

EPHESIANS 6 vs 1

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In the previous chapter, Paul had just written to wives and husbands and their ideal relating to one another: In chapter 3, Paul already said: I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... of Whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named. So he, too, was gladly learning to submit... and yield to those over him. Everybody has a boss.

Paul is instructing everyone in the family of God, next:

¹ Children obey your parents / which means: hear your parents... and do it:

for in the Lord, this is right.

² Honor your father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

³ That it may be well with you, and you are long-time on the earth

/ in His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, Do not think I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets... whoever cancels one of the least of the commandments and so teaches others, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven – **Matthew 5**. Notice Paul is teaching what Jesus taught us. So in the 21st century, we are to honor father and mother... Paul says that is not legalism; God's covenant of promise is not in the category of: traditions of men. Those who keep and do the 10 commands written by God, will be blessed by God... and that will be true, until the day heaven and earth pass away.

⁴ And fathers, not angering: but nourishing / it is the same word, Paul just wrote: For no one ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourishes. Fathers, being the head of the house... are to provide nourishment for the children they procreate;

and instruction / the word is: **paideia**; meaning: **the whole-child education**... including: instruction and training and coaching and disciplining; do all of that without angering. Wow! This is the father's duty; and it starts with children hearing their parents. So it really starts with those parents who are **no** more TWO... both going their own way; but are now ONE... preferring one another opening their mouths

And with their relationship in place... from the first baby cry... then the same loving voice coming from the TWO, now ONE... is being heard by the new addition. And the little one... and all the little ones that follow can't divide the big ONE: **Dad and Mom**. Paul is not writing ideals for the world; he is inspired to write to the church Jesus is building.

and admonition of the Lord / Paul is talking about calling attention to our great God; mildly warning there is a God in heaven. Both spiritual and social training starts in the home and is not to be left to chance; nor carelessly attended to; certainly not left to the educational agendas of a world gone wild! If you don't train up your kids; there is someone like any of the ruthless dictators or perverts who will.



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⁵ **Servants, hear your masters according to the flesh** / the word is: **kurios**; Lord, Master, Boss; which means: hear your Boss and do it!

with fear and trembling in singleness of your heart as to Christ; / with phobias and traumas; in single focus; keep it simple! Don't complicate things. It's interesting: Paul wrote this same phrase to those in Philippi... men and women in the battles of faith [should work out their salvation experience... with phobias and traumas](#). In other words: **fear and trembling** is part of the journey. Do your work,

⁶ **not with eye-service** / not just when the boss is watching;

as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart / to the Thessalonians, Paul wrote: [If you don't work, you don't eat](#) adding, and you are worse than an unbeliever who has denied the faith. The Lord expects everyone who claims to be learners in the church He is building... to work. Paul is writing... not to a clueless, joyless, loveless generation... sitting in darkness. He's writing to the church.

⁷ **with good will serving, as to the Lord, and not to mankind:**

⁸ **Knowing that producing whatever good to anyone, the same...**

you will receive from the Lord, whether you are slave or free-born.

⁹ **And, you masters, do the same to them, withholding threatening:**

knowing that your Master also / who is their Master... is in heaven;

and there is no favoritism with Him. / Matthew Henry wrote: If masters and servants would consider their duties to God, and the account they must soon give to Him, they would be more mindful of their duty to each other.

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