

# Honoring God and Parents

August 28, 2011

*Focus: Honoring father and mother means cultivating a life centered in gratitude, respect and obedience. Honoring parents helps us to keep all of God's Commandments in the days and years to come.*

## Deuteronomy 5:16

<sup>16</sup> “Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

## Genesis 45:25-46:7; 46:28-30

<sup>25</sup> So they went up out of Egypt and came to their father Jacob in the land of Canaan. <sup>26</sup> They told him, “Joseph is still alive! In fact, he is ruler of all Egypt.” Jacob was stunned; he did not believe them. <sup>27</sup> But when they told him everything Joseph had said to them, and when he saw the carts Joseph had sent to carry him back, the spirit of their father Jacob revived. <sup>28</sup> And Israel said, “I’m convinced! My son Joseph is still alive. I will go and see him before I die.”

Genesis 46

<sup>1</sup> So Israel set out with all that was his, and when he reached Beersheba, he offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. <sup>2</sup> And God spoke to Israel in a vision at night and said, “Jacob! Jacob!” “Here I am,” he replied. <sup>3</sup> “I am God, the God of your father,” he said. “Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make you into a great nation there.

<sup>4</sup> I will go down to Egypt with you, and I will surely bring you back again. And Joseph’s own hand will close your eyes.” <sup>5</sup> Then Jacob left Beersheba, and Israel’s sons took their father Jacob and their children and their wives in the carts that Pharaoh had sent to transport him. <sup>6</sup> So Jacob and all his offspring went to Egypt, taking with them their livestock and the possessions they had acquired in Canaan. <sup>7</sup> Jacob brought with him to Egypt his sons and grandsons and his daughters and granddaughters—all his offspring.

<sup>28</sup> Now Jacob sent Judah ahead of him to Joseph to get directions to Goshen. When they arrived in the region of Goshen, <sup>29</sup> Joseph had his chariot made ready and went to Goshen to meet his father Israel. As soon as Joseph appeared before him, he threw his arms around his father and wept for a long time. <sup>30</sup> Israel said to Joseph, “Now I am ready to die, since I have seen for myself that you are still alive.”

## Ephesians 5:1-2, 6:1-4

<sup>1</sup> Follow God’s example, therefore, as dearly loved children <sup>2</sup> and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 6

<sup>1</sup> Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. <sup>2</sup> “Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise— <sup>3</sup> “so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.” <sup>4</sup> Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.



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## Psalm 105

<sup>1</sup> Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. <sup>2</sup> Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. <sup>3</sup> Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. <sup>4</sup> Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always. <sup>5</sup> Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced, <sup>6</sup> you his servants, the descendants of Abraham, his chosen ones, the children of Jacob. <sup>7</sup> He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth. <sup>8</sup> He remembers his covenant forever, the promise he made, for a thousand generations, <sup>9</sup> the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac. <sup>10</sup> He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree, to Israel as an everlasting covenant: <sup>11</sup> “To you I will give the land of Canaan as the portion you will inherit.” <sup>12</sup> When they were but few in number, few indeed, and strangers in it, <sup>13</sup> they wandered from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another. <sup>14</sup> He allowed no one to oppress them; for their sake he rebuked kings: <sup>15</sup> “Do not touch my anointed ones; do my prophets no harm.” <sup>16</sup> He called down famine on the land and destroyed all their supplies of food; <sup>17</sup> and he sent a man before them— Joseph, sold as a slave. <sup>18</sup> They bruised his feet with shackles, his neck was put in irons, <sup>19</sup> till what he foretold came to pass, till the word of the LORD proved him true. <sup>20</sup> The king sent and released him, the ruler of peoples set him free. <sup>21</sup> He made him master of his household, ruler over all he possessed, <sup>22</sup> to instruct his princes as he pleased and teach his elders wisdom. <sup>23</sup> Then Israel entered Egypt; Jacob resided as a foreigner in the land of Ham. <sup>24</sup> The LORD made his people very

fruitful; he made them too numerous for their foes, <sup>25</sup> whose hearts he turned to hate his people, to conspire against his servants. <sup>26</sup> He sent Moses his servant, and Aaron, whom he had chosen.

<sup>27</sup> They performed his signs among them, his wonders in the land of Ham. <sup>28</sup> He sent darkness and made the land dark— for had they not rebelled against his words?

<sup>29</sup> He turned their waters into blood, causing their fish to die. <sup>30</sup> Their land teemed with frogs, which went up into the bedrooms of their rulers. <sup>31</sup> He spoke, and there came swarms of flies, and gnats throughout their country. <sup>32</sup> He turned their rain into hail, with lightning throughout their land;

<sup>33</sup> he struck down their vines and fig trees and shattered the trees of their country.

<sup>34</sup> He spoke, and the locusts came, grasshoppers without number; <sup>35</sup> they ate up every green thing in their land, ate up the produce of their soil. <sup>36</sup> Then he struck down all the firstborn in their land, the firstfruits of all their manhood. <sup>37</sup> He brought out Israel, laden with silver and gold, and from among their tribes no one faltered.

<sup>38</sup> Egypt was glad when they left, because dread of Israel had fallen on them. <sup>39</sup> He spread out a cloud as a covering, and a fire to give light at night. <sup>40</sup> They asked, and he brought them quail; he fed them well with the bread of heaven. <sup>41</sup> He opened the rock, and water gushed out; it flowed like a river in the desert. <sup>42</sup> For he remembered his holy promise given to his servant Abraham. <sup>43</sup> He brought out his people with rejoicing, his chosen ones with shouts of joy; <sup>44</sup> he gave them the lands of the nations, and they fell heir to what others had toiled for—

<sup>45</sup> that they might keep his precepts and observe his laws. Praise the LORD.

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## Matthew 12:46-50

<sup>46</sup> While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. <sup>47</sup> Someone told him, “Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.” <sup>48</sup> He replied to him, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?” <sup>49</sup> Pointing to his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers. <sup>50</sup> For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”

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