer Time

Commit your answers to the Lord, and spend time in worship. Confess Scriptures over your heart about purity without condemnation. The list below is a good place to start.

Condemnation

John 3:17; Romans 8:1–2, 9–10

Purity

II Corinthians 6:3–10; Philippians 4:8; I Timothy 5:22; Titus 1:15–16; James 3:17–18

Love

I John 3:18–21

noteS

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Lesson Three

hAm, Shem, JAPheth & noAh

These are the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread. And Noah began to be a husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent.

Genesis 9:19–21

Of these boys the whole earth was populated. The Bible says that Noah began to be a husbandman. He planted a vineyard, drank the wine, became inebriated, and he was uncovered within his tent.

Anytime you have an individual who goes away from their corporate mandate and anointing, they become inebriated on the byproduct of their gift. So Noah was told to dominate the whole earth, but he builds a vineyard and becomes intoxicated with the sideline ministry.

Briefly describe a time when you “believed your own press” and were drunk by your own gifting.

That Noah became uncovered in his tent refers to one losing their covering in the church. He was naked and open in the church without a spiritual authority covering him. Has this ever happened to you?

Bad Example

And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without.

Genesis 9:22

When Ham saw his father uncovered, it opened an avenue for him to be uncovered. If your father can do something and get away with it, you tend to feel

like you can do the same thing and get away with it. That is why it is important for fathers to act right and behave right because you are teaching your sons. If you want to know what a father is doing, watch what their sons are doing and that gives you an idea of what their father is.

We do not know what Ham did when he told his brothers about Noah's nakedness. The implication in other translations is that Ham mocked his father or spoke about his father's nakedness and his father being uncovered in a very cynical and facetious way. In doing this Ham sowed a dishonor seed.

Right Response

And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness.

Genesis 9:23

Shem and Japheth came in backward with their covering for Noah. Whenever you have a father that uncovers himself and the son speaks badly about that covering, the son opens the door to the curse his father has initiated. So the son, then, has to take his gifting and his anointing and back up now and provide a covering for his father so that he saves his father and he saves himself.

Identify a time when you properly covered your father.

What was the reward from God for your action?

Cursed be Canaan

And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him. And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.

Genesis 9:24–25

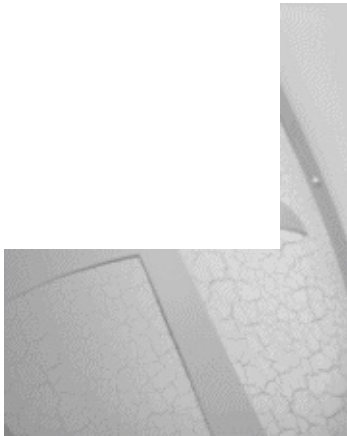


Honor Promise

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long



upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. Exodus 20:12



Even though Ham was wrong, Noah, who was the king of the world at that time, was still anointed even though he made this mistake. When Noah wakes up and finds out that his son sowed the seed of dishonor, Noah did not curse Ham. He cursed Ham's lineage.

The phrase “a servant of servants” means “you are going to be a slave.” A servant works for wages; a slave works for nothing. A slave works harder than a servant, and yet gets no remunerations. You do not get paid for your labor.

Because of the seed of dishonor, the next generation will work very very hard and they will not get paid. The ministry will not develop; it will not

develop a generational seed. Noah says of Canaan that he shall be a servant.

Blessed be Shem, Enlarged be Japheth

And he said, Blessed be the Lord God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant. God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant

Genesis 9:26–27

Of the others that showed honor, Noah said they would be enlarged because they provided their gift and anointing to cover the nakedness of their father. Their tents will be enlarged. Those who show dishonor will be their slaves.

People who show honor always grow and are enlarged. People who sow dishonor become a slave to the system.

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noteS

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True Riches ~ A Candidate for Honor

“If you’re going to show an elder double honor, the person does not become an elder by the laying on of hands automatically. The person becomes an elder by serving consecutively and consistently over a period of time. And by their service, that individual is then a candidate for honor. “

Tudor Bismark

When a person is shown or given double honor as an elder, that person will have earned that status, and does not become an elder simply by “the laying on of hands,” or automatically due to their age. The person becomes an elder by serving consecutively and consistently over a period of time. Therefore, it is by their service rendered, that they then qualify as a candidate for double honor.

Lesson Four JABEZ

And Jabez was more honourable than his brethren: and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bare him with sorrow. And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh that you wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested.

I Chronicles 4:9–10

Jabez’s brothers were honorable, but Jabez was more honorable. The Scripture tells us why.

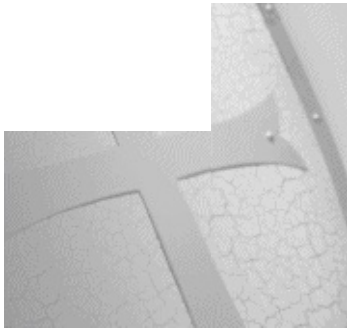
His name means “born in sorrow” or “caused me pain.” His mother named him, but Jabez did not ever dishonor or hate his mother. Instead he showed honor to his mother for being a life source. And the Scripture says he prayed to God.

We talked in an earlier session about honoring parents, but let’s briefly revisit this. In the context of Jabez, have you held resentment or bitterness toward your mother (or father) for the circumstances of your earliest existence?



Truth Principle

“Jabez showed honor where others may not have.”



Are you willing to reverse the curse of dishonor and begin sowing honor seeds? How will you begin?

Here is Jabez born in a slum, didn't know who his father was, [he] was so messed up. Even though he had the legitimate cause to be bitter and angry and renounce and denounce his mother, he showed more honor than those that should have showed honor.

He wasn't more honorable because he prayed the prayer. Neither was he the first person to pray that kind of prayer. He wasn't more honorable because he had this act of intercession. He was more honorable because he showed honor where others may not have.

The Bible says, “and God granted him that which he requested.” Well, why would He grant that? God granted him what he requested because Jabez learned how to sow the seed of honor.

You can be a very powerful person. You can be very anointed. Watch the entrapment of the devil. If you sow a dishonor seed, with all of that anointing, you cancel your ministry. You cancel it because dishonor breaks the generations. Honor enlarges your coast.

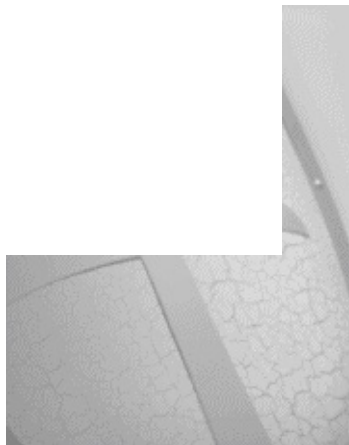


Honor Promise

For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh



findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Luke 11:10



Look at Jesus as our example. On the cross, while He was dying, He prayed the prayer, “Forgive them.” In other words, “I [Jesus] am showing honor to them irrespective of what they’ve done to me.” He was purchasing His generations.

You may have prayed this prayer before, but in light of this study on honor pray it one more time. This time, apply it line by line to your life.

Consider the honor concepts you learned in this lesson. Put your name in the first and last blanks.

And _____ called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh that thou wouldst bless me indeed

And enlarge my coast

[illegible]

Lesson Five ABSALOM

Then said Absalom to Ahithophel, Give counsel among you what we shall do. And Ahithophel said unto Absalom, Go in unto thy father's concubines, which he hath left to keep the house; and all Israel shall hear that thou art abhorred of thy father: then shall the hands of all that are with thee be strong.

II Samuel 16:20–21

This is one of the most tragic biblical stories. It is one of the most tragic stories of all of life. Here is a man, Absalom, who had everything going for him. He probably was the heir for David's kingdom. The Bible said he was extremely good looking. In other words, he was very desirable to look at. He had that going for him.

The Scripture says—and this is very important—that his hair was so thick and so massive. Hair in the Scripture speaks of covering. In other words, he had the ability to grow massive covering. His hair grew over his shoulders. The government shall be upon his shoulders. So, he had the ability to cover governmental issues.

Once a year he would cut his hair in the gateway where elders gathered and put his hair on a scale. The Bible tells us how heavy that covering was, and in one year he could grow it back again. What a gifted young man!

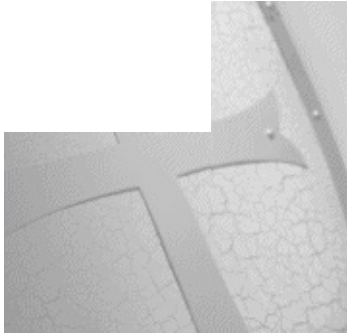
As a church leader or senior pastor, how do you relate to extremely gifted young people?



Honor Promise
Be not deceived:



evil communications corrupt good manners. I Corinthians 15:33



And he was ensnared when a family issue broke out. His stepbrother abused his sister—same father and mother, stepbrothers [had the] same father [and] different mothers— physically raped his sister Tamar. Absalom grieved in his heart and began to connive. He was going to take care of his brother Amnon. The Bible says he does.

What is your pattern of response to injustice? Are you more like David—you get angry but do not act? Or, are you like Absalom—you plot to exact revenge?

Here is the counsel of Ahithophel. “Get all your father’s concubines. We’ll set up a tent above the roof and you sexually have intercourse with them in front of everybody.” This is the height of dishonor. Ahithophel gave further counsel and offered to recruit an army to pursue David at night (II Samuel 17:1–4).

Consider the people in your life who have your ear and can influence your decision making process. Generally speaking, is their counsel godly or ungodly? And what is the result whenever you follow their counsel?

Absalom dishonored his father in the most degrading way. Perhaps if he tried to overthrow his father there could have been some forgiveness. But doing this with what were his father's personal possessions—those that were the incubators for his father's seed—he abhorred his father. When he did this that is where he crossed the line. He crossed a line and lost absolutely everything.

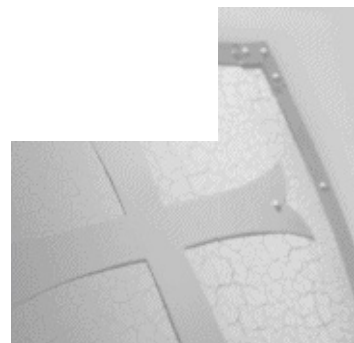
In the lesson on Contingency Honor, we learned that God in no way tolerates the dishonor of a life source.



Truth Principle



“Sow a seed of dishonor and your options are cut off.”



At this part of Absalom's story be careful not to compare your worst act of dishonor toward your parents against his horrible deed. Instead try looking at

this part of the story and judging your own heart.

- Have you ever been so angry with a person that you contemplated an act of dishonor similar to what Absalom committed against David?
- Did you act on this anger?
- Now consider your spiritual leader (pastor, bishop, etc.). Have you ever been as angry with him/her as Absalom was with David?
- Did you act on your anger?
- How far did you go in your thoughts?
- Was the end result similar to Absalom's end?

Keep reading.

Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and reared up for himself a pillar, which is in the king's dale: for he said, I have no son to keep my name in remembrance: and he called the pillar after his own name: and it is called unto this day, Absalom's place.

II Samuel 18:18

Absalom had sexual intercourse with all his father's concubines, and yet none of them got pregnant. The seed of dishonor can't make the generations pregnant. It is impossible.

Absalom named the stone he raised up after himself. When you raise up a building after your name, someone else will come and tear up that building and a few years from now no one will even know you were the pastor of that church.

But when you sow the seed of honor, your legacy is great through the generations. Look at Solomon. He had 700 wives and 300 concubines. He showed his father David honor, so much so that when David was sick and near death, he wanted to protect the life seed. A gentile virgin girl was brought in to keep his father warm. Solomon honored the life seed. He tried to keep his father warm, tried to keep him alive as long as possible. He was not trying to feed him poison so he could take over the throne. He wanted his father to live forever. Because of that honor seed, Solomon had 1,000 options in his wives and concubines to possess the future.

Closing Prayer Time

Spend time meditating on the content of this lesson and what you learned about your own heart. Ask the Holy Spirit to work His truth in you about the spirit of Absalom and extreme dishonor.

noteS

[illegible]

the spirit of honor

True Riches ~ Honor the Ruler of Your People

Thou shalt not revile the gods, nor curse the ruler of thy people.

Exodus 22:28

Notice the word “gods,” small “g”. In other words, if you don’t understand ranks and protocols... the Bible says in Jude that Michael would not pass a railing accusation against Lucifer. If we even dishonor those ranks, we reap the harvest dishonor brings.

For example, inexperienced intercessors should not “bind” the Demonic Prince of the area when they are not anointed to do so. In a certain church I know of, the intercessors were very inexperienced. While their pastor was out of town, a prayer meeting was conducted. During the prayer meeting, they put a chair on the platform, and they said, “We summon Lucifer into this judgment seat.” This act unleashed all kinds of hell that they are still struggling from today.

The Bible says, “Thou shalt not revile the gods.” In other words, you have to show honor to whom honor is due. If you do not have an anointing to deal with certain stuff in the spirit, let it be.

And you are not to curse the ruler of your people. Everyone is entitled to an opinion. Everybody is entitled to his or her viewpoint, but no one is authorized to rebuke or curse their ruler. No one is authorized to do that. It breeds dishonor. So you bless your leaders.

Thou shalt not curse the deaf, nor put a stumblingblock before the blind, but shall fear thy God: I am the Lord.

Leviticus 19:14

Week Three: How to Build Honor

Please watch DVD #3 on *How to Build Honor* or listen to the audio CD before beginning the daily sessions.

Introduction

This week's subject is "How to Build Honor." In lesson four of last week's session we discussed Jabez. Jabez is an example of how to sow honor and build honor on an individual level. It was not that his prayer was unique or extraordinary. He set himself apart by how he honored his mother.

Often, you can trace unanswered prayer back to a violation of the honor principle. Or, there are young lions—young gifts in the body of Christ—that are immature, sometimes untrained, and without exposure to spiritual protocols, that causes them to say things against dignitaries. They will watch a TBN program and dishonor Benny Hinn, or speak badly about Oral Roberts, or criticize a Joel Osteen without understanding that they are actually sowing a seed of dishonor.

Sometimes if our prayer is not answered we have to find out why, and most times it's an honor problem. So Proverbs 3:13–16 says,

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver and the gain thereof than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her. Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour.

Audio Summary

We want to welcome you to this teaching on the subject of honor and dishonor. We want to thank you for participating in this very important series. I've not heard in my lifetime consecutive teachings on the subject of honor, and in our research in presenting the subject of sowing the seeds of honor we've discovered that a lot of the problems we have in the body of Christ and in ministry around the world is because of individuals who don't know how to sow honor. Or, there's been tremendous dishonor that's been shown.

In this particular teaching, we're going to be talking briefly on the subject "How to Build Honor." In our first teaching we taught primarily from the book of Romans, chapter thirteen, verse seven that it's important we show honor to whom honor is due. It's important that we understand that tribute must be given to whom tribute is due, that we must give respect to whom respect is due, and so on. We looked at the premise in which honor is built.

In the second teaching we talked about the spirit of honor and how that is developed. We looked at various character cases in the Scripture of individuals that sowed honor and others that sowed dishonor, and the consequences and benefits of honor and dishonor.

So, in this teaching we are going to look at, briefly, the subject "How to Build Honor." Sometimes we have ministries or even leaders that have disqualified themselves, and in so doing, it seems like their ministry is crippled. They're in a Lodebar, unable to progress and develop, but there's a way in which that crippling effect can be turned.

I want to start with a story a friend of mine told me a few years ago, and that's Archbishop Duncan Williams from Accra, Ghana. He has a tremendous ministry around the world. His home church is Action Church or Tabernacle in the city of Accra in Ghana. Archbishop Duncan Williams is one of the late Arch Bishop Benson Idahosa's sons. He was telling me over a meal [and] a time of fellowship of one time in his life when their ministry wasn't growing and their ministry was not developing. It concerned him because he recognized that there were spiritual forces, you know, that were in play that were inhibiting the progress of his ministry.

He consulted a prayer father in Ghana, a man that was noted for days and days at a time of intercession. He went to this prayer father with an offering and said, "Please can you pray and ask the Lord why our ministry is in famine and why we are experiencing drought?" The man said, "I'll pray" and he prayed for 72 hours consecutively. After three days Archbishop went back to see this prayer father and he said to him, "You have spoken against your spiritual father, Arch Bishop Benson Idahosa. You need to prepare a gift, take it to Benin City in Nigeria, and ask the Bishop to forgive you, repent, and then let him pray a prayer of blessing on your life, and your ministry will flourish.

Bishop Duncan Williams said he prepared an offering [and] flew to Benin City. When he came to the Bishop's living quarters—his palace—he said that from the

gate he went on his knees and started crawling towards the door in absolute contrition with his gift. The Archbishop was waiting for him and said, “Son, I’ve been waiting for you.” He said the Archbishop prayed a prayer and said, “I release you. I release you from the dishonor you have sowed.” And he [Archbishop Duncan Williams] said from that point, his ministry began to flourish.

Unfortunately, there are many many young lions, young gifts in the body of Christ that are immature, sometimes untrained, that don’t have exposure to spiritual protocols, and as a direct result will say things against dignitaries—will watch a TBN program and dishonor a Benny Hinn, or speak bad about an Oral Roberts, or criticize a Joel Osteen without understanding that they are actually sowing a seed of dishonor. We want to show you how you can actually build honor.

I want to start by reading Proverbs 3:13. The subject is “How to Build Honor.” We discussed Jabez in our last session, where the Scripture says that Jabez was more honorable than his brethren simply because despite the fact he was disadvantaged, and despite the fact that he had so many struggles in his early years, he kept his spirit pure and he would not in any way defame, criticize, or speak ill of his mother. That’s what made him more honorable than his brethren. So that he had his prayer request that seemed to be colossal, and somewhat unreasonable in terms of its volume, the Bible says God answered his prayer. When you look at the prayer of Jabez, I think almost every person that desires to do great things and wants to be elevated prays the same kind of prayer. Sometimes if our prayer is not answered we have to find out why, and most times it’s an honor problem. So Proverbs 3:13 says,

¹³ Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.

¹⁴ For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.

¹⁵ She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

¹⁶ Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour.

Pray for the Spirit of Wisdom

So, the first thing that you have to pray for, the first thing you have to become, the first thing you have to walk in in building honor is in the spirit of wisdom. Wisdom is the principal thing; it is biblical, it is scriptural to pray for wisdom. James 1:4 says that we should not think it strange when you have fiery trials (I Peter 4:12) because,

³ *Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.*

⁴ *But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.*

⁵ *If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.*

It is important that we pray for wisdom. The first step in building honor and developing honor is growing in wisdom. If we look at John the Baptist and Jesus the Christ, both of them, the Scripture says, grew in different ways. But when you look at Jesus, Jesus grew in wisdom and grace. He increased in wisdom. So, the first step to building honor is developing wisdom. Proverbs 4:7 says,

⁷ *Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.*

⁸ *Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.*

So every person, no matter how young you are, no matter how old you are, it is absolutely necessary and absolutely vital that literally on a daily basis that you pray for wisdom. There should not be a day that goes by in your life, especially if you are leading people—whether you are in government, whether you are the owner of a company that employs people, especially if you are a church leader, if you are a father, a husband, in any area of leadership—your first commitment and commandment is to pray for wisdom because wisdom will bring you honor. The Scripture says here if you will exalt wisdom, and promote wisdom, if you will stand towards wisdom, wisdom will bring you to honor. The first way you build honor is by showing wisdom.

A lot of decisions that are made are sometimes made implausibly. A lot of decisions that are made, a lot of positions that are taken are taken with a lack of wisdom. Sometimes individuals want to use a business sense or use an understanding of counselors that are using rationale and maybe logic but are not walking in the spirit of wisdom. You have to pray for wisdom. One of the things

that wisdom will instruct you in is that wisdom will never allow you to tear another person down because that's a total lack of wisdom; because if you tear any person down, you could be tearing your future. The person sitting next to you could be your future employer, literally. So the first thing is wisdom. Everybody say, "Wisdom."

Let me just say this concerning building honor and working in the spirit of wisdom. Proverbs 8:14, I want to throw this in:

¹⁴ Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength.

¹⁵ By me kings reign, and princes decree justice.

¹⁶ By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth.

¹⁷ I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.

Those that seek me early shall find me. And here's the guarantee.

¹⁸ Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness. .

So every woman, every man, every boy, and every girl—you have to pray for wisdom. One of the things we do at home [is] every morning when I'm at home and I drive the kids to school—and tonight will be no exception being away from home if I have an opportunity to phone home—I pray for the boys. The first thing and the last thing we pray for is wisdom. It is compulsory for those kids to pray for wisdom every single day.

I remember as a boy, at the age of twelve, I was extremely sickly most of my life. At six months old I was dying of an asthma attack and my dad and my mom prayed in that intensive care room. Apparently I was under some sort of oxygen tent, and my dad prayed a prayer. He said to God, "If you'll save this boy, I'll give him to you. You can do anything you want with him." Apparently it was a wonderful prayer. So I am what I am because of what my father did to me.

But, most of my life I was extremely sickly—all kinds of sicknesses, all kinds of problems, various surgeries, just stuff that was unexplainable. You know, I had an annual medical three weeks ago—this is the month of June 2008—the doctor that was doing an ultrasound said to me, "Bishop, I can see here that when you were much younger, you had a very severe attack on your bladder because your bladder has a massive scar." Then he said to me, "A person's physical body has a track record. You have a map that tells your entire history."

I also had problems with my kidney. He told me that my right kidney has a cyst on it...all these attacks I had as a boy, and struggled in school, unreasonable stuff happening to me. At the age of twelve I had a visitation from the Lord, which was a remarkable visitation. The Lord appeared to me and actually healed me, and in that same season my mom, who is a very strong influence in my life, said to me as a twelve-year-old boy, “Tudor, ask God to give you wisdom. You need God to give you wisdom. I pray for you, but you ask God to give you wisdom.” She began to explain what wisdom was, and from the age of twelve, almost every day in my life I ask God to give me wisdom. And wisdom will bring you honor.

Wisdom will bring you honor where people who don’t know you will honor you. And you will have the spirit to honor people. You will show respect for weak people. You will show respect for strong people. You will show respect to poor people. You will show honor and respect for wealthy people. You will know how to come in before great people, yet you’ll be very gentle with those that are maimed and scarred and hurting. Anytime you see a person that’s arrogant, belligerent—any time you see that kind of a spirit where they have no time for the weak and the lowly—they don’t have wisdom because they don’t know how to show honor.

In our ministry we are very privileged to preach on all kinds of levels. You know, in some of the most significant ministries around the world, you get to see behind closed doors [the] up and coming guys who have high aspirations for big platforms and big ministry and big money and big limousines and big hotels and big spending and big bling. And you look at the attitude and can tell straightaway, this one doesn’t have wisdom because of the way they treat staff members, the way they treat people even in the altar, the way they treat seekers. Jesus was the epitomization of wisdom. He honored the prostitute. He honored little children; he said, “Suffer the little children to come unto me.” He could mix it with those in the temple because He was the spirit of wisdom. And because of that, Jesus knew how to show honor. Jesus showed honor in such a remarkable way [that] he would not speak a word when Caiaphas spoke to him. He would not dishonor the office of the high priest. He would not dishonor Pontius Pilate. He would not dishonor a little boy’s lunch. He wouldn’t dishonor a Mary that criticized Him and said, “If you’d been here our brother would not have died.” He was compassionate. He was loving because he walked in the spirit of wisdom. Wisdom will bring you honor. Everyone say, “Give me wisdom.”

It is important that every leader, at least once a year, spends pulpit time teaching on the subject of wisdom. You can have people that are very knowledgeable, but they don't have wisdom. Everybody say, "Give me wisdom."

Humility

The second way you build honor is humility. Proverbs 15:33 says,

³³The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

I've got a teaching on humility here, but there is genuine humility and there is false humility. You usually can tell the difference between the two. Generally, humility in sum total is the capacity of a person's spirit to submit itself to the power of God. That's the sum total of humility—your spirit, your gifting as it is submitted to God. I know a very very strong man that would maybe bench press 450 pounds [or] 500 pounds, and that's very strong. His strength is actually shown in his gentleness when he's holding a baby because he knows that with his sheer strength he could hurt that fragile being. So a person's strength, then, is seen in their gentleness. A person's power must be seen in their humility. Let's go to Numbers 12:3. In lesson two we discussed how Miriam and Aaron attacked Moses and criticized him in his marriage to an Ethiopian woman. In their criticism they dishonored the man Moses. But look what God authorized Moses to put in the Scripture after Aaron and Miriam said that "God doesn't speak by Moses alone." Verse 3:

³(Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)

That's a very interesting Scripture because Moses wrote that about himself. I don't think—because if you look at the Scripture [and] the way it's written, it's put in brackets—I don't think Moses was going to add that verse in there. I don't think he was going to put that in there. But the Holy Spirit was insistent that he put that verse in there so that individuals that are attacked by lesser individuals, who are dishonored by family members, who are dishonored by board members, who are dishonored by church leaders... The main thing to keep your integrity and your anointing intact is to walk in the spirit of humility. Because if you walk in any spirit other than humility you give legitimacy to the individuals that attacked you and God cannot fight on your behalf. You have to fight now because you've allowed a different spirit to stand. So the second way one builds

honor is by walking humbly before the Lord, walking humbly before the individuals that are around you.

Some of the things we teach in our mentoring class are how to walk in the spirit of humility. Many of you are going to be rising up in public ministry. You are going to be serving multitudes. You are going to be in awe by the gift of God in your life— maybe your ability to speak well, maybe the miracles God is releasing through your life, maybe the kinds of millions of dollars you are being able to raise by the gift that God has placed in you. Remember this: when God has raised you in those levels, you must always, always be low maintenance. Low maintenance individuals can be trusted. You don't need chopped pineapples at room temperature and white carnations in your room and a pink limousine and a hundred thousand armor bearers and an adjutant and a PA and a secretary general and a liaison and they all travel with you. You don't need that. Walk humbly before the Lord. Walk humbly before the Lord. I understand security issues. I understand all of those issues, but it must never come at the pride price. Walk humbly before the Lord.

Jesus was so humble that when they were trying to identify Him in the garden, Judas had to come and identify Him because the Roman soldiers did not identify Him by His bling. There's nothing wrong with that—or by His Armani suit and there's nothing wrong with that because He wore a seamless coat—but He was just one of everybody. So the second way you build honor is humility.

Walking in the Spirit of Integrity and Being Upright in Conduct

The third way you build honor is by walking in the spirit of integrity and being upright in conduct. Proverbs 26:1—the spirit of integrity:

As snow in summer, as rain in harvest, so honour is not seemly for a fool.

In other words, foolishness and honor don't go together. The word *foolishness* there has to do with one's inability to walk in the spirit of integrity. In other words, wise individuals know how to conduct themselves.

We were on a flight some time ago, and there was a preacher on the flight that was extremely disrespectful to the air hostess—extremely disrespectful. You know, at some point, a stewardess or somebody serving on a plane, you know, is not going to have a 100% record where they don't spill something on somebody at some point. It's going to happen, and sometimes an angel can arrange for them

to drop something on you just to show you what's really in your heart. And this individual started throwing all their toys out of the cart—Mercedes Benz, Bentley, you know, just throwing toys, expensive ring—just screaming at the air hostess. Screaming at the air hostess—there's no integrity in that. That's very bad conduct. So the third way you build honor is by upright conduct. Everywhere you go your conduct must be upright. You must be a man and a woman of integrity.

If you are going to be speaking at certain meetings, and they want you there at 7PM don't show up at 9PM. You'll show up at 9PM and want to start praise and worship all over again. People have been singing for two hours, and now you want to get everybody all worked up and jerked up all over again so that you can have a platform to preach in. That's not good conduct. At the same time, if you have a guest speaker don't have all that going on and keep them waiting there for two hours. Everybody and their pet snake don't have to do a prophetic dance. Good conduct. Good conduct.

Good conduct must be shown in the way we handle our money, in the way we raise money. And it doesn't have to be manipulation. It doesn't breed honor. You don't need a thousand dollar line, and a five hundred dollar prophecy, and a hundred dollar prophecy, and a prophecy in the mail. We need good conduct. We need good conduct. If you've got a touch screen TV, touch the screen here and I'll download a blessing. We need good conduct. We don't need to be selling holy water from our tap and pieces of cloth from Grandma Clampett's closet, and grains of sand from Israel. We don't need to be playing those games. That's not good conduct. That doesn't breed honor. It doesn't show honor. T-shirts and prayer shawls and all of that stuff. That doesn't show honor. Let the gift make room for itself.

Serving

The fourth way you produce honor or build honor—Proverbs 27:17,

¹⁷ Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.

¹⁸Whoso keepeth the fig tree shall eat the fruit thereof: so he that waiteth on his master shall be honoured.

So, the way you build honor is serving. Serving produces honor. Serving produces honor. Elisha, if you can serve Elijah you can reap the seeds of honor.

Joshua, if you can serve Moses you get the benefits of honor. David, if you can serve Saul you get the benefits that honor has produced. The Scripture says ‘iron sharpens iron.’ In other words, metals that are compatible to each other complement each other when they work together and they function together. It creates a sense of balance. In other words, if you are a stronger metal to a lesser metal, you have to understand the way those function so you don’t destroy somebody that’s of a lesser gift. But where you elevate them to where you can sharpen them and not destroy them.

He then also says that “an individual that keeps the fig tree.” In other words, if you understand what produces fruit in your life and you protect the fruit bearing agencies of your life by honoring the fruit bearing agencies you will reap the benefit of what you have nurtured. Most of all, if you will serve somebody—if you will serve your apostolic father, your prophetic gift, if you will serve in the area of ministry—then the Bible says you shall be honored. We’ve got fellows serving for six weeks and want to start a church. What’s the matter with this? What’s the matter with this?

I want to encourage leaders to create serving opportunities for up and coming ministry gifts, but at the same time every pastor needs an exit strategy in your church. An exit strategy means that if you have a ministry that’s being developed, there needs to be ground rules. Say, “If you want to start a church, this is the way you start your church.” Because if you don’t have some sort of exit strategy, the young lions who may not serve adequately will split the church, will attempt to split the church, tear up the ministry, put a curse on their lives, and like Archbishop Duncan Williams you have to find your bishop and bring an offering. We have to create ministry service opportunities.

Obedience and Submission

The fifth way you build honor—I Peter 3:6,

⁶ *Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.*

⁷ *Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.*

So he’s saying here that Sara obeyed Abraham. She honored Abraham. Likewise

husbands honor your wives. So seed number five to how you build honor is submission and obedience. In I Samuel 15, Saul offers the sacrifice and Samuel says to him “obedience is better than sacrifice.” You have sacrifice, you have obedience, and then you have submission. Watch me carefully. Obedience is better than sacrifice, but submission is better than obedience. For example, I can say to Jeremy, “Go and fetch me a glass of water.” He may obey me, but he may not be submitted to me. He may fetch me a glass of water in obedience, but he might have disregard and hate in his heart for me. So obedience is better than sacrifice, but submission is better than obedience. Sara obeyed, but she also submitted. So, the way you build honor is by submission and obedience. Mary said to the servants in John 2, “Whatever he tells you to do, do it” because submission becomes the breeding ground for the miraculous. Submission is the breeding ground for the supernatural. If you submit to the Lord, miracles take place.

Observing Protocols and the Law

The sixth way to build honor—I Peter 2:16–19,

¹⁷*Honour all men. Love the brother hood. Fear God. Honour the king.*

So the sixth way to build honor is by observing protocols and the law. “Honour all men.” That means you have to understand where the gifts of men that are in men are placed in society, placed in government, placed especially in our world in ministry. When we know where men’s gifts are, we show honor to those gifts. That’s observing protocols. Then he says, “Honour the king.” That’s honoring the laws of the land. When you begin to honor and show protocols, then the Scripture says honor will be given to you. So any person that doesn’t honor all men cannot reap the benefits of honor. You can’t.

We were preaching for Bishop Lewis in Montgomery, Alabama a couple of years ago. The year before that there was a young man that he invited to minister. I don’t even know his name. I wouldn’t mention it if I did. Bishop Lewis had this young man preach [and] gave him a wonderful opportunity. He preached good, I guess. You know when you’re at conferences and raising offerings, it’s all busy and the counting staff can’t do all the offerings together. Generally, when we’re at conferences, sometimes the conference host will say ‘we’ll send it to your office.’ I’m fine with that. This young man, after he preached said, “I want my offering.” Just like that. He said, “I want my offering.” And Bishop said, ‘Well, it’s conference. It’s midnight, you preached all night, and our conference staff

are busy. They can't count your offering now.' He said, "I'm not leaving here without my offering. I want my offering, and I want it now." [It was] just a total lack of protocol. [He] didn't understand and observe those kinds of gifts. It's totally unnecessary. And so because he showed dishonor, he just closed a door. What's going to happen now is that all the individuals that Bishop Lewis has influence with and speaks to will say, "don't have that fellow come and preach for you because he has shown absolute dishonor."

So when the Bible says honor all men, you have to honor gifts where they are. You have to respect people. You have to understand how systems work. Not all systems are the same. Not all camps think the same. Not all cultures and ethnicities are the same. So you have to show honor for each culture and each people and respect those cultures and those people, the way they do things and the way they function. If you see them in error, you have to teach them in humility so that you save their lives and bless them for the future. Everyone say, "Build honor."

Giving

The seventh way you build honor—Proverbs 3:9,

⁹Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:

The way you build honor is by giving—sowing a seed. It could be a financial seed, a material seed where you give to someone of higher rank. Or, you give to someone of lesser rank. Giving builds honor. [It] always does. Giving builds honor. That gift will make room for you and it comes back in the harvest of honor. Everyone say, "Giving." It's important that we understand where to give and how to give. Individuals who don't know where to give and how to give never get the seeds of honor.

Protecting Your Leader

The eighth way to build honor—Esther 6:1–3

¹ *On that night could not the king sleep, and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king.*

² *And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two*

of the king's chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who sought to lay hand on king Ahasuerus. ³ And the king said, What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this? Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, There is nothing done for him.

The Bible says in verse one there was a night that the king could not sleep, and so he asked them to bring the records and chronicles of the nation. Somebody came to read what was written and it was told Mordecai had actually thwarted an assassination attempt on the king. And so the king says in verse three, "What honour and dignity was done for this man for coming against this assassination attempt on my life?" And they said, "Well, he was not honored."

Here's the principle: protecting your leader builds honor. Protecting your leader builds honor. We need the kinds of ministry gifts—younger ministry gifts [and] older ministry gifts—around us that know how to protect the leader. Here's a principle I want to mention to you. Many times the reason people don't know how to protect their leader is because they've never been taught how. My recommendation is that at least once a year, you teach a lesson on how to protect leadership.

When I got home in the month of June from one of our trips, our office block—it's an entire block where our ministry sits on—somebody had messed with the transformer and we had no electricity for almost three weeks. Fifteen companies were affected, and because of the economic difficulties in Zimbabwe the electricity commission who provides electricity said they could not replace the transformer because they didn't have the money. So, we commissioned some of our leaders to possibly raise awareness with the other companies to put money together and buy a transformer. They were working way too slow. We were backlogged with work [and] no emails coming through. We have a school; a whole ministry to function, so we put the money together and we bought the transformer and put the transformer in there and hooked up the whole area with electricity. Of course, all kinds of stuff began to develop from that. We were trying to get some of the money back, and because of inflation, because of problems and all of that, we just said to go ahead and get it done and we did.

In the middle of all of that—putting the money together and all of the struggles there and with all of the problems that we were facing—some of the men and women that were serving around us didn't understand how to cover the leader. So I said to them, "Look guys, in the last three years we have a track record of

demonic attacks against our ministry. It first starts with our power going out”—because in the last three years eight to ten weeks before our annual conference somebody messes with the power. We have no power. Here’s the demonic cycle: the power goes out, then there’s going to be motor car accidents, then there’s sicknesses, then there’s deaths. That’s something that we’ve seen year after year. So [to] all the intercessors—you have to know how to protect the leaders.

We called some of the intercessors. I said, “You better start pushing.” Well, a few days later, our son TJ was driving ChiChi’s car with Bernstein and he overturned. He hit a pothole, the car jumped into oncoming traffic, and he had to swerve. He had no experience. He had to swerve and overturned and a pole stopped those kids from rolling more. The seat belts saved them.

So I called the intercessors in again. I said, “Guys I’m telling you. You need to pray around leaders. You need to learn how to protect leaders. There is an attempt to hurt us and destroy us.” Your responsibility as a church leader is to teach your people how to become a defense around you because many people don’t know how.

And so, this is Brian Holmes’ church. He needs to spend some time with key leaders, family leaders, and key church leaders. You’re not just an elder there to fill a seat. You’re there as a first line of defense. You need to teach people how to protect the king from an assassination attempt. You need to raise up intercessors that can pray for your kids, not seasonally, everyday.

When I left on Monday I got my major intercessor around me and said, “I’m going to America and this is what I’m expecting. You pray.” They are on a ten-day fast; they will not be eating while we travel. So the way you build honor is you need to protect leaders. There are leaders we are responsible to and for that we pray for every day.

You can see in [the book of] Esther how Mordecai was honored.

Worship and Prayer

The ninth way you build honor—Psalm 149:6,

⁶ *Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a twoedged sword in their hand;*

⁹To execute upon them judgment written: this honour have all his saints. Praise ye the Lord.

Worship and prayer develops honor. Prayerful people and people that know how to worship, God will always make sure they are honored. Platforms are created for people that pray and people that know how to worship. Platforms are created.

Understanding Covering

The tenth way you build honor—Proverbs 31:23

²³ Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.

²⁴ She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.

²⁵ Strength and honour are her clothing

So, the way you build honor is understanding covering. Whoever covers you will develop strength and honor for your clothing because clothing speaks of covering. You need to know who's covering you and why. It's not enough just to have a covering; you need to know why. Strength and honor are her covering or her clothing. In other words, individuals that don't know how they are covered don't develop honor.

Revelation Knowledge

And finally, Proverbs 25:2–3,

² It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter.

³ The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings is unsearchable

The way you build honor is revelation knowledge. Revelation knowledge builds honor. Don't just exegete; walk in revelation knowledge. It creates honor. You will be called to platforms because of your ability to bring revelation knowledge.

Now, with all of those things in mind in this third presentation: if we can walk in those ten consecutive steps, then we are going to be able to deal with the last

session—"The Penalties of Dishonor." If you walk in those ten consecutive steps of building wisdom then you can build a counter to the penalties of dishonor. Because there are times—you will see in the last session—where a man like Saul will kill Gibeonites dishonoring a contract Gideon made and then forty years later David is in a famine because a previous regime did not understand honor. He dishonored a contract that God sealed by His word. So you have to learn how to reverse the penalty of dishonor.

Pray after me now:

Lord Jesus, give me the strength to build honor in my life, my ministry, and our future. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Audio Recap on the Ten Ways to Build Honor:

- 1) Wisdom
- 2) Humility
- 3) Integrity/Upright Conduct
- 4) Service
- 5) Obedience & Submission
- 6) Observance of Protocols & Law
- 7) Giving
- 8) Protecting Your Leader
- 9) Understanding Covering
- 10) Revelation Knowledge

Lesson One PrAy for the SPIrIt of WISdom

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.

Proverbs 4:7

Regardless of your age, it is absolutely necessary that you pray for wisdom on a daily basis. There should not be a day that goes by in your life, especially if you are leading people—whether in government, as an entrepreneur with staff, a church leader, a father, a husband, or any other area of leadership. Your first commitment and commandment is to pray for wisdom because wisdom will bring you honor. The Scripture says here if you will exalt, promote, and stand towards wisdom, wisdom will bring you to honor. Sometimes individuals want

to use a business sense that is not based in wisdom. Or, they may follow the instruction of counselors that use rationale and maybe logic but are not walking in the spirit of wisdom. You have to pray for wisdom.

Wisdom will never instruct you to tear another person down because if you tear any person down, you could be tearing down your future. The person sitting next to you could be your future employer, literally.

What are some consequences you have experienced when you did not walk in the spirit of wisdom?

Can you identify any changes you will make to walk in wisdom?

Let's look at Proverbs 8:14–17:

Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength. By me kings reign, and princes decree justice. By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth. I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.

Those that seek me early shall find me. And here's the guarantee in Proverbs 8:18:

Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness. .

So every woman, every man, every boy, and every girl—you have to pray for wisdom.

Wisdom will bring you honor to such a degree that people who do not know you will honor you. You will also have the spirit to honor people. You will show respect for weak people. You will show respect for strong people. You will show respect to poor people. You will show honor and respect for wealthy people. You

will know how to come in before great people, yet you will be very gentle with those that are maimed, scarred, and hurting. Anytime you see a person that is arrogant and belligerent and has no time for the weak and the lowly, they do not have wisdom because they do not know how to show honor.

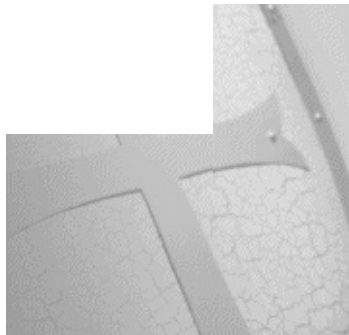


Honor Promise

Hear; for I will speak of excellent things;



and the opening of my lips shall be right things. Proverbs 8:6



**On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being the highest), rate your wisdom walk. 0 1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8 9 10**

Jesus was the epitome of wisdom. He honored the prostitute. He honored little children. He said in Mark 10:14, “Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the Kingdom of God.” Jesus could mix with those in the temple because He was the spirit of wisdom. Because of that, He knew how to show honor.

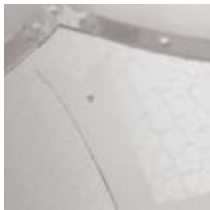
Jesus showed honor in such a remarkable way that he would not speak a word when Caiaphas spoke to him. He would not dishonor the office of the high priest. He would not dishonor Pontius Pilate. He would not dishonor a little

boy's lunch. He would not dishonor Mary when she criticized Him and said, "If you had been here our brother would not have died" (John 11:32). He was compassionate. He loved because he walked in the spirit of wisdom. Wisdom will bring you honor.

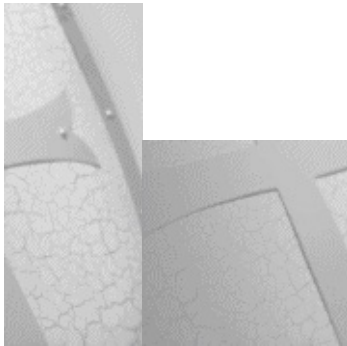


Truth Principle

"Wisdom will never



allow you to tear another person down."



Compare how you walk in wisdom to the account of Jesus. How are you conforming into His image?

Consider the three most significant human relationships in your life. How are you applying wisdom?

In addition to praying for the spirit of wisdom daily, what other things can you do to build honor in your heart?

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Lesson Two HUMILITY, INTEGRITY & UPRIGHT CONDUCT

*The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.
Proverbs 15:33*

Humility

The second way you build honor is humility. Humility is the capacity of a person's spirit to submit itself to the power of God. That is the sum total of humility—your spirit and your gifting as it is submitted to God.

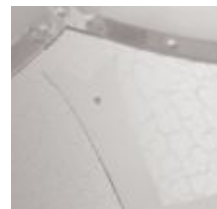
When he's holding a baby, a very strong man that can bench press 500 pounds shows his strength in his gentleness. He knows that with his sheer strength he could hurt that fragile being. So a person's strength, then, is seen in their gentleness. A person's power must be seen in their humility.

In lesson two of last week's session on "The Spirit of Honor" we discussed how Miriam and Aaron attacked Moses and criticized him in his marriage to an Ethiopian woman. In their criticism they dishonored the man Moses. But look what God authorized Moses to put in the Scripture after Aaron and Miriam said that "God doesn't speak by Moses alone."

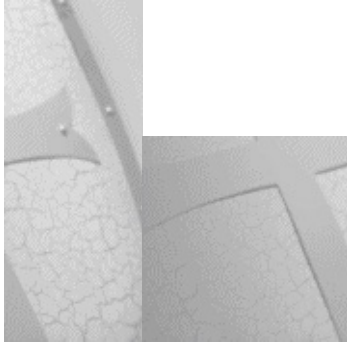


Truth Principle

"There is genuine humility and there is



false humility. You usually can tell the difference between the two."



(Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)

Numbers 12:3

Moses wrote that about himself. The Holy Spirit insisted Moses put that verse in there so that his integrity was preserved. The spirit of humility is necessary to keep your integrity and your anointing intact. If you walk in any spirit other than humility, you give legitimacy to the individuals that attacked you and God cannot fight on your behalf. You have to fight now because you have allowed a different spirit to stand. Build honor

by walking humbly before the Lord, and walking humbly before the individuals that are around you.

How do you respond when you are attacked?

What are some things you can start doing today to develop greater genuine humility?

Many of you will rise up in public ministry. You will serve multitudes. You will be in awe by the gift of God in your life—maybe your ability to speak well, maybe the miracles God is releasing through your life, maybe the kinds of millions of dollars you are being able to raise by the gift that God has placed in

you.

Remember this: when God has raised you in those levels, you must always be low maintenance. Low maintenance individuals can be trusted. Walk humbly before the Lord. Jesus was so humble that when they were trying to identify Him in the garden, Judas had to come and identify Him because the Roman soldiers did not identify Him by His “bling”. There’s nothing wrong with that—or by His Armani suit and there’s nothing wrong with that because He wore a seamless coat—but He was just one of everybody.

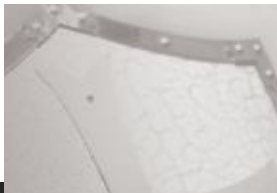
Walking with Integrity and Being Upright in Conduct

As snow in summer, as rain in harvest, so honour is not seemly for a fool.
Proverbs 26:1

The third way to build honor is by walking in the spirit of integrity and being upright in conduct. Foolishness and honor do not go together. The word *foolishness* here has to do with one’s inability to walk in the spirit of integrity. Wise individuals know how to conduct themselves. Everywhere you go your conduct must be upright. You must be a man and a woman of integrity.

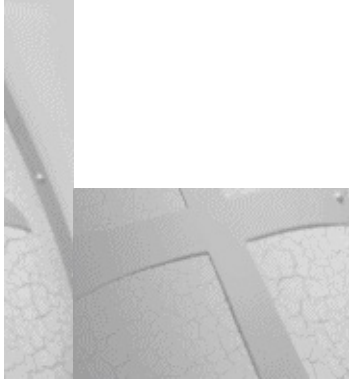
Good conduct is shown in the way we handle our money, and even in the way we raise money. Manipulation does not breed honor. Let the gift make room for

itself. 



Honor Promise

The integrity of the upright shall guide them. Proverbs 11:3



Who do you look to as a model for integrity?

To whom are you accountable for issues of integrity?

What areas of your conduct do you most guard to preserve your integrity?

After studying this lesson, what are some things you will continue doing to walk in integrity and have good conduct?

What things will you change?

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Lesson Three ServIng, obedience, SubmISSIon, obServIng ProtocoLS & gIvIng

Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend. Whoso keepeth the fig tree shall eat the fruit thereof: so he that waiteth on his master shall be honoured.

Proverbs 27:17–18

Serving

Serving produces honor. Elisha served Elijah and reaped the seeds of honor. Joshua served Moses and received the benefits of honor. David served Saul and got the benefits that honor produced.

The Scripture says “iron sharpens iron.” Compatible metals complement each other when they work and function together. It creates a sense of balance. So, if you are a stronger metal to a lesser metal, you have to understand the way those

function so you do not destroy somebody that is of a lesser gift. Instead, elevate them to where you can sharpen them and not destroy them.

He also references “an individual that keeps the fig tree.” If you understand what produces fruit in your life and you protect the fruit bearing agencies of your life by honoring them, you will reap the benefit of what you have nurtured. Most of all, if you will serve somebody—if you will serve your apostolic father, your prophetic gift, if you will serve in the area of ministry—then the Bible says you shall be honored.

Senior pastors and leaders, create serving opportunities for up and coming ministry gifts but at the same time have an exit strategy in your church. An exit strategy includes ground rules for ministry development. If you do not have some sort of exit strategy, the young lions who may not serve adequately will split the church, will attempt to split the church, tear up the ministry, and put a curse on their lives.

What service opportunities are available in your local church for the “young lions”?

Have you ever witnessed a church split or major dissension in a local assembly due to lack of service opportunities for the young lions?

Obedience and Submission

Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

In her obedience Sara honored Abraham. Likewise husbands honor your wives. Build honor through submission and obedience. In I Samuel 15, Saul offers the sacrifice and Samuel says to him “obedience is better than sacrifice.” You have sacrifice, you have obedience, and then you have submission.

Obedience is better than sacrifice, but submission is better than obedience. Sara obeyed, but she also submitted. Mary said to the servants in John 2:5, “Whatever he tells you to do, do it” because submission becomes the breeding ground for the miraculous. Submission is the breeding ground for the supernatural. If you submit to the Lord, miracles take place.

What specific blessings in your life can be attributed to your obedience and submission?

I Peter 3:6–7



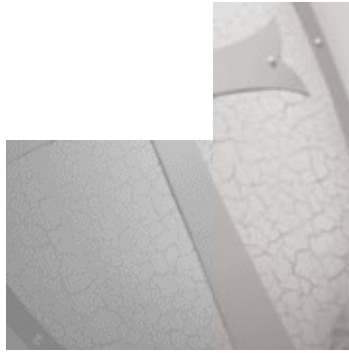
Honor Promise



And he that keepeth His commandments dwelleth in Him, and He in him. And



hereby we know that He abideth in us, by the Spirit which He hath given us. I John 3:24



Observing Protocols and the Law

*Honour all men. Love the brother hood. Fear God. Honour the king.
I Peter 2:17*

The sixth way to build honor is by observing protocols and the law. “Honour all men.” That means you have to understand where and how the gifts of men are placed in society, in government, and especially in our world in ministry. When we know where men’s gifts are, we show honor to those gifts. That is observing protocols.

Then he says, “Honour the king.” That is honoring the laws of the land. When you begin to honor and show protocols, then the Scripture says honor will be given to you. So any person that does not honor all men cannot reap the benefits of honor.

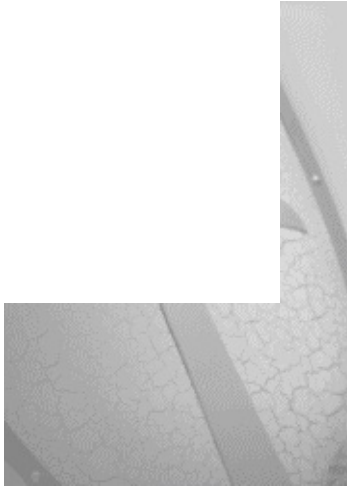


Truth Principle

“Submission is the breeding ground for the supernatural. If you submit to the



Lord, miracles take place.”



An Example

There was a young man invited to minister at a conference in the southern United States. The bishop of the host church there had this young man preach and gave him a wonderful opportunity. At conferences the counting staff cannot always prepare the offerings together. Generally, the conference host will send it to your

office. I am fine with that. This young man, though, after he preached said, “I want my offering.” Just like that. He said, “I want my offering.” The bishop said, ‘Well, it’s conference. It’s midnight; you preached all night, and our conference staff is busy. They can’t count your offering now.’ He said, “I’m not leaving here without my offering. I want my offering, and I want it now.”

It was just a total lack of protocol. This young man did not understand and observe the gift he was exposed to in this bishop. Because he showed dishonor, he just closed a door in his ministry. What is going to happen now is that all the individuals that this bishop has influence with and speaks to will say, “Don’t have that fellow come and preach for you because he has shown absolute dishonor.”

So when the Bible says honor all men, you have to honor gifts where they are. You have to respect people. You have to understand how systems work. Not all systems are the same. Not all camps think the same. Not all cultures and ethnicities are the same. So you have to show honor for each culture and each

people and respect those cultures and those people, the way they do things and the way they function. If you see them in error, you have to teach them in humility so that you save their lives and bless them for the future.

What are some protocols to abide by in your local church?

In building relationships among the congregants you serve, what are some ways you honor the diverse cultures that are represented?

Giving

*Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:
Proverbs 3:9*

Sowing a seed builds honor. It could be a financial seed or a material seed where you give to someone of higher rank. Or, you give to someone of lesser rank. Giving always builds honor. That gift will make room for you and comes back in the harvest of honor. It is important that we understand where to give and how to give. Individuals who do not know where to give and how to give never get the blessings of honor. We are required to give our tithes (10% of our increase), and offerings as God has blessed us, but there are times when God will open an opportunity to sow in honor to a ministry or person that we honor, so that the giver / sower will reap a harvest of honor. When you honor a father or an elder, your days will be long, that means you get a harvest of permanence, a generational harvest and generational blessing.

What doors opened in your life and/or ministry as a direct result of sowing seed?

List two people of “lesser rank” and identify the kind of seed to sow into their lives.

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Lesson Four ProtectIng your LeAder

On that night could not the king sleep, and he commanded to bring the book of records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king. And it was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who sought to lay hand on king Ahasuerus. And the king said, What honour and dignity hath been done to Mordecai for this? Then said the king's servants that ministered unto him, There

is nothing done for him.

Esther 6:1–3

The Bible says in verse one there was a night that the king could not sleep, and so he asked them to bring the records and chronicles of the nation. Somebody came to read what was written and it was told that Mordecai thwarted an assassination attempt on the king. So the king says in verse three, “What honour and dignity was done for this man for coming against this assassination attempt on my life?” And they said, “Well, he was not honored.”

Here’s the principle: protecting your leader builds honor. We need the kinds of ministry gifts—younger ministry gifts and older ministry gifts—around us that know how to protect the leader. Many times the reason people do not know how to protect their leader is because they were not taught how.

How do you, as an individual member, protect your leader?

When I arrived home in Zimbabwe in the month of June our office block—it’s an entire block where our ministry sits –had no electricity for almost three weeks. Somebody had messed with the transformer. Fifteen companies were affected, and because of the economic difficulties in Zimbabwe the electricity commission who provides electricity said they could not replace the transformer because they didn’t have the money.

So, I commissioned some of our leaders to raise awareness with the other companies to put money together and buy a transformer. They were working way to slow. At the church we were backlogged with work and could not access emails. We have a school and a whole ministry to operate, so we put the money together and we

bought the transformer and put the transformer in there and restored the whole area with electricity.

In the middle of all of that—putting the money together and all of the struggles

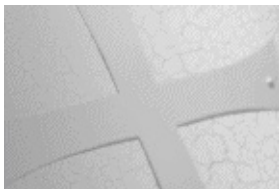
there and with all of the problems that we were facing— some of the men and women that were serving around us did not understand how to cover the leader. So I explained the track record of demonic attacks against our ministry leading up to our annual conference. Here is the demonic cycle: the power goes out, and then there are motor car accidents, then sicknesses, and then deaths. We see this year after year. So, to all the intercessors—you have to know how to protect the leaders.

We called some of the intercessors. I said, “You better start pushing.” A few days later two of my sons were in an accident while driving my wife’s car. The car overturned, hit a pothole, and jumped into oncoming traffic where my older son who was driving had to swerve. The seat belts saved them.

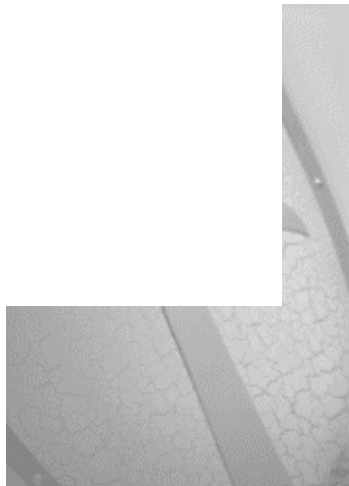


Honor Promise

And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before Me



for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none. Ezekiel 22:30



So I called the intercessors in again. I said, “Guys, I’m telling you. You need to pray around leaders. You need to learn how to protect leaders. There is an attempt to hurt us and destroy us.” Your responsibility as a church leader is to teach your people how to become a defense around you because many people do not know how.

Teach people how to protect the king from an assassination attempt. Raise up intercessors to pray for your kids every day. You can see in [the book of] Esther how Mordecai was honored.

How often do you pray for your leader? (Circle one) a. Daily

b. Weekly

c. In crisis situations

d. Monthly or less

e. Throughout the day

Who in your ministry do you think best protects your leader? Why?

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True Riches ~ Creating Exit Strategies

“An exit strategy means that if you have a ministry that’s being developed, there needs to be ground rules. Say, ‘If you want to start a church, this is the way you start your church.’”

Tudor Bismark

Based on years of experience, and observations from various ministry conflicts, church splits, and in places where a spiritual leader was not honoured, we have a basic recommendation for ministry aspirants, and that is, creating an exit strategy for the way an individual leaves a ministry to start a new ministry.

A clearly defined structure, strategy and methodology should be taught and understood so that every ministry in the house that would need to start or participate in or join a ministry can do so with honor and respect, without bringing a curse on their lives.

Too many significant, anointed, gifted and powerful men and women are not in ministry today as they split churches, divided ministries, hindered visions because there was no exit strategy to accommodate or cater for their ministries and gifts.

We recommend that ministries consider creating of some sort of exit strategy for emerging talents, and gifts that may not remain in the “house” so that they do not develop an occasion for dishonor and reap the curses sowed from their dishonor.

Lesson Five WORSHIP, PRAYER , COVERING & REVELATION WLEDGE

Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a twoedged sword in their hand;..To execute upon them judgment written: this honour have all his saints. Praise ye the Lord.

Psalm 149:6, 9

Worship and Prayer

Worship and prayer develops honor. Prayerful people and people that know how to worship, God will always make sure they are honored. Platforms are created for people that pray and people that know how to worship. Platforms are created.

What experiences have you had that validate this?

**Do you agree that people who know how to worship and pray are honored?
Why or why not?**

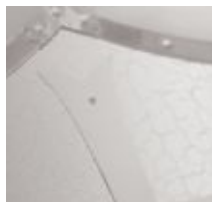
Understanding Covering

*Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.
She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.
Strength and honour are her clothing*

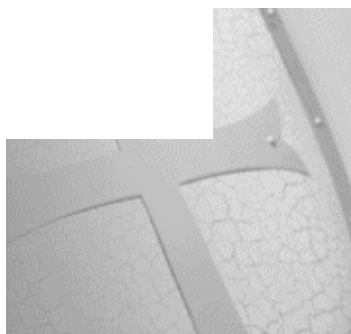
Proverbs 31:23–25



Truth Principle
“Platforms are



created for people that pray and know how to worship.”



Build honor by understanding covering. Whoever covers you will develop strength and honor for your clothing because clothing speaks of covering. You need to know who is covering you and why. It is not enough just to have a covering; you need to know why. Strength and honor are her covering or her clothing. In other words, individuals that do not know how they are covered do not develop honor.

Do you agree that people who understand covering are honored? Why or why not?

Who is your covering? How do you know?

Revelation Knowledge

It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter. The heaven for height, and the earth for depth, and the heart of kings is unsearchable

Proverbs 25:2–3

Build honor through revelation knowledge. Revelation knowledge builds honor. Do not just exegete; walk in revelation knowledge. It creates honor. You will be called to platforms because of your ability to bring revelation knowledge.

Does your leader present revelation knowledge in your local church?

How has this positioned him/her to receive honor?

Do you have ministry mentors that you watch—directly or indirectly— to learn how to present revelation knowledge?



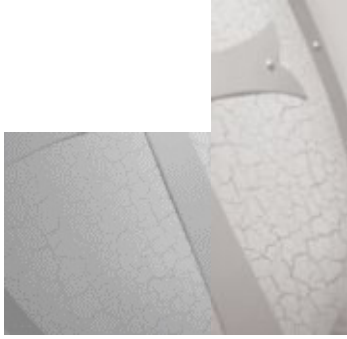
Honor Promise



In the multitude of the people is the king's honor: but in



the want of people is the destruction of the prince. Proverbs 14:28



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Week Four: The Penalties Of Dishonor

Please watch DVD #4 on *The Penalties of Dishonor* or listen to the audio CD before beginning the daily sessions.

Introduction

And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works?

Matthew 13:54 The rewards and blessings of dishonor are tangible and can be recognized in different ways. Likewise, the penalties of dishonor are also obvious and pronounced. The people of Nazareth dishonored Jesus remarkably. They were offended in Him and did not show respect or regard for Him.

Jesus said a prophet is not without honor, except in his own country and in his own house. He could perform no mighty miracles among the people because of their unbelief. Those people saw no demonstration of the power of the Spirit of God they showed dishonor.

This week, we will look at the lives of Saul, David, Uzziah and Absalom to understand the penalties of dishonor and how to reverse them once they are set in motion.

Audio Summary

The subject we are going to be addressing in this particular session is The Penalties of Dishonor and the Rewards of Honor because both honor and dishonor come with their respective rewards and also penalties. Just to recap from the previous lessons, we talked very briefly on how to develop the spirit of honor and then how to build honor. Those steps are very very important, especially when we're building generationally. We have noted that the reason that many individuals don't show honor is because they've never been taught how to show honor. Probably in our fifth lesson we are going to be talking about how to teach and how to demonstrate honor.

Now, I want to read a particular Scripture for you. I want us to understand that the rewards of honor and the blessing of honor is seen in very significant ways. We're going to start in Matthew 13:54. This is where we began this teaching and this is where we want to bring a summation of all the ideas. The Scripture says in Matthew 13:54

And when He was come into His own country, He taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works?

It was so remarkable that even though Jesus was raised with them—if you follow the Scriptures clearly He was born in Bethlehem. King Herod unleashes this attack on the males born in the city of Bethlehem. The angel that spoke unto Joseph said, “Take the babe and his mother to Egypt.” The Scripture says He was there until He was four years old. From there they settled in Nazareth. The next time you hear from Jesus was when He was twelve years old at bar mitzvah in the temple, goes back to Nazareth and is there for almost eighteen years being trained as an apprentice in the work of a carpenter. And then the Scripture says He was seen coming down to the Jordan where His older cousin and priest baptized Him.

And so in all those years Jesus was raised in that community. They knew Him. But when He comes now back to Nazareth, comes back to teach them, the Bible says they were astonished at His wisdom. They then dishonored Him remarkably. They were offended in Him—Matthew 13:57—because they said this man was not noted by us. We don't respect Him. Jesus said a prophet is not without honor, save in his own country and his own house. He could do no mighty works there because of their unbelief. They saw no demonstration of the power of the Spirit of God there because of the dishonor that they showed Him.

So let's talk about now the penalties of dishonor. Anytime an individual, a ministry, a nation will sow the seeds or will demonstrate the spirit of dishonor, there are tremendous penalties that will be paid. Watch this very carefully. At the end of this meeting, we'll be praying the prayers of repentance to reverse any dishonor that has been sown. So let's look at some individuals that sowed the spirit of dishonor. The first one I want to look at is going to be King Saul. Saul, the Scripture says, was head and shoulders above the people. He was selected by God. God said to Samuel in I Samuel 9, “Tomorrow about this time I am sending you a man, a Benjamite, head and shoulders above the people. He is a goodly

man. I want you to anoint him to be king.” And so Samuel sees Saul coming the next day. Samuel is a Nazarite. He has seven major hair locks coming out of his head, which is a sign of the perfection of the ministry gift. He brings Saul into his parlor. Saul is so out of touch he doesn’t even recognize Samuel. He asks Samuel, who’s sitting in the gate, “Is the seer in the city?” He didn’t know Samuel. Where’s he been all his life? Surely, the massive dreadlocks on his head should’ve been a hint. It should’ve been a hint because he’s got a Nazarite vow.

And Samuel takes Saul to his parlor. The Bible says there are thirty elders sitting there. And he says to the cook, “Bring the meal prepared of this man.” The Bible says it was the shoulder of the lamb. Shoulder is always government, so Saul now is going to be eating a meal of government in the presence of the elders of Israel. He has to receive government in his life. And then they pour oil on him and tell him he is the king.

Saul has a supernatural ascent to leadership, but despite that, because of the man’s upbringing—he was raising donkeys, the Bible says. Because he was raising donkeys in an environment that was austere and harsh, he was always chasing the donkeys [and] trying to bring them into submission to understand how ministry works. You know, donkeys, you have to beat them into submission. Saul didn’t understand the spirit of honor. He was a man that lacked value.

Let’s watch I Samuel 10. Samuel says to Saul, “When you leave this place you will come to Rachel’s sepulcher. When you get there two men will prophesy and tell you that the donkeys that you seek are found.” So the principle is that you have to go to Rachel’s sepulcher which is the place of favor. So any person that’s been raised in an austere environment, the first thing God will do for you is bring you to the place of favor. But if you don’t understand how favor works, you will squander it on the most inappropriate things.

The second thing he says: when you leave there you will come to Tabor. When you get there you will see three different things: one person carrying three loaves, you will see somebody carrying three goats, and you will see someone else carrying a bottle of wine. So he’s now prophesying to Saul that 1) three loaves of bread is going to be your opportunity to get revelation of the kingdom, revelation of the moment, revelation of your responsibility, revelation of your gift; 2) the three goats on the man’s shoulder is going to be a meat offering, which will be the spirit of maturity because you can’t be the king of Israel with all of its enemies around you if you are petty in your thinking. You have to be on

a meat diet. You have to grow up quick. You have to be mature. You can't be worried about the length of a person's dress when you are dealing with national policies; and 3) someone will be carrying a bottle of wine. Wine always speaks of value and Spirit. In other words, Saul, we have to change your values system. You don't have a sense of values. And that's seen by him coming to the prophet without an offering. His servant had an offering; he didn't have an offering. He never understood the gift in Jonathan because Saul never had a values system.

People that are engrossed in the spirit of dishonor have no values. Saul is then told, "You will then see a third phenomenon. You will see from the Philistine garrison in Bethel prophets descending, and you will attach yourself to the prophets. And you, Saul, will prophesy with them and God is going to give you another heart." When Saul had all these things fulfilled in his life, God was showing him as a sign that "I am with you. I will honor your gift as long as you show honor to Me." So, here's the principle: as long as a person shows honor to God, and honor to the office they have been called to, God will then arrange for you to be honored. He will bring you to Rachel's sepulcher. Rachel is the wife of favor; Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah. She was the favored one. She birthed Joseph, the anointed international leader and Benjamin, son of my right hand. So Rachel, then, is the place of favor. If a person will honor God and honor the assignment God has given them, they will always walk in favor. If a person will honor God and honor the assignment God has given them, there will always be bread and meat and wine. If a person will honor God and honor the assignment God has given them, there will always be prophets coming from the high place and imparting to you the spirit of prophecy to call those things that are not as though they already are.

But Saul was a bastard spirit. The Scripture says that a person who refuses correction—Hebrews 12:8—is illegitimate. They have a bastard spirit. They have no father that they can honor and that can honor them. And Saul refused correction. Any person that will refuse correction and refuse instruction will sow the seeds of dishonor. And when you sow the seed of dishonor there are penalties. Some of them are heavy penalties. They are not just imposed on you as an individual; it comes on your sons.

Penalty #1: Saul's Kingdom was Taken Away From Him

The first penalty that Saul paid was his kingdom was taken away from him. It was ripped away from him and given to another. But here's the tragedy: the

person that was going to replace him was brought to live in his house. So he was seeing what he could have been growing in front of him. So instead of him showing David and mentoring him on how to throw a javelin—remember, David was a slingshot master and had no idea how to use weapons—he was throwing a javelin at what he could have been because he had no spirit of honor. His sons died with him on the battlefield, so his organization and his legacy died with him.

Penalty #2: Saul's Grandkids were Immobile

[The second penalty Saul paid was that] his grandchildren were immobile—Mephibosheth. The pastor of the church didn't have the ability to grow the grandkids. This lady pastor that God had entrusted the generational anointing to, because Saul sowed dishonor, Mephibosheth's legs were broken and his entire ministry life his ministry was on a crutch. His ministry was on a crutch because his grandfather sowed dishonor. Saul sowed dishonor. He sowed dishonor. In I Samuel 21 he killed 83 priests in Shiloh.

When David fled from his pastor who was trying to kill him, he went to another church. When he got to the church the pastor there was Abiathar [really Abimelech]. He said, "Look man, I'm running away here. My previous leader hasn't given me a sword. Do you have anything I can fight the enemy with?" The man said, "I have the sword of Goliath behind the veil." Remember, the ark was taken away so the only glory they had was the glory of this young man who preached this message at a conference and took down a regional giant. And they took his message and his testimony and put it behind the veil because that's the only glory that was fallen. And so they took that and put it in the hands of this up and coming apostolic and prophetic gift—songwriter, kingly anointing. When the previous pastor heard that this new pastor received this young gift that didn't have anybody to mentor him, he sent his army there and killed 83 priests. [He] got an Amalekite by the name of Doeg to do it. So, he's sowing dishonor [because he] killed the priests.

Penalty #3: Saul Put a Nation into Economic Recession & Famine

And if a man will do that, he will never honor previous contracts. He killed Gibeonites. The Gibeonites were the ones that came to Joshua and said, "We want to sign a contract and a league with you." And Joshua signed it and sealed it by an irrevocable covenant that "We will not harm the Gibeonites." Because

Saul had a crazy head and was incensed by the spirit of dishonor, he dishonored previous contracts from previous generations. And the penalty of dishonor was putting an entire nation in the next generation into economic recession and famine. The penalty of dishonor.

You might be listening to this message. You might be watching this DVD and you have been the recipient of dishonor or you have sown the seeds of dishonor. You have to shift that up. Watch this. This is how Saul's dishonor was reversed.

David restored Mephibosheth in II Samuel 9. He [David] said to Zibah, "Are there any descendants of Saul that I might show honor for Jonathan's sake?" So the first way you reverse dishonor is by honoring covenant.

There are three ways in which we develop relationship regionally and locally: allegiances, alliances, and covenants. David goes to Lo-debar, and brings Mephibosheth out of Lo-debar and reverses the curse. It's painful to reverse dishonor. It's very painful to reverse dishonor. And there's story after story after story that we can mention.

Let me talk about another individual that sowed and showed dishonor—King David. The Scripture says that in the day when kings went to war, in the season that kings went to war David didn't go. And he was on the rooftop and saw someone else's wife bathing. David sent for her, slept with her, and then she said, "I'm expecting a child." So David then sent for the husband to try to organize him so that he could claim the child. And when Uriah didn't follow the plan, David had him killed. In other words, David was going to shed innocent blood and dishonor a neighbor— these people were living next to the palace.

In other words, people that are not a security risk, people that you're familiar with, people that are close to you live next to the palace. David sowed the seeds of dishonor, and Nathan came to him and gave him the parable about the man with a lot of sheep and a man with one lamb. [He told how] this man with a lot of sheep took the lamb and Nathan said, "You are the man." And David because of his dishonor, the penalties of dishonor were reaped in his family for generations. Dishonor sowed in any place will bring generational upheaval. And the way David had to reverse that, shockingly reverse that, was by him to lay his entire life on the line and sacrifice his son. The thing he loved most died. Sometimes to reverse the penalty of dishonor is the thing that is dear to your heart has to be taken away from you. Painful, extremely painful.

In South Africa, a wonderful nation, the apartheid system where there were Caucasian churches and colored churches and Indian churches and black indigenous churches who weren't allowed to fellowship one with another because of the apartheid system. In that era with all the Pentecostal things going on, people didn't show honor to each other. And right now in the church [there's] supposed to be the answer. People are still in separate sectors with an old mindset. And what's happened is that [for] some ministries the thing that they have loved the most is being taken away from them. Everyone say, "I have to show honor."

One last incident and story from the Old Testament and one New Testament story and then we'll talk about sowing the seeds of honor and reaping the rewards of honor. It's the story of Uzziah. God raised up Uzziah; he did some tremendous things. But in his years when he was lifted up, the Bible says he took a censer and went into the temple and the priests said "Don't do it!" And he said "I'm doing it anyway because God is with me." He dishonored the book. He dishonored the Law. He dishonored God. And despite all of his good ministry, the Scripture says [that] immediately he became a leper. Because no matter how powerful we are, if we dishonor God and His Law we are not exempt from the Law. And in the year that king Uzziah died—Isaiah 6—that's when Isaiah said "I saw the Lord."

In other words, the revival Uzziah had worked for he never enjoyed. It was a penalty for dishonor. And the only way that dishonor could be turned around was by an angel taking a coal from heaven and burning the mouth of the prophet to purge generational words. Everybody say, "Honor." Say "honor" again.

Now let's look at how we reap the rewards of honor. Anytime we are going to develop a group of individuals that have a generational anointing—whether it's our physical or spiritual sons—here is a seven point development plan for the seeds of honor. The first one is you have to find individuals that are called, physical and spiritual. Put them in their calling. If you'll honor that calling and speak into that calling, it's the first step for the rewards of honor.

From called they have to be commissioned. In other words you have to have a Timothy that's called, that you can lay hands on that Timothy—whether it's in ministry or in business—so that they can be released unto good works. There has to be a Titus who can be commissioned to Crete, [and] Timothy sent to Ephesus or Corinth.

Not only do they have to be called [and] commissioned, they have to be competent. They have to have competence in their gift. So their gift has got to be developed. So we then develop the kinds of programs that sharpen the giftedness of the individuals and then minister into their strengths. Because if you don't minister into their strengths, and develop their weaknesses, in moments of pressure their incompetence can wreak or release dishonor.

Not only do they have to be called, commissioned, [and] competent, but they have to have good conduct. Their behavior. They have to have men who know how to come in and go out before the Lord and the people of God. That's what Solomon prayed for—give me wisdom so I know how to come in and go out. That's conduct.

Continuity—they have to understand generational anointing. The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. What my father started I must continue. We must not go back to the beginning.

Confidence—that has to do with faith. Without faith it's impossible to please God, so we have to teach them how to function within the confines of God's Word.

Controls—how to control their appetites, how to control their emotions, how to control their temperament. But also how to function in their relationship with men of lesser gift and men or women of greater gift. And how to function within the tensions of those gifts. Once we develop this kind of individual or these kinds of ministries, now we have the process of sowing an honor seed.

Watch me very carefully. When Jesus came as a gift, He came as an honor seed. Watch His prayer in the garden of Gethsemane. This was His prayer. He said, "Father, let this cup pass from me. Nevertheless, not my will. I'm going to honor Your will." So anytime you have a young ministry that's being developed by a father, if that individual can be the seed of honor, 2000 years later in Dallas, Texas that honor seed will still be reaping the rewards of showing honor. But the penalty of dishonor [for] a man like Joab who kills Abner, David said "All your generations will be vagabonds and lepers because you sowed dishonor."

So our job then is to raise up a generation of men and women not just who know how to do good church, but understand how to sow the seeds of honor. That's a good place to put your hands together. Yeah.

This is what the seeds of honor will produce.

1. Loyalty—It produces loyalty. We need a generation of loyal individuals— not backstabbers, but loyal. You might be an apostolic leader here or you might be a pastor who will never grow your church to more than 50 people. But of that 50 there'll be one young man or two young individuals that their ministry will go to 10,000 [or] 15,000, and have ministries in many countries. And because they've been taught right, and because they've been given the spirit of loyalty, they will never dishonor their father. They will always uplift their father. Raymond LeFleur in Capetown is a blessing to our life. A number of years ago one of his fathers in the Lord who never, ever had a brand new vehicle—Raymond and his church at the conference I was at presented to this old man a brand new Mercedes Benz. The man cried like a baby because in his entire life he'd never had a brand new car. Raymond LeFleur's ministry is flourishing in Capetown. Some of the greatest gifts in the continent of Africa and in the world have gone to his ministry—not because he's a great guy. That's part and parcel of it. But it's because he's sowed the seeds of honor. He's loyal to his fathers.

2. Integrity—The way you release this gift is by bringing the seed of integrity. Integrity means transparency. Let's develop young seeds that have integrity.

3. Balance—We've got these spiritual fruitcakes running all over the place that have no balance in their life.

My closing statements to you on the rewards of loyalty, and the rewards rather, of honor. Here's some of the greatest rewards of honor.

The first reward of honor is that God will change the spiritual atmosphere. Honor always changes the spiritual atmosphere. Always.

The second reward is the prophetic dimension. God will release the prophetic dimension. Once that prophetic dimension is released, that region, that people, that generation, can speak prophetically even to four generations. Watch this. Genesis 14—Abraham, who has a promise on his life—you will be a father of many nations—meets Melchizedek with an offering. It's his tithe. He's showing honor to the king of Salem, who is the king of righteousness and peace, honor. And he gives him his tithe. The entire region is dominated by the spirit of Sodom and Gomorrah. So because Abraham is sowing the seed of honor, the atmosphere in the region is going to change. Sodom and Gomorrah is going to be destroyed by God's angelic generals. Watch the prophetic seed and the reward that he's getting. He paid his tithes, according to Hebrews 7, he paid tithes for Levi.

Here's a man that doesn't have children. His wife is still barren. There's no manifestation of Sarah perking any day soon. But because he sowed the seed of honor, the prophetic anointing came where Levi, his great-grandson was purged. And he opened the door for the tribe of Levi to receive tithe 700 years later. So the reward of honor is the prophetic anointing is released. It's the prophetic dimension.

And then, finally, the reward of honor is a kingdom anointing. That means a dynasty is developed. It's generational. He says not only will you be blessed, but so will your children, and your children's children. He gives a promise in Exodus 20 that I will bless you to a thousand generations. That's the reward of showing honor. If you show this kind of honor, the Kingdom of God will be in your children for generations.

Let's talk about two individuals, and then we're through. The first one is Obededom in II Samuel 6. Obed-edom receives the ark and he shows the highest level of honor. And God rewards him that his grandchildren are serving in Solomon's temple. Here's a man who was not supposed to be in the presence of the Lord for ten generations. But because of an honor seed, three generations down his children are the custodians of the ark of the covenant in Solomon's temple. The rewards of honor.

Simon of Cyrene—he's just a brother visiting Jerusalem. Just a brother from Africa visiting Jerusalem. And he's doing what brothers do when they're touring a place. And he comes up on a church service where the prophet of the day is being crucified by the previous apostolic era. And so Simon now is called by the crucifiers to help this prophet carry his cross. And so Simon who picks up the cross, according to the implication, he firstly doesn't want to do it. But in the exchange—remember, the blood of Jesus was already on the cross—he's putting the cross now on his shoulders. The government is on his shoulders. He's carrying heavenly government. He's sowing a seed of honor. And when you read in the book of Acts, his sons become part and parcel of the evangelistic prophetic team that evangelizes Asia. They become part of Paul's apostolic team. When you sow honor, the rewards of honor is kingdom generational benefits.

I may not be able to hand my children the kind of money that I want to, but what I can do for them [is] hand them the rewards for showing honor. I must not, I should not, and I dare not disrespect any person, any gift, and any ministry. I

dare not disrespect God. I dare not sow dishonor, and dishonor my wife ChiChi, dishonor our church in Harare, dishonor our leaders in the countries we have ministry, being foolish. I dare not dishonor you by contemplating backsliding. But if I can sow a seed of honor. If I can give a cup of water to somebody that's needy, I'll get a prophet's reward. Because when you sow honor in that way, you get the reward of a prophet.

My conclusion—In the next seven days, you've got to show some honor up and sow some honor down. Husbands honor your wives; wives honor your husbands. Servants honor your masters; masters honor your servants. Honor your king. Honor the law. Honor the land. Honor the word. And most of all, you must honor God. My prayer for America is that America returns to honor.

I used to be a cub scout and we used to say the pledge based on the story of Mowgli [and Akela, The Wolf Father] in *Jungle Book*: "I promise to do my best, to do my duty to God and the Queen (and Country)." Then we would say stuff like, "We honor the land. We honor the nation and so on and so forth." Oh, if the teenagers in America can go back to honor—honoring their elders, honoring their schoolteachers. If Congress can go back to honoring God—in God we trust. If they can go back to honoring the ten commandments, go back to honoring spiritual leaders.

We pray for a season of a return of honor. We cancel all of the harvests of dishonor. We come against every demonic attack that's bringing a harvest of dishonor. We renounce it, we reject it, and we apply the blood of Jesus in it. Father, in the name of Jesus, any harvest of dishonor headed our way—for those in this congregation, for those watching this DVD—by the blood of Jesus and through apostolic authority we cancel the harvest of dishonor and we release the seeds of honor. Father, for all our forefathers who maybe through ignorance or deliberate action have sown the seeds of dishonor to dishonor you, to dishonor your word in any way, we pray now for forgiveness. Forgive us. Forgive them. Forgive our children. Cancel that past. We pray for the seeds and the harvest of honor, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Audio Recap on Seven Point Plan To Develop Seeds of Honor:

- 1) Called
- 2) Commissioned
- 3) Competent

- 4) Conduct
- 5) Continuity
- 6) Confident
- 7) Control

Lesson One

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Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, Is it not because the Lord hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance? When thou art departed from me today, then thou shalt find two men by Rachel's sepulcher in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say unto thee, The asses which thou wentest to seek are found: and, lo, thy father hath left the care of the asses, and sorroweth for you, saying, What shall I do for my son? Then shalt thou go on forward from thence, and thou shalt come to the plain of Tabor, and there shall meet thee three men going up to God to Bethel, one carrying three kids, and another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a bottle of wine. And they will salute thee, and give thee two loaves of bread; which thou shalt receive of their hands.

I Samuel 10:2–4

Saul was head and shoulders above the people. He was selected by God to be king. God said to Samuel in I Samuel 9, “Tomorrow about this time I am sending you a man, a Benjamite, head and shoulders above the people. He is a goodly man. I want you to anoint him to be king.”

Samuel brought Saul into his parlor. There were thirty elders who sat there. And he said to the cook, “Bring the meal prepared of this man.’ It was the shoulder of the lamb. Shoulder is always government, so Saul now is going to be eating a meal of government in the presence of the elders of Israel. He needed government in his life. And then they poured oil on him and told him he was the king.

Saul supernaturally ascended to leadership, but did not understand the spirit of honor. He came from an upbringing where he raised donkeys in an environment that was austere and harsh. He chased the donkeys and tried to bring them into submission; this was his training to understand how ministry works. Donkeys must be beaten into submission. Saul did not understand the spirit of honor. He was a man that lacked value.

In light of Saul's story, can you identify any “signs” in your preparation season that God used to teach you about ministry?

Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, Is it not because the Lord hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance? When thou art departed from me today, then thou shalt find two men by Rachel's sepulcher in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say unto thee, The asses which thou wentest to seek are found: and, lo, thy father hath left the care of the asses, and sorroweth for you, saying, What shall I do for my son? Then shalt thou go on forward from thence, and thou shalt come to the plain of Tabor, and there shall meet thee three men going up to God to Bethel, one carrying three kids, and another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a bottle of wine. And they will salute thee, and give thee two loaves of bread; which thou shalt receive of their hands.

I Samuel 10:2–4

In I Samuel 10, the principle is that you have to go to Rachel's sepulcher. It is the place of favor. Rachel is the wife of favor; Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah. She was the favored one. She birthed Joseph, the anointed international leader and Benjamin, son of my right hand. So Rachel, then, is the place of favor. For any person raised in an austere environment, the first thing God will do for them is bring them to the place of favor. But if they do not understand how favor works, they will squander it on inappropriate things.

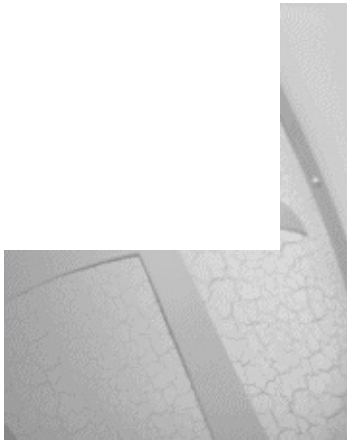
The second thing Samuel says: when you leave there you will come to Tabor. When you get there you will see three different things: one person carrying three loaves, you will see somebody carrying three goats, and you will see someone else carrying a bottle of wine.



Truth Principle
“If people will honor God and honor the



assignment God has given them, there will always be bread and meat and wine.”



Samuel prophesied to Saul. The three loaves of bread represented his opportunity to get revelation of the kingdom, revelation of the moment, revelation of your responsibility, revelation of your gift. The three goats on the man's shoulder were a meat offering, which stood for the spirit of maturity. Saul could not be the king of Israel with all of its enemies around if he was petty in his thinking. He had to be on a meat diet. He had to grow up quick. He had to be mature. Finally, the bottle of wine spoke value and Spirit. In other words, Saul had to change his values system. He did not have a sense of values. That is evident seen by him coming to the prophet without an offering. His servant had an offering, but Saul did not have an offering.

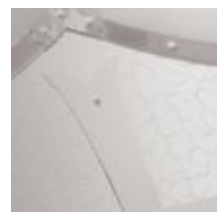
Consider your own story. Who did God send to bring you bread?

Who brought the goats, or the meat of maturity?

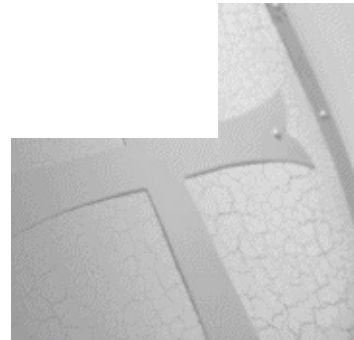
Who taught you about value by bringing the bottle of wine?



Honor Promise
And He gave some, apostles; and some,



prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors; and teachers.
Ephesians 4:11



People that are engrossed in the spirit of dishonor have no values. Saul is then told, “You will then see a third phenomenon. You will see from the Philistine garrison in Bethel prophets descending, and you will attach yourself to the prophets. And you, Saul, will prophesy with them and God is going to give you another heart.” When Saul had all these things fulfilled in his life, God showed him as a sign that “I am with you. I will honor your gift as long as you show honor to Me.”

As long as a person honors God, and honors the office to which he has been called, God will then arrange for him to be honored. God will bring you to

Rachel's sepulcher. If a person will honor God and honor the assignment God has given her, she will always walk in favor. If a person will honor God and honor the

assignment God has given him, there will always be bread and meat and wine. If you will honor God and honor the assignment God has given you, there will always be prophets coming from the high place and imparting to you the spirit of prophecy to call those things that are not as though they already are.

What is your assignment? Are you honoring it? If so, how? If not, why?

noteS

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Lesson Two SAUL'S PENALTIES & DAVID'S REVERSAL

But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

Hebrews 12:8

Saul was a bastard spirit because he refused correction. A person who refuses correction is illegitimate; they have a bastard spirit. They have no father that they can honor and that can honor them. Any person that refuses correction and refuses instruction sows the seeds of dishonor. When you sow the seed of dishonor there are penalties. They are not just imposed on you as an individual; these penalties come on your sons.

Penalty #1: Saul's Kingdom was taken Away From Him

As a penalty of dishonor, have you ever watched God raise up your replacement to serve with or under you?

The first penalty that Saul paid was his kingdom was taken away from him. It was ripped away from him and given to another. But the tragedy is this: the person that was going to replace him was brought to live in his house. So he was seeing what he could have been growing in front of him. So instead of him showing David and mentoring him on how to throw a javelin—remember, David was a slingshot master and had no idea how to use weapons—he was throwing a javelin at what he could have been because he had no spirit of honor. His sons died with him on the battlefield, so his organization and his legacy died with him.

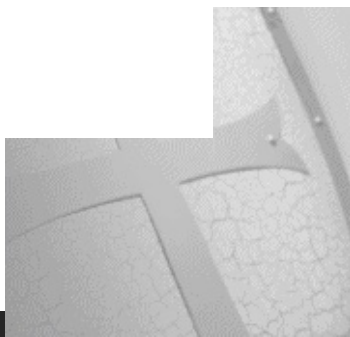


Truth Principle

“He never



understood the gift in Jonathan because Saul never had a values system.”



As a penalty of dishonor, have you ever watched a person’s legacy be cut off? What lesson(s) did you learn from what you saw?

Penalty #2: Saul’s Grandkids were Immobile

Then king David sent, and fetched him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lo-debar. Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And he answered, Behold thy servant! And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely show thee kindness for Jonathan thy father’s sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

II Samuel 9:5–7 Describe a time when you were dropped in ministry like Mephibosheth’s nanny dropped him.

The second penalty Saul paid was that his grandchildren were immobile—Mephibosheth. God had entrusted the generational anointing to the nanny, and because Saul sowed dishonor, Mephibosheth’s legs were broken and his entire life his ministry was on a crutch. His ministry was on a crutch because his grandfather sowed dishonor when he killed 83 priests in Shiloh (See I Samuel 21).

Did you ever attribute it to generational dishonor when you reaped what was sown by your forefathers? What do you think now, in light of this lesson?

Help from Abimelech

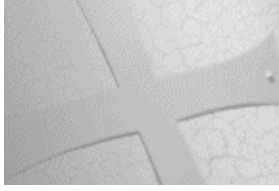
When David fled for his life from Saul, he went to Abimelech the priest. He said, “Look man, I’m running away here. My previous leader hasn’t given me a sword. Do you have anything I can fight the enemy with?” Abimelech said, “I have the sword of Goliath behind the veil.” Remember, the ark was taken away so the only glory they had was the glory of this young man who preached this message at a conference and took down a regional giant.

They took his message and his testimony and put it behind the veil because that was the only glory that was fallen. And so they took that and put it in the hands of this up and coming apostolic and prophetic gift—songwriter, kingly anointing.

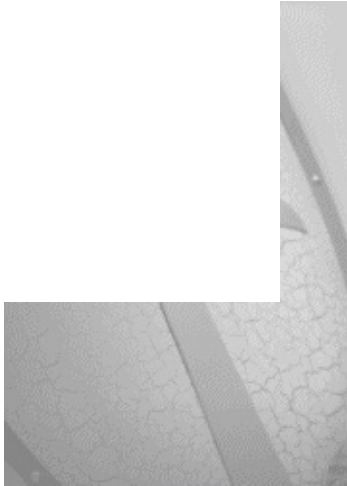


Honor Promise

For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast



rejected the word of the Lord, He hath also rejected thee from being king. I Samuel 15:23



When Saul heard that Abimelech received David—a young gift that had no mentor—he sent his army there and killed 83 priests. He got an Amalekite by the name of Doeg to do it. Saul sowed dishonor when he killed the priests.

Saul did not live to see his grandchildren reap the harvest of his dishonor. Have you in your lifetime seen a harvest of dishonor in your children or grandchildren?

What did you do when you realized the behavior or patterns you were observing were a harvest from a bad seed you sowed? How did you cut off the harvest of dishonor?

Penalty #3: Saul Put a Nation into Economic Recession & Famine

If a man will kill, he will never honor previous contracts. Saul killed the Gibeonites. They were the people that came to Joshua and said, “We want to sign a contract and a league with you.” Joshua signed it and sealed it by an irrevocable covenant: “We will not harm the Gibeonites.”

Because Saul had a crazy head and was incensed by the spirit of dishonor, he dishonored previous contracts from previous generations. The penalty was that an entire nation in the next generation was put into economic recession and famine.

By honoring covenant and restoring Mephibosheth in II Samuel 9, David reversed Saul’s dishonor. He said to Ziba, “Are there any descendants of Saul that I might show honor for Jonathan’s sake?”



Truth Principle

“This is how Saul’s dishonor was reversed. David restored Mephibosheth.”



Allegiances:

There are three ways in which we develop relationship regionally and locally: allegiances, alliances, and covenants. David goes to Lo-debar, and brings Mephibosheth out of Lodebar and reverses the curse.

Identify the following relationships in your life:

Alliances:

Covenants:

Closing Prayer

Spend some time in meditation and prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the sins of your forefathers—unbroken covenants and dishonor seeds sown—that affect you and your family today. Follow His leading to reverse the dishonor that was sown.

noteS

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on its right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

Lesson Three A tALe of tWO KIngS: dAvId & uzzIAh

And it came to pass, after the year was expired, at the time when kings go forth to battle, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried still at Jerusalem. And it came to pass in an evening tide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon. And David sent and inquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite? And David sent messengers and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house.

II Samuel 11:1–4

David, Bathsheba, & Uriah

David sent for Bathsheba, slept with her, and then she said, “I’m expecting a child.” To try and cover his sin, David sent for her husband Uriah to organize a rendezvous with Bathsheba so that he could claim the child. When Uriah’s loyalty kept him from following the plan, David had him killed. He shed innocent blood and dishonored a neighbor.

Describe a time when you have tried to stage a cover up of your own sin. Were you successful?

David sowed the seeds of dishonor, and Nathan the prophet was sent to him. Nathan told David a parable about a man with a lot of sheep and a man with one lamb. He told how this man with a lot of sheep took the lamb of the other man. David became enraged and wanted the thief punished. Then Nathan said, “You are the man.”

Who are the God sent voices in your life that convict you of your sin?

As a result, the penalties of dishonor were reaped in David’s family for generations. Dishonor sowed in any place will bring generational upheaval. To

reverse the course of events that David set in motion, he repented and received God's judgment in the death of his and Bathsheba's son. The thing he loved most died.

Sometimes the penalty of dishonor is to have something valuable taken away from you. Have you had this experience?

King Uzziah & the Censer

Sixteen years old was Uzziah when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusalem. And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father Amaziah did. And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God: and as long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper.

II Chronicles 26:3–5

Uzziah began as a young man and godly king. Comparable to historical and impressive United States presidencies, II Chronicles 26 has a long list of Uzziah's accomplishments. He engaged the Philistine enemy in war, took their strongholds, and built cities around them (vv. 6–7).

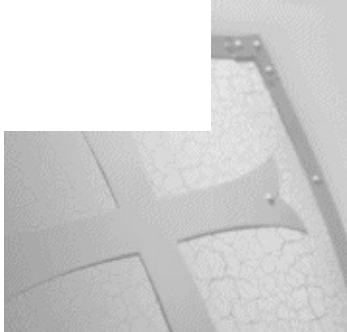
Uzziah's name was known abroad as he established himself as a skilled military leader (v. 8). He enhanced homeland security for Jerusalem— building towers, digging wells, and fortifying gates (vv. 9–10). He developed an impressive army and prepared them with the necessary weaponry, even sanctioning the creation of new battle implements (vv. 11–15).



Truth Principle



“Despite all of his good ministry, the Scripture says he became a leper.”



And his name spread far abroad: for he was marvelously helped, till he was strong. II Chronicles 26:15d

Uzziah worked so hard for so long relying on the Lord, and was “marvelously helped” by the Lord. What about you? Have you ever experienced the hand of the Lord so upon your life that your impact was far reaching like Uzziah’s?

Dishonor’s Great Fall

In his later years when he was strong, Uzziah crossed the boundary line of kings. He made a dangerous assumption that because the hand of the Lord was with him to date, he could stand in the priest’s office without reproach. Remember, Uzziah was an innovator and cutting edge leader. He had a successful track record of contributions for Jerusalem.

The principle here is that the mishandling of times of success can cause us to blur the boundary lines. We can become so successful in our calling that we presume to take another assignment that God never intended.

But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction: for he transgressed against the Lord his God, and went into the temple of the Lord to burn incense upon the altar of incense.

II Chronicles 26:16 Did you, like Uzziah, get lifted up in your strength? How

do you know? What were the indicators?

Warning before Destruction

And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him fourscore priests of the Lord, that were valiant men: and they withstood Uzziah the king, and said unto him, It appertaineth not unto thee, Uzziah, to burn incense unto the Lord, but to the priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to burn incense: go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast trespassed; neither shall it be for thine honor from the Lord God. Then Uzziah was wroth, and had a censer in his hand to burn incense: and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the Lord, from beside the incense altar. And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked upon him, and behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and they thrust him out from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go out, because the Lord had smitten him.

II Chronicles 26: 17–20

The chief priest warned Uzziah not to try and offer the priest's sacrifice to God. He warned him of his transgression. Too often we are headstrong about moving forward with a particular idea or project. Do we listen to the voice or voices of reason God sends to caution us?

Uzziah dishonored the book. He dishonored the Law. He dishonored God, and he was not exempt from penalty. So it is with us. If we dishonor God and His Law we are not exempt from the Law.

What is the lesson you learn from Uzziah?

What are the best ways to respond to warnings and counsel?

Removing the Obstruction

And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house, being a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the Lord: and Jotham his son was over the king's house, judging the people of the land.

II Chronicles 26:21 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Isaiah 6:1

Only Uzziah's death restored order and honor to the Lord. As long as he sought the Lord he prospered and received help. But when he, in his own strength, crossed the line, he became a stumblingblock. He worked hard to position Jerusalem for abundance and political power, but he did not enjoy the fruit of his labor.

It was a penalty for dishonor, and the only way that dishonor could be turned around was by an angel taking a coal from heaven and burning the mouth of the prophet to purge generational words.

noteS

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Lesson Four hoW to reAP honor’S reWArD’S

What do you think it takes for a person’s life to demonstrate the rewards of honor?

When developing generational anointing—whether it’s our physical or spiritual sons—there is a seven point development plan to develop the seeds of honor: 1) Called, 2) Commissioned, 3) Competent, 4) Conduct, 5) Continuity, 6) Confident, 7) Control.

Be Called

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

Ephesians 4:7

Acalling from God is the first step to being successful in ministry. In Jeremiah 1:5, God told the prophet Jeremiah he was called. Ezekiel was also told by God that he was called. The Apostle Paul constantly opened his writings by stating he was called by God. Jesus was called.

Find individuals that are called, physically and spiritually. When you find them put them into their calling. If you will honor that calling and speak into that calling, it is the first step to reap the rewards of honor. In 1 Kings 19, Elisha who was working the family farm was called into ministry by Elijah after the instruction he received from God in the cave. For Elisha to be honored as a

Prophet, he first had to show honor in ministry by serving.

Be Commissioned

Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of hands of the presbytery.

I Timothy 4:14 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee.

Titus 1:5

- You need a Timothy that is called, that you can lay hands on—whether in ministry or in business—so that he can be released unto good works. There has to be a Titus who can be commissioned to Crete, and a Timothy sent to Ephesus or Corinth. In Matthew 10:1–3 Jesus named his apostles, and commissioned them, and empowered them by giving them authority over demons and sickness and disease. The Apostle Paul raised significant “sons” that he honored and that honored him as a father and as their Apostle and Apostle to the Gentile Churches. Paul layed his hands on them, prophesied on them and commissioned them so that they became indispensable as ministry gifts where ever they went.
- In history, it is recorded that John the Apostle discipled Polycarp (*Polycarpus*) who was commissioned to Apostolic oversight as the Bishop of the Church in Smyrna, mentioned in Revelation chapters one and two. Polycarp’s commissioned a student named Irenaeus.

When a leader commissions ministry sons, or trained developed ministers, the chances of success are huge.

Be Competent

For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their sense exercised to discern both good and evil.

Hebrews 5:13–14

They have to have competence in their gift, so their gift has got to be developed. We then develop the kinds of programs that sharpen the giftedness of the individuals and then minister into their strengths. If you do not minister into their strengths, and develop their weaknesses, in moments of pressure their incompetence can release dishonor. Every individual has been endowed with gifts but at the same time inherent in each of us are weaknesses, levels of incompetence, limitations, lack, frailties and vulnerabilities. To these inadequacies, we need to build protection for the individual and develop accountability structures and systems for the success of the up-coming ministry.

Under unreasonable pressure, demonic attacks, jealousy, let downs if this is not provided for the ministry individual they could leave unreasonably, bringing a curse of dishonor that creates famines, draught and bareness

Have Good Conduct

But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not once be named among you, as becomes saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.

Ephesians 5:3–4

Give therefore thy servant and understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?

I Kings 3:9

Next, they have to have good conduct, that is being morally upright, with no compromising suggestive behavior. Being a man or woman of impeccable character, not giving place for one's reputation to be tarnished by irresponsible actions. This is their behavior. They have to know how to come in and go out before the Lord and the people of God. That is what Solomon prayed for—give me wisdom so I know how to come in and go out. That is conduct.

Maintain Continuity

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

II Timothy 4:2

After that, they have to understand the continuity of a generational anointing—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. What my father started I must continue. We must not go back to the beginning. God is a God of multi-generations. In fact the most consistently successful financial dynasties in the world can be attributed to generational vision, planning, strategies, and a commitment to adhering to those goals and plans.

Be Confident

Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then we have confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

I John 3:21–22

Sixth, an individual must possess confidence. This has to do with their faith. Without faith it's impossible to please God, so we have to teach them how to function within the confines of God's Word. Every major player in Scripture has been used in arenas of dramatic, aggressive faith. Just about every successful ministry in our day is so because of significant faith which does have a direct bearing on confidence. The leaders and believers of this day must have credible self confidence. Self belief is a necessity for establishing sons and building members in ministries on all levels.

Exercise Control

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22–25

You need individuals who know how to control their appetites, their emotions, and their temperament. Also, they need to know how to function in their relationship with men of lesser gift and with men or women of greater gift as well as how to function within the tensions of those gifts. Once we develop this

kind of individual or these kinds of ministries, we have entered the process of sowing an honor seed.

When Jesus came as a gift, He came as an honor seed. This was His prayer in the garden of Gethsemane. He said, “Father, let this cup pass from me. Nevertheless, not my will. I’m going to honor Your will.” Anytime you have a young ministry that is being developed by a father, if that individual can be the seed of honor, 2000 years later in your city that honor seed will still be reaping the rewards of showing honor. Our job then is to raise up a generation of men and women who do not just know how to do good church, but understand how to sow the seeds of honor. Obedience is better than sacrifice, but submission is better than obedience. For example, I may send someone for a glass of water; they may obey, but may not be submitted to me. In 2 Samuel 23:14–17 King David just whispered that he longed for a drink of water from the well in Bethlehem. His mighty men were more than obedient, they were submissive, and showed the highest honor to their King. Honor always manifests where individuals are submissive.

The Harvest of Honor

The seeds of honor will produce loyalty, integrity, and balance.

1. Loyalty

We need a generation of loyal individuals—not backstabbers, but loyal. You might be an apostolic leader here or a pastor who will never grow a church to more than 50 people. But of that 50 there may be one young man or two young individuals whose ministry will grow to 10,000 or 15,000, and have ministries in many countries.

But because they’ve been taught right and they’ve been given the spirit of loyalty, they will never dishonor their father by being arrogant, or foolish. They will always uplift their father, by showing honor in many many ways. Despite the fact that the son’s ministry is much bigger, with great influence, and credibility, generating significantly greater finances, this son will never dishonor their father. They may have moved way ahead in spheres of influence, notoriety and significance, but again they will not dishonor their father. They may even leave their father’s organization for other needful relationships, yet still they will never dishonor their father.

2. Integrity

The way you release this gift is by bringing the seed of integrity. Integrity means transparency. There is a tremendous need for the restoration of integrity in so many areas of ministry. Here is a brief list of where integrity must be restored: in marriage relationships, in friendship relationships, in ministry leadership relationships, in dealings with the opposite gender, in finances both personal and ministry, in keeping one's word including scheduling. Let's develop young seeds (sons and daughters) in ministry that have integrity.

3. Balance

Dr. Ed Cole said, “Balance is the key to life.” There are ministry functions and operations that under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, spectacular events can transpire, from masterful homilies/ preaching to miracles signs and wonders. There is no need to be freaky under the anointing, or display eccentric behavior, or irregular emotions. Gifts that are under command AND controlled are absolutely necessary. If individuals have no balance in their lives, they could be destroyed, or deprived, or isolated by forced circumstances, being avoided and possibly dying absolutely alone. We’ve got these spiritual fruitcakes running all over the place that have no balance in their life.

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Lesson Five AtmoSPhere, dImenSIon, & AnoIntIng

Change the Spiritual Atmosphere

The first reward of honor is that God will change the spiritual atmosphere. Honor always changes the spiritual atmosphere. Ruth, Abigail, and Esther showed honor, and their respective world's were eternally, fundamentally altered, impacting their destiny and changing their lives. King David always honored God, the Prophets, the priests, his family, and even King Saul, while he was alive and even after his death. For almost his entire life, the blessing of the Lord saturated his atmosphere. There are so many instances in Scripture that when honor is given, the atmosphere changed.

Prophetic Dimension

The second reward is the prophetic dimension. God will release the prophetic dimension. Once that prophetic dimension is released, that region, that people, that generation, can speak prophetically even to four generations.

Abraham, who has a promise on his life—you will be a father of many nations—meets Melchizedek with an offering in Genesis 14. It's his tithe. He's showing honor to the king of Salem, who is the king of righteousness and peace. He gives him his tithe. The entire region is dominated by the spirit of Sodom and Gomorrah. So because Abraham is sowing the seed of honor, the atmosphere in the region is going to change. Sodom and Gomorrah is going to be destroyed by God's angelic generals.

Watch the prophetic seed and the reward that he's getting. He paid his tithes, according to Hebrews 7, he paid tithes for Levi. Here's a man that doesn't have children. His wife is still barren. There's no manifestation of Sarah perking any

day soon. But because he sowed the seed of honor, the prophetic anointing came where Levi, his great-grandson was purged. And he opened the door for the tribe of Levi to receive tithe 700 years later. So the reward of honor is the prophetic anointing is released. It's the prophetic dimension.

Kingdom Anointing

Finally, the reward of honor is a kingdom anointing. That means a dynasty is developed. It's generational. He says not only will you be blessed, but so will your children, and your children's children. He gives a promise in Exodus 20 that I will bless you to a thousand generations. That's the reward of showing honor. If you show this kind of honor, the Kingdom of God will be in your children for generations.

And the ark of the Lord continued in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite three months: and the Lord blessed Obed-edom, and all his household.

II Samuel 6:11

Obed-edom receives the ark and he shows the highest level of honor. And God rewards him that his grandchildren are serving in Solomon's temple. Here's a man who was not supposed to be in the presence of the Lord for ten generations. But because of an honor seed, three generations down his children are the custodians of the Ark of the Covenant in Solomon's temple. The rewards of honor.

Simon of Cyrene—he's just a brother visiting Jerusalem. He came upon a church service where the prophet of the day is being crucified by the previous apostolic era. Simon now is called by the crucifiers to help this prophet carry his cross. He picks up the cross, and according to the implication, he does not want to do it at first. But in the exchange—remember, the blood of Jesus was already on the cross—he's putting the cross now on his shoulders. The government is on his shoulders. He's carrying heavenly government. He's sowing a seed of honor.

When you read in the book of Acts, Simon's sons become part and parcel of the evangelistic prophetic team that evangelizes Asia. They become part of Paul's apostolic team. When you sow honor, the rewards of honor is kingdom generational benefits.

Show some honor up and sow some honor down. Husbands honor your wives; wives honor your husbands. Servants honor your masters; masters honor your servants. Honor your king. Honor the law. Honor the land. Honor the word. And most of all, you must honor God.

Pray this prayer:

We pray for a season of a return of honor. We cancel all of the harvests of dishonor. We come against every demonic attack that's bringing a harvest of dishonor. We renounce it, we reject it, and we apply the blood of Jesus in it.

Conclusion

Thank you for making time to engage in this study on the spirit of honor. We know that if you apply the principles you have learned in this study, your ministry and life will be enriched and bear fruit previously unseen. We encourage you to walk in the knowledge you have received and to continue to pray the prayer cited below, as well as guard your heart against future seeds of dishonor.

PrAyer to reverSe the hArveSt of dIShonor

Father, in the name of Jesus, any harvest of dishonor headed our way—for those in this congregation, for those watching this DVD—by the blood of Jesus and through apostolic authority we cancel the harvest of dishonor and we release the seeds of honor. Father, for all our forefathers who maybe through ignorance or deliberate action have sown the seeds of dishonor to dishonor you, to dishonor your word in any way, we pray now for forgiveness. Forgive us. Forgive them. Forgive our children. Cancel that past. We pray for the seeds and the harvest of honor, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bishop Tudor Bismark resides in Harare, Zimbabwe, which is in the southern region of the continent of Africa. He and his wife, ChiChi, founded Jabula—New Life Ministries International in 1989, initially as an extension of New Life Covenant Church in Harare.

Bishop Bismark serves as an Apostolic overseer to over 900 churches in 12 African nations, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, South America, the West Indies, and the United States. In addition to providing full-time financial support to hundreds of pastors and churches, the ministry is responsible for the operation of an extensive Medical Assistance Program, orphanages, and other humanitarian outreaches in Southern Africa.

Bishop Bismark travels extensively functioning in the role of an Apostle, and is sounding a clear voice in this season that it is time for God's people to establish His Kingdom in the earth. His teachings are changing the way that ministry is being done in the 21st century, and his wisdom concerning global trends is transforming the minds and hearts of countless pastors and leaders around the world.

To learn more about Tudor Bismark Ministries, including how to obtain the entire corresponding CD and/or DVD series, please visit www.TudorBismark.org.uk or email Mail@TudorBismark.org.uk.

