

Honor

February 14, 2010

I. Definitions:

A. from Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary

Honor - noun

1 a: good name or public esteem: REPUTATION

b: a showing of usu. merited respect : RECOGNITION; pay honor to our founder

2: PRIVILEGE; had the honor of joining the captain for dinner

3: a person of superior standing - now used esp. as a title for a holder of high office; if Your Honor please

4: one whose worth brings respect or fame: CREDIT; an honor to the profession

B. from Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Thesaurus

Honor - noun

respect or esteem shown one as his due or claimed by one as a right <received the honor due his rank>

synonyms

deference, homage, obeisance, reverence

related words

admiration, esteem; adoration, adulation, devotion, veneration, worship; acknowledgment, compliment, recognition, regard, respect

contrasted words

contempt, despise, disdain, scorn; disregard, neglect, slighting

antonyms

dishonor

C. From Gary and Greg Smalley; "Bound by Honor"

What is honor?

Honor simply means deciding to place high value, worth and importance on another person by viewing him or her as a priceless gift and granting him or her position in our lives worthy of great respect. Honor is a decision we make daily toward someone who is special and valuable to us.

The lower the value we attach to people, the easier we can "justify" dishonoring them with our words or treating them with disrespect.

II. Greek Words:

(from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

A. Nouns:

1. *time* NT:5092

Used 43 times in the New Testament: (Matt 27:6, 9; John 4:44; Acts 4:34; 5:2, 3; 7:16; 19:19; 28:10; Rom 2:7, 10; 9:21; 12:10; 13:7, 7; 1 Cor 6:20; 7:23; 12:23, 24; Col 2:23; 1 Thes 4:4; 1 Tim 1:17; 5:17; 6:1, 16; 2 Tim 2:20, 21; Heb 2:7, 9; 3:3; 5:4; 1 Peter 1:7; 2:7; 3:7; 2 Peter 1:17; Rev 4:9, 11; 5:12, 13; 7:12; 19:1; 21:24, 26)

Primarily "a valuing," hence, objectively

- (a) "a price paid or received," e. g., Matt 27:6,9; Acts 4:34; 5:2,3; 7:16, RV, "price" (KJV, "sum"); 19:19; 6:20; 7:23;
- (b) of "the preciousness of Christ" unto believers, 1 Peter 2:7, RV, i. e., the honor and inestimable value of Christ as appropriated by believers, who are joined, as living stones, to Him the cornerstone;
- (c) in the sense of value, of human ordinances, valueless against the indulgence of the flesh, or, perhaps of no value in attempts at asceticism, Col 2:23
- (d) "honor, esteem"
 - (1) used in ascriptions of worship to God, 1 Tim 1:17; 6:16; Rev 4:9,11; 5:13; 7:12; to Christ, 5:12,13
 - (2) bestowed upon Christ by the Father, Heb 2:9; 2 Peter 1:17
 - (3) bestowed upon man, Heb 2:7
 - (4) bestowed upon Aaronic priests, Heb 5:4
 - (5) to be the reward hereafter of "the proof of faith" on the part of tried saints, 1 Peter 1:7, RV
 - (6) used of the believer who as a vessel is "meet for the Master's use," 2 Tim 2:21
 - (7) to be the reward of patience in well-doing, Rom 2:7, and of working good (a perfect life to which man cannot attain, so as to be justified before God thereby), 2:10
 - (8) to be given to all to whom it is due, Rom 13:7
 - (9) as an advantage to be given by believers one to another instead of claiming it for self, Rom 12:10
 - (10) to be given to elders that rule well ("double honor"), 1 Tim 5:17 (here the meaning may be an honorarium)
 - (11) to be given by servants to their master, 1 Tim 6:1
 - (12) to be given to wives by husbands, 1 Peter 3:7
 - (13) said of the husband's use of the wife, in contrast to the exercise of the passion of lust, 1 Thes 4:4 (some regard the "vessel" here as the believer's body)
 - (14) of that bestowed upon; parts of the body, 1 Cor 12:23,24
 - (15) of that which belongs to the builder of a house in contrast to the house itself, Heb 3:3
 - (16) of that which is not enjoyed by a prophet in his own country, John 4:44
 - (17) of that bestowed by the inhabitants of Melita upon Paul and his fellow-passengers, in gratitude for his benefits of healing, Acts 28:10
 - (18) of the festive honor to be possessed by nations, and brought into the Holy City, the heavenly Jerusalem, Rev 21:26
 - (19) of honor bestowed upon things inanimate, a potters' vessel, Rom 9:21; 2 Tim 2:20

2. *doxa* NT:1391

(Used 163 times in the New Testament.)

"glory," is translated "honor" in the KJV of John 5:41,44 (twice); 8:54; 6:8, and Rev 19:7; the RV keeps to the word "glory," as the KJV everywhere else

B. Verbs:

1. *timao* NT:5091

Used 21 times in the New Testament. (Matt 15:4, 6, 8; 19:19; 27:9, 9; Mark 7:6, 10; 10:19; Luke 18:20; John 5:23, 23, 23, 23; 8:49; 12:26; Acts 28:10; Eph 6:2; 1 Tim 5:3; 1 Peter 2:17, 17)

"to honor" is used of

(a) valuing Christ at a price, Matt 27:9

(b) "honoring" a person:

(1) the "honor" done by Christ to the Father, John 8:49

(2) "honor" bestowed by the Father upon him who serves Christ, John 12:26

(3) the duty of all to "honor" the Son equally with the Father, 5:23

(4) the duty of children to "honor" their parents, Matt 15:4; 19:19; Mark 7:10; 10:19; Luke 18:20; Eph 6:2

(5) the duty of Christians to "honor" the king, and all men, 1 Peter 2:17

(6) the respect and material assistance to be given to widows "that are widows indeed," 1 Tim 5:3

(7) the "honor" done to Paul and his companions by the inhabitants of Melita, Acts 28:10

(8) mere lip profession of "honor" to God, Matt 15:8; Mark 7:6

2. *doxazo* NT:1392

Used 68 times in the New Testament

"to glorify" is rendered "honor" and "honoreth" in the KJV of John 8:54; in 1 Cor 12:26, however, in reference to the members of the body, both KJV and RV have "honored." Everywhere else it is translated by some form of the verb "to glorify," "have glory," or "be made glorious," except in Rom 11:13, "magnify"

III. Honor in the New Testament

A. Christians are to:

To give honor to one another

Rom 12:10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor

1 Cor 12:23 and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable

1 Cor 12:24 ... whereas our more presentable members have no need of it. But God has so

composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked

Slaves (employee) are to honor their masters (boss, owner) lest God's name be spoken against

1 Tim 6:1 All who are under the yoke as slaves are to regard their own masters as worthy of all honor so that the name of God and our doctrine will not be spoken against.

Husbands are to honor their wives out of loving respect

1 Pet 3:7 You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.

We are to abstain from sexual immorality, possessing our bodies in sanctification and honor.

1 Thes 4:3-6 For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God...

Heb 13:4 Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.

Believers are to pay taxes to the government, to give fear and respect to whom it is due.

Rom 13:7 Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

We are to honor our political leaders.

1 Peter 2:17 Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.

We are to honor our parents.

Matt 15:4 "For God said, 'Honor your father and mother,' and, 'he who speaks evil of father or mother is to be put to death.'

Matt 19:19 Honor your father and mother

Mark 7:10 "For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'he who speaks evil of father or mother, is to be put to death'

Mark 10:19 "You know the commandments, 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, honor your father and mother.'"

Luke 18:20 "You know the commandments, 'Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not bear false witness, honor your father and mother.'"

Eph 6:2 Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise),

In fact failure to support elderly parents financially, is to not honor them.

Matt 15:6 he is not to honor his father or his mother.' And by this you invalidated the word of God for the sake of your tradition.

We are not to be like the Pharisees, seeking the place of honor

Matt 23:6 "They love the place of honor at banquets and the chief seats in the synagogues...

Mark 12:39 and chief seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets...

Luke 14:7 And He began speaking a parable to the invited guests when He noticed how they had been picking out the places of honor at the table, saying to them ...

Luke 20:46 "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love respectful greetings in the market places, and chief seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets

In fact Jesus taught us not to seek the place of honor.

Luke 14:8 "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for someone more distinguished than you may have been invited by him...

Luke 14:10 "But when you are invited, go and recline at the last place, so that when the one who has invited you comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will have honor in the sight of all who are at the table with you.

B. "Recognition"

We honor God through worship

Rom 1:21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

1 Tim 1:17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

1 Tim 6:16 who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen.

Rev 4:9 And when the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever...

Rev 4:11 "Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created."

Rev 5:12 "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing."

Rev 5:13 "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever."

Rev 7:12 "Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen."

Rev 21:26 and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it...

We honor God when we live holy.

Rom 2:7 to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life...

Rom 2:10 but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

2 Tim 2:20 Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor.

2 Tim 2:21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor,

sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.

1 Peter 1:7 so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ...

Prophets have honor except in their hometown.

Matt 13:57 And they took offense at Him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household."

Mark 6:4 Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and among his own relatives and in his own household."

John 4:44 For Jesus Himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country.

We give honor to the Father by giving honor to the Son.

John 5:23 so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

Jesus lived in a way that gave honor to His Father.

John 8:49 Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me.

The Father will honor those who follow and serve Jesus.

John 12:26 "If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

The Father gave honor to Jesus.

2 Peter 1:17 For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, such an utterance as this was made to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This is My beloved Son with whom I am well-pleased"

Heb 3:3 For He has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, by just so much as the builder of the house has more honor than the house.

Heb 5:4 And no one takes the honor to himself, but receives it when he is called by God, even as Aaron was.

In creation, God gave us great honor.

Heb 2:7 "You have made him for a little while lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor...

Heb 2:9 But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor , so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

Financial support is a way of giving honor.

1 Tim 5:3 Honor widows who are widows indeed;

1 Tim 5:17 The elders who rule well are to be considered worthy of double honor , especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching.