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I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I will also hold you
by the hand and watch over you, and I will appoint you as a
covenant to the people, as a *light to the nations*... Isaiah 42:6

July 2024

1 Sam 2:30(b) (NKJV)

...for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed.

July 4 in the United States marks the day the United States officially became a nation. On this day, we honor the founding fathers for their bravery and foresight in declaring this nation free from British rule. There are other days set aside to honor veterans, memorial day, Mother's day, Father's day and many others.

While I welcome the opportunity to celebrate and have a special cookout, or fireworks, or whatever marks an occasion, it is also sad that many people have no idea of how to honor someone or something. What about honor?

The scripture above is taken from a time when the Lord (through the prophet Samuel) was correcting Eli, a priest who was over worship in the house of the Lord. Eli's sons who were also priests, were wicked men – stealing offerings, treating the people badly, and having physical relations with women who came to the temple. Eli knew this was going on and he just let it keep going. The Lord told Eli in the previous verse (29) that Eli was honoring his sons more than he was honoring God.

The point here is that we *should* love each other and love our friends and family, but we should love God *more*. And we must not let things go on in our family, our houses, our workplaces that are dishonoring to God.

If something's not in your control, that's a different matter. But if it's something you have some authority over, and you let it go and you know it's ungodly and against God, you're honoring them more than you are God. That should not be.

Notice it doesn't say He will despise (hate) you. God is love, and He loves us no matter what we do – but if we live outside the protection of His kingdom, He will not lift you up and honor you when you're going the wrong way. That would be the same as saying that what you are doing is just fine with Him.

This generation is suffering from the rebellion that was sown in the 60's. We are living in a generation of people who threw away respect and honor. Nothing is holy, everything is common, no terms of respect or reverence – we're all equal, no rules - if it feels good, do it. So a lot of people in this generation just don't know honor. And they have no clue of how disrespectful they are because they were never taught honor. And if you didn't grow up with it, you're just not aware. How can you miss what you never had?

As we visit different churches, I am surprised by how disrespectful people are. And it's not my place to say anything or try to correct, but I know they are paying a price for it. There is a cost in the anointing. There is a cost in revelation, in the move of the Spirit. Without honor nothing's really important – how we look, how we act... no big deal.

But I believe that in God, there are things that **are** big deals. But for things to happen it has to be important to somebody. It has to be a big deal to somebody. And it's not just making a big deal out of church, or out of people, out of the order of service... it's making a big deal out of God. There is no bigger deal!

There are so many facets of honor that I don't have space to address here, but here is something to think about: The Bible tells us to honor the Lord in word and in deed - not just talk, it's about what's in our hearts. Proverbs 3:9-10 says: *Honor the Lord with your possessions (substance), And with the firstfruits of all your increase; So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine.*

It wouldn't be honorable for Marta and I to put a dollar in the offering. God has blessed us more than that. We need to do something in proportion to how God has blessed us. Something that's honorable. And it's not all about money. It can be an act that shows you're thankful and you value what He's done for you. But sometimes people bring junk and broken stuff, "...good enough for who it's for."

People don't realize how things like that are costing them.



Above left, Remember last month we wrote about the lady in Ózd, Hungary who received healing when Pastor Istvan Sule prayed for her, and he teased her about her cane? Well, there she is, weeks later with no cane and praising the Lord! **Above center**, Some of the church members in Ózd during a recent church service.. **Above right**, Pastor Norbert Rozsa teaching the word in Szakcs, Hungary.

Because if you fail to respect and honor His things, how are your things going to be treated? Unimportant! But if you treat His things as valuable and important, He will treat you and your things as valuable and important.

I believe we all need to learn more about honor because this is tied directly to what God is able to do in our lives - because who is He able to honor? Those who honor Him! Do you have a desire to be used more, have more of an impact on people's lives, increase, do more, reach further? It would be His grace, and as He graces us to do those things, that's honoring us. And for that to happen, we honor Him. *...those who honor Me I will honor.*

Speaking of honor, we were honored to receive a message recently from a friend of ours who lives in Kosd, Hungary. Her father recently passed away, and was pastor of a church we have ministered in many times. Her name is Henrietta, and she writes:

Thank you so much for your weekly Skype teaching! We are so thankful for you to the Lord, because you are teaching the pure and full gospel! It means so much to me, as I listen to it every week. I finally understand about the connection of healing, vision, faith and victory! I also understand now, that Satan puts pressure on us to not live victorious lives.

Thank you again for the detailed, practical teaching, which we have never heard taught like this. Absolute helpful. I am sending these teachings to many other friends God bless your ministry richly.

*With love,
Henrietta*

We are in awe of how many places our Wednesday teaching sessions are heard - beyond those who listen to our teaching "live". We believe that as they press in to hear the Word of God, God is also honoring them in return.

More diplomas are being presented in August to students in Light to the Nations Bible schools in Romania. We will not be able to attend at this time, so Pastor Thomas Lohnke will have the honor of bestowing diplomas at that time. Pastor Thomas has been a huge blessing to this ministry.

We are planning a trip back to Europe in November. We will be visiting the church of Pastor Thomas and Monika Lohnke in Langenthal, Switzerland as they are planning to celebrate 25 years of Familiengemeinde Langenthal (Family Church of Langenthal). We are honored to be invited to attend.

After visiting Langenthal, we will travel back to Hungary with Pastor Thomas and Brian Eager from Minnesota for some "mini" conferences in Ózd and Szakcs Hungary as well as visiting some churches and Bible schools in Romania. Your prayer and financial support are very welcome for our travels.

One of the major needs in both Ózd and Szakcs is for a place to meet that will accommodate everyone who wishes to attend. Both churches are overcrowded at this time, and it's hard to grow in number when you can't fit any more people in. It will take approximately \$50,000 (US) to buy or build a more suitable building in each place. The Szakcs church is also in need of at least 25 chairs at a cost of about \$30 each. Any gift you may like to give towards any of these things will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support for Light to the Nations. You are a great blessing to many people.

Love and blessings,

Dan & Martha Lewis