

KNIGHTS FOR CHRIST



The ARMOR *of* GOD

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Ephesians 6:11

Bill Clinton

24 VIRTUES OF A GODLY MAN

THE VIRTUE OF

HONOR

THE VIRTUE OF HONOR

- The fear of the LORD teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor. —Proverbs 15:33
- Humility and the fear of the LORD bring wealth and honor and life. —Proverbs 22:4
- Before his downfall a man's heart is proud, but humility comes before honor. — Proverbs 18:12

- Reading the three Scripture passages above leads to one clear insight: humility and honor are interrelated. Honor in the world's perspective typically deals with a person's lifestyle or accomplishments as they relate to the world's virtues. However, honor in God's eyes is very different. From God's perspective, true honor is preceded by deep humility. What is honor? Better yet, what does it mean to be honorable in God's sight? Honor is difficult to define in a paragraph or even a lengthy story or parable. Consider these short sayings about honor that help define this complex topic:

- An honorable leader gives away all the credit but takes all the blame.
- Honor is living your life in a way that you believe God is actually watching you.
- Honor is giving up your bed and sleeping on the floor but saying nothing about it.
- Honor is taking the worst seat.
- Honor is being self-sacrificing and not boasting about it or complaining.
- Honor is overlooking a wrong or taking the losing position in an (ultimately unimportant) argument for the sake of peace within relationships.

- Honor is living for an audience of One.
- Honor is still finishing the details of a project even after you have been fired.
- Honor is taking the high road.
- Honor is giving a two-week notice at work and working to the best of your ability until the day you leave.
- Honor is doing your best on a school assignment even when your teacher does not deserve respect.
- Honor is looking the other way when wronged: “A man’s wisdom gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook an offense” (Proverbs 19:11).

- Godly honor comes to a person when they serve and live only for God. Sometimes others acknowledge this honor publically, but this is never a true knight's goal. His first goal is to live for God and be loyal to the code of knighthood. He lives for an audience of One and thus maintains and holds honor within himself. Then whatever public honor comes, comes.

- Thus, a by-product of a Godly man's life is likely a good reputation (at least among those where a good reputation is valued), but that's never his goal either. Nonetheless, having a good name is "more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold" (Proverbs 22:1).

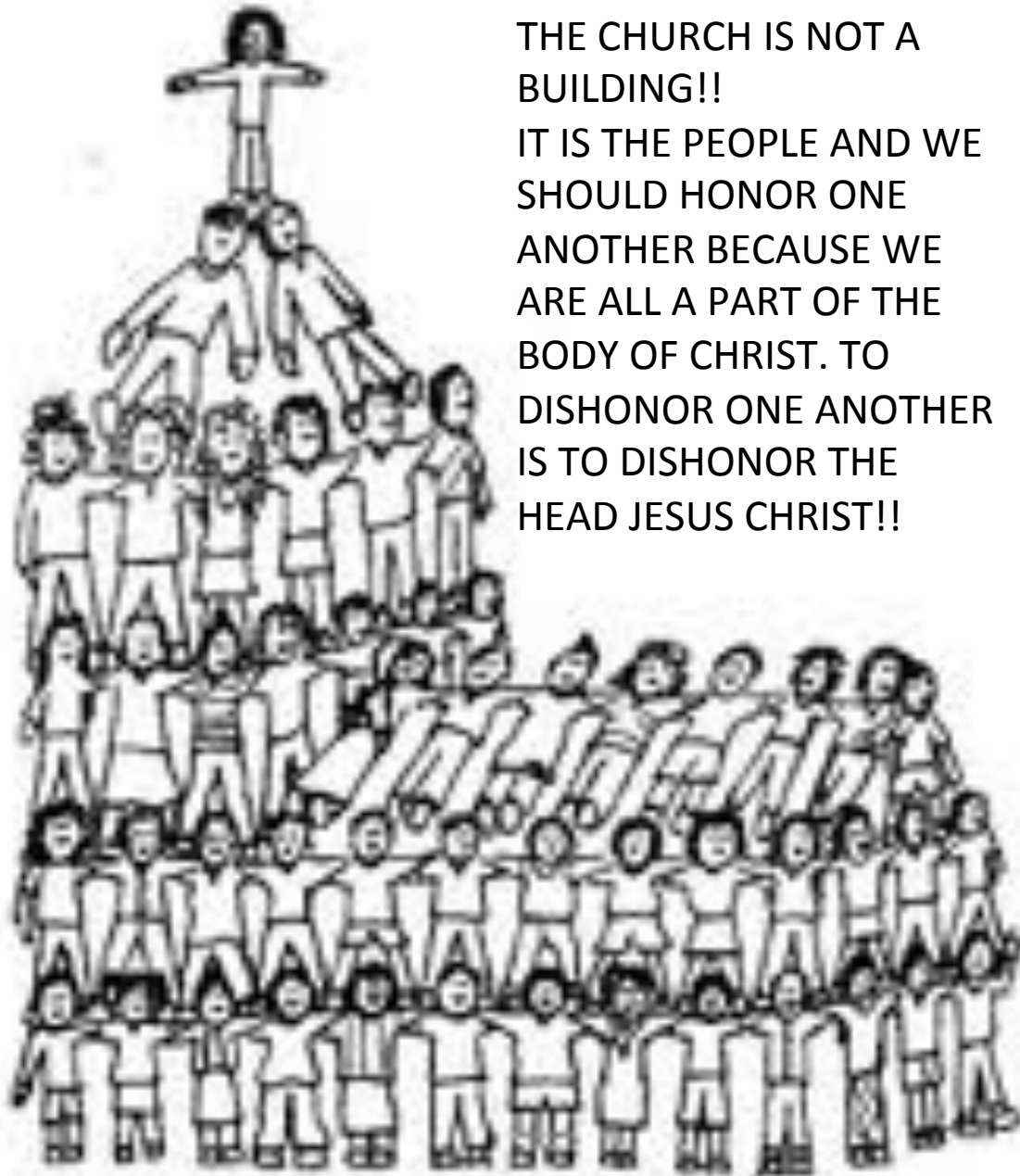
Living a Life of Honor

- **THE CORINTHIAN CHURCH**
- **A. REBUKED FOR NOT RECOGNIZING THE BODY OF CHRIST. RECOGNITION IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF HONOR. WE MUST STRIVE TO GIVE HONOR TO THE WHOLE BODY OF BELIEVERS. CHRIST IS NO RESPECTER OF PERSONS.**
- **B. FACTIONS (COMPARISON AND COMPETITION) WHEN WE DISHONOR EACH OTHER THE RESULT IS THAT WE LOSE THE UNITY THAT CHRIST GIVES US.**
- **C. INSENSITIVITY – DISHONOR BRINGS SELFISHNESS AND WE BECOME INSENSITIVE TO THE NEEDS OF OTHERS.**

GOD'S PERSPECTIVE ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

- A. GOD IS CONCERNED ABOUT HOW WE TREAT ONE ANOTHER. BEING A MAN OF HONOR DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE ARE SEEKING TO BE HONORED. WE ARE GIVEN HONOR WHEN WE ARE LIVING A LIFE THAT HONORS OTHERS. REMEMBER WE REAP WHAT WE SOW.**
- B. WE NEED TO LEARN TO SEE PEOPLE THE WAY GOD SEE'S THEM AND TREAT THEM ACCORDINGLY. YOU NEED TO GIVE VALUE AND WORTH TO EVERY PERSON. REMEMBER THEY WERE BOUGHT BY JESUS BLOOD JUST LIKE YOU.**

- **RELATIONSHIPS ARE THE BUILDING BLOCKS THAT HOUSE THE GLORY OF GOD!**
- ***EPHESIANS 2:21-22* IN HIM THE WHOLE BUILDING IS JOINED TOGETHER AND RISES TO BECOME A HOLY TEMPLE IN THE LORD. *AND IN HIM YOU TOO ARE BEING BUILT TOGETHER TO BECOME A DWELLING IN WHICH GOD LIVES BY HIS SPIRIT.***
- **I JOHN 1:7 “IF WE WALK IN THE LIGHT AS HE IS IN THE LIGHT WE HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER AND THE BLOOD OF JESUS CLEANSSES US OF ALL SIN.”**



THE CHURCH IS NOT A
BUILDING!!
IT IS THE PEOPLE AND WE
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BODY OF CHRIST. TO
DISHONOR ONE ANOTHER
IS TO DISHONOR THE
HEAD JESUS CHRIST!!

- TO LIVE WITH HONOR AS A CHRISTIAN, WE HAVE TO ESPECIALLY HONOR THOSE WHO ARE PART OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST, THE CHURCH. HONOR CONSIDERS OTHERS TO BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THEMSELVES. WE SHOULD BE 'INTENTIONAL" ABOUT OUR LOVING AND RESPECT SHOWN TO OTHERS. THERE ARE NO "SECOND CLASS" CITIZENS IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD. AS WE GROW AS A BODY WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT THOSE WHO ARE COMING INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD ARE GIVEN RESPECT AND HONOR DUE A CHILD OF GOD. MANY PEOPLE HAVE NEVER BEEN HONORED IN THEIR LIVES SO THIS IS A BLESSED EXPERIENCE.

We are called to LIVE A LIFE OF HONOR

- **“If I do not understand honor then I will not understand God and his ways.” quote by David Thomas.**
- **The Ten Commandments are all about honor...honoring God and honoring people.**
- **We will take a look at these commands from God and perhaps get a new perspective on how they relate to honor.**

The Ten Commandments

1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven images.
3. Thou shalt not take the Lord's name in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy.
5. Honor thy Father and thy Mother
6. Thou shalt not kill.
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
8. Thou shalt not steal.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness.
10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, wife or possessions.

- 1. DO NOT WORSHIP ANY OTHER GOD THAN THE ONE TRUE GOD. ALL OTHER GODS ARE FALSE GODS. THIS IS A MATTER OF PRIORITIES. GOD IS A JEALOUS GOD AND HE WILL NOT WANT TOLERATE US GIVING OUR HEART TO ANY OTHER. WE ARE CREATED TO WORSHIP GOD AND WE ARE ONLY TRULY FULFILLED IF WE ARE WORSHIPING THE LORD AND HIM ALONE. OUR GOD CAN'T BE REPLACED BY ANYTHING OR ANYONE ELSE. PUT GOD FIRST IN EVERYTHING. BECAUSE HE IS GREAT, HE IS GOOD, AND HE DESERVES OUR WORSHIP!!

- 2. DO NOT MAKE IDOLS OR IMAGES IN THE FORM OF GOD. AN IDOL CAN BE ANYTHING (OR ANYONE) YOU WORSHIP BY GIVING IT MORE IMPORTANCE THAN GOD. IF SOMETHING (OR SOMEONE) HAS YOUR TIME, ATTENTION AND AFFECTIONS, IT HAS YOUR WORSHIP. IT COULD BE AN IDOL IN YOUR LIFE.
- MANY TIMES WE PLACE THINGS OR EVEN PEOPLE AS OBJECTS OF WORSHIP IN OUR LIVES. STUFF OR RELATIONSHIPS CAN COMPLETELY DESTROY A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. CARS, BOATS, OTHER POSSESSIONS, OR A PERSON SHOULD NOT BE HONORED ABOVE GOD.

- 3. DO NOT TREAT GOD'S NAME LIGHTLY OR WITH DISRESPECT. BECAUSE OF GOD'S IMPORTANCE, HIS NAME IS ALWAYS TO BE SPOKEN OF WITH HONOR.
- THE WAY THAT WE TREAT THE NAME OF GOD IS ALWAYS AN INDICATOR OF HOW MUCH WE HONOR, RESPECT, AND LOVE OUR GOD. THIS WORLD TODAY USES THE LORD'S NAME SO LOOSELY. IF YOU WORK IN THE WORLD IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG TO FIND OUT THAT WORLDLY PEOPLE AND MANY CHRISTIANS DO NOT HONOR GOD'S NAME. IF WE WILL NOT HONOR GOD'S NAME WE WILL NOT HONOR OTHERS.

- 4. DEDICATE OR SET ASIDE A REGULAR DAY EACH WEEK FOR SABBATH REST AND WORSHIP OF THE LORD.
- WHY IS IT IMPORTANT HONOR GOD THROUGH WORSHIP. THOSE THINGS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO US USUALLY REQUIRE SOME TIME DEVOTED TO IT. IN THE CASE OF OUR FAITH WE HONOR GOD AND GIVE HIM TIME. THE SAME GOES FOR PEOPLE. WE SAY WE HONOR OUR WIVES AND CHILDREN, AND OUR PARENTS. YET...WE DON'T SPEND THE TIME WE SHOULD HONORING THOSE PEOPLE. SELFISHNESS EXCLUDES GOD AND USUALLY AND NORMALLY EXCLUDE OTHERS NEEDS TOO.

- 5. GIVE HONOR TO YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER BY TREATING THEM WITH RESPECT AND OBEDIENCE.
- HONOR BEGINS WITH THOSE WHO WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR GIVING YOU LIFE. OUR PARENTS ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR LIFE AND WE SHOULD ALWAYS SEEK TO HONOR THEM IN ANY WAY THAT WE CAN. SOMETIMES I HEAR PEOPLE SAY THAT THEIR PARENTS BEHAVED IN A WAY THAT IS NOT HONORABLE. WE SHOULD FIND A WAY TO HONOR THEM AS BEST WE CAN. WE CAN'T CONDONE SIN BUT WE CAN FIND WAYS TO BLESS OUR PARENTS. THE PROMISES ARE TREMENDOUS TO THOSE OF US WHO WILL MAKE THE EFFORT TO HONOR THEM.

- 6. DO NOT DELIBERATELY KILL A FELLOW HUMAN BEING .
- A BASIC TENANT OF HONOR IS TO ALWAYS HONOR HUMAN LIFE. WE MUST BE COMMITTED TO NEVER MURDERING ANOTHER PERSON. WE HAVE TO REMEMBER JESUS SAYS WHEN WE HATE SOMEONE WE ARE GUILTY OF MURDER. THE VERY REAL APPLICATION OF THIS , IS , THAT WHILE WE MIGHT NEVER IN A PHYSICAL SENSE MURDER SOMEONE, BUT WE OFTEN SPIRITUALLY COMMIT MURDER THROUGH HARBORING RESENTMENT AND HATRED.

- 7. DO NOT HAVE SEXUAL RELATIONS WITH ANYONE OTHER THAN YOUR SPOUSE. GOD FORBIDS SEX OUTSIDE OF THE BOUNDS OF MARRIAGE.
- THIS COMMAND TEACHES US ABOUT HONORING OUR MARRIAGE VOWS. THIS IS SO VERY IMPORTANT TO US AS CHRISTIAN MEN. WE ARE ALWAYS TO HONOR OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR SPOUSE. HONORING GOD BY HONORING YOUR WIFE IS A TESTIMONY TO THE WORLD. WE NEED TO REALIZE THAT ACCORDING TO JESUS WE CAN COMMIT ADULTERY JUST BY THINKING OF SEXUAL RELATIONS WITH OTHERS. GUARD YOUR HEART, GUARD YOUR MIND, AND HONOR YOUR SPOUSE.

- 8. DO NOT STEAL OR TAKE ANYTHING THAT DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU, UNLESS YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN PERMISSION TO DO SO.
- WE ARE TO ALWAYS HONOR THE BOUNDARIES THAT ARE NATURAL. WE SHOULD NOT BE MESSING WITH OTHER PEOPLE'S STUFF. IT IS AMAZING IN THIS DAY AND TIME HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE NO RESPECT FOR OTHERS AND THE PROPERTY THAT THEY OWN. HONOR YOU FRIENDS BY NOT ABUSING THEIR STUFF, HONOR YOUR EMPLOYER BY NOT TAKING COMPANY STUFF, AND HONOR GOD BY NOT STEALING HIS GLORY AND GIVING TO HIM WHAT HE SHOULD RECEIVE. MAL. 3 SAYS WE HAVE ROBBED GOD.

- 9. DO NOT TELL A LIE ABOUT SOMEONE OR BRING A FALSE ACCUSATION AGAINST ANOTHER PERSON.
- HONOR THE REPUTATION OF OTHERS BY NOT LYING OR SPEAKING FALSELY ABOUT OTHERS. WE MANY TIMES ARE GUILTY OF PARTICIPATING IN GOSSIP AND SLANDER OF OTHERS AND WE DON'T KNOW THE FACTS. THE WORD OF GOD SAYS NOT ONLY ARE WE SUPPOSED TO ALWAYS SPEAK THE TRUTH, BUT, WE ARE BOUND BY HONOR TO SPEAK THE TRUTH "IN LOVE". IF WE WILL TAKE THIS TO HEART WE WILL NOT DISHONOR THE REPUTATION AND IMAGE OF OTHERS. WE DON'T NEED TO BUILD OUR IMAGE UP BY BREAKING SOMEONE ELSE'S DOWN.

- DO NOT DESIRE ANYTHING OR ANYONE THAT DOES NOT BELONG TO YOU. COMPARING YOURSELF TO OTHERS AND LONGING TO HAVE WHAT THEY HAVE LEADS TO JEALOUSY, ENVY AND OTHER SINS. BE CONTENT BY FOCUSING ON THE BLESSINGS GOD HAS GIVEN YOU AND NOT WHAT HE *HAS NOT* GIVEN YOU .
- DON'T DISHONOR YOURSELF BY ALLOWING JEALOUSY AND ENVY TO RISE UP IN YOUR LIFE. WE ARE TO SEEK TO LIVE LIKE PAUL DID. LEARN TO BE CONTENT WITH THE STATE OF OUR SITUATION, NO MATTER WHAT THAT STATE IS. CONTENTMENT IN CHRIST IS HOW WE HONOR OURSELVES AND HONOR GOD.

- **MATT. 7:12 - SO IN EVERYTHING, DO TO OTHERS WHAT YOU WOULD HAVE THEM DO TO YOU, FOR THIS SUMS UP THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS.**
- **SO WHILE WE HAVE FREEDOM IN CHRIST, WE ARE COMMANDED TO HONOR GOD AND ONE ANOTHER. THIS PLACES CONDITIONS ON OUR FREEDOM. WHEN WE LIVE A DISHONORABLE LIFE, WE LEAVE FREEDOM BEHIND. WE SHOULD ALWAYS DESIRE TO TREAT OTHERS LIKE WE DESIRE TO BE TREATED OURSELVES. THIS IS THE BASIC RULE OF LIVING AN HONORABLE LIFE**

THE **LIFE** THAT
HONORS
GOD

TRUST IN GOD ALONE

