

**Ephesians 6:1-3**  
**CHILDREN, OBEY AND HONOR**

- I. The participants are children and parents (father and mother).
  - A. Our text implies that the children members of the Ephesian church are among the “saints” (1:1).
  - B. Parents (father and mother) are those whom the Lord uses to rule believing children.
    - 1. Children did not chose their parents, the Lord did.
    - 2. Both parents are mentioned because honor is due to both, for the Lord’s sake.
- II. God uses admonitions as a means to give grace to His people (Canons III,IV-17; V-14).
  - A. First, children are to “honor their father and mother” (2).
    - 1. This speaks of the respect children are to have for their parents.
    - 2. “Honor” is an internal attitude or disposition of reverence, to value or esteem highly someone or something.
  - B. Second, children are to “obey your parents” (1), i.e., to “listen” or “hearken.”
    - 1. Behind right obedience are ears which focus or pay attention to the words of their parents.
    - 2. The clear implication is that children are to do exactly what their parents tell them when they tell them.
  - C. Obedience/listening is to be “in the Lord,” i.e., in the sphere of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- III. Why are children to obey and honor their parents?
  - A. First, it is “right,” i.e., obedience and reverence are righteous deeds and attitudes.
  - B. Second, this “the first commandment with promise.”
  - C. Reminder that it is only in the consciousness of “the Lord” that believing children can and will obey and honor their parents.