

THE LORD’S DAY WORSHIP

ELEVEN O’CLOCK

September 9, 2018

We gather today as “the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant ... ” Hebrews 12:23-24a

A Time for Preparation

Silent Prayer of Preparation for Worship

O Lord, the Great *I Am*

I acknowledge and confess that all things come from you—life, breath, happiness, advancement, sight, touch, hearing, goodness, truth, beauty—all that makes life amiable. In the spiritual world also I am dependent entirely upon you. Give me grace to know more of my need of grace. Show me my sinfulness that I may willingly confess it. Reveal to me my weakness that I may know my strength in you. I thank you for any sign of penitence; give me more of it. My sins are black and deep, and rise from a stony, proud, self-righteous heart. Help me to confess them with morning, regret, self-loathing, with no pretense to merit or excuse. I need faith; you have given it to me, maintain, strengthen, and increase it. Center it upon the Savior’s work, upon the majesty of the Father, upon the operations of the Spirit. Work it in me now that I may never doubt you as the truthful, mighty, faithful God. Then I can bring my heart to you full of love, gratitude, hope, and joy. May I lay at your feet these fruits grown in your garden, love you with a passion that can never cool, believe in you with a confidence that never staggers, hope in you with an expectation that can never dim, delight in you with a rejoicing that cannot be stifled, and glorify you with the highest of praise. Amen! (The Valley of Vision Prayer Book)

Ringing of Bell Judah Gosnell

Announcements..... Deacon

A Time for Praise:

Prelude

Call to Worship

Scripture and Prayer Travis Gosnell

- *Hymn of Praise* *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* Hymn #648

A Time for Offering:

- *Offertory Hymn* *Jesus Loves Me* Hymn #185

Offertory Prayer

Tithes and Offerings Ushers

A Time for Hearing God’s Word:

Choral Message *If Not for the Old Rugged Cross* Arr. Kirkland

Message Pastor Lucas Mann

Pastoral Prayer

A Time for Surrender:

- *Hymn of Response* *Jesus Is All the World to Me* Hymn #512

- Benediction

Postlude

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!” (2 Corinthians 13:14)

Affirmation of Faith – the Baptist Catechism, 1813

Q. Which is the fifth commandment?

A. The fifth commandment is; Honor thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee (Ex. 20:12).

Q. What is required in the fifth commandment?

A. The fifth commandment requires the preserving the honor and performing the duties belonging to everyone in their several places and relations, as superiors (Eph. 5:21), inferiors (1 Pet. 2:17), or equals (Rom. 12:10).

Q. What is forbidden in the fifth commandment?

A. The fifth commandment forbids the neglect of or doing anything against the honor and duty which belongs to everyone in their several places and relations (Mt. 15:4-6; Ez. 34:24; Rom. 13:8).

Q. What is the reason annexed to the fifth commandment?

A. The reason annexed to the fifth commandment is a promise of long life and prosperity (as far as it shall serve for God's glory, and their own good) to all such as keep this commandment (Deut. 5:16; Eph. 6:2, 3).

Opportunities of the Week

Sunday, September 9

6:00 p.m. Choir Practice
7:00 p.m. Evening Service
7:00 p.m. Youth Ministry
7:00 p.m. Children’s Ministry

Wednesday, September 5

7:00 p.m. Budget Discussion/Bible Study

Sunday, September 9 – Sunday September 16

Week of Prayer for State Missions: Missions in 3D

Nursery this week: Crystal Thomson
Theresa Engel

Church Watch this month: Larry Powell

THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT

By Malcolm Maclean

The ten commandments are divided into two groups: the first four concern love for God and the second set of six concern love for our neighbor. One consequence of neighborly love will be the formation and continuation of the expressions of important aspects of such a civilization or community. It is important to note that the commandments are working towards producing such a society, and the God-given order is (1) worship of God, seen in the first four commandments; (2) family life, described in the fifth commandment; and (3) contact with others, described in the remaining five commandments.

There is a certain sense in which the commandments depict the ideal life in a fallen world (there are not going to be parents and children in the next world). The Lord wanted his covenant people to have such a life, even although he knew that they were sinful and going to fail in each of the three areas mentioned in the previous paragraph. So, it is biblical and possible to aim for as high a level as possible.

The ten commandments are also given in an order of priority. It is the duty of the covenant community to put God first, the family unit second, and their neighborhood (both nearby and more distant) third. If we want to have good families, we must put God first; if we want a healthy society, we must put God first and families second. Doing this will not deprive society of resources. If a person keeps the first four commandments, he is not liable to break the remaining six. Similarly, if a person does not honor his parents, then he is capable of breaking the remaining five. But if he honors his parents, then he is likely to tell the truth, not steal or kill, or attempt to break up other families by committing adultery.

So the ten commandments reveal that the family unit is God’s design. It was he who thought of it. The family is not a product of evolution, of a stage in human development. Instead it was there in the beginning and is a relic of the life of Eden that would have become visible if the original human parents had retained their initial sinless condition.

This commandment is very relevant for our society. It is the case that family life has almost disappeared. The modern changes began in the 1960s when many previous standards were rejected and new attitudes, marketed as expressions of personal freedom, began to be introduced. We have lived to see the effects, not only in the number of broken families, but even within families that have stayed together. Of course, upholders of the biblical demands will be regarded as old-fashioned and retrograde. Nevertheless, the necessity of obedience to this commandment will be a means of displaying a different kind of lifestyle in which family love and respect are part of daily life.

We should note that Paul says that disobedience to this commandment is a sign of divine judgement. In Romans 1 he traces the consequences of idolatry and immorality, which are expressions of rejection of God, and notes what his response is: “*And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. Though they know God’s decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them*” (Rom. 1:28-32).

In 2 Timothy 3:1-5 Paul reminds his colleague that disobedience to parents will be a feature of the last days (the period between the first and second comings of Jesus): *“But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power.”* So, we should not be surprised to see a refusal to acknowledge this commandment all around us.

Jesus, in Matthew 15, charged the Pharisees with breaking this commandment by the practice of the system of Corban. A person could avoid using his assets to help his needy parents in the present by saying his assets were dedicated to God. Of course, he had no intention of giving them to God. Yet the Pharisees approved of such sinful adjustments of God’s will.

A hidden assumption

There is a hidden assumption in this commandment that Paul brings out when he refers to it in his letter to the Ephesians. The assumption is that parents, particularly fathers, will bring up their children in a manner that will command respect and honor from them. Why should parents do this?

As noted earlier, this commandment is in the middle, between the ones that pertain to God on the one hand and to society on the other. The role of parents is to prepare children to live in both of these other areas. Parents do this by teaching their children the meaning of respect.

The term translated ‘honor’ means heavy or weighty. Parents have to teach their children to respect them. They do this, says Paul, by guiding them in the training and instruction of the Lord. The manual for this process is the Bible and the school is the various circumstances of life. It is not so much rote learning but ongoing application of biblical stories and principles.

Obedying the commandment

Obedience to this commandment is comprehensive. In Colossians 3:23, Paul says that children are to obey their parents in everything. This does not mean that parents are dictatorial, suppressing the development of their children. Instead it means that everything the parents demand has previously had God’s approval. Parents have the responsibility of ensuring that all their demands are biblical. Nevertheless, the extent of obedience is as wide as the parents legitimately desire.

Obedience to this commandment is covenantal. In Ephesians 6:1, Paul tells the children in the church in Ephesus, *“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right,”* and then quotes this commandment. How can these children be regarded as ‘in the Lord’? I don’t think he is speaking only to those who have been converted. Instead he is addressing those who have become members of the visible congregation by baptism. When that significant event took place, they were entered into a covenant relationship with God.

Obedience to this commandment is Christ-like. Jesus submitted himself to the authority of Joseph and Mary. We recall the incident recorded in Luke 2:41-52 that relates what occurred when the twelve-year-old Jesus went to the temple. Although at that age he had begun to understand the purpose of his coming into this world, he still freely chose to obey them. The outcome was that he grew in favor with God and man – his obedient lifestyle made a great impression on those who saw him daily in Nazareth.

Obedience to this commandment gives confidence about life. Paul highlights that this commandment contains a promise of earthly prosperity. He is not saying that the motive for obedience is prosperity – the motive

should be love for God and parents. Yet God graciously promises that he will bless those who honor their parents, which shows the delight he has in this commandment. It is not a 100% promise in a literal sense because we know that many converted children in the past died when they were young. But in general, those who obeyed their parents could expect God’s care and provision.

Obedience to this commandment extends to adulthood. In 1 Timothy 5:2-8, Paul tells Timothy what to say about responsibility for widows. He points out that *“if a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God.”* He even makes such care an aspect of authentic Christian living: *“But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever”* (v. 8). Honor has to be shown to them when they are old as well as when they were younger.

Preparing children to keep this commandment is costly for parents. Parents must use their God-given talents in the upbringing of their children. Their highest priority is to raise them for God. Therefore, whatever God has given should be used for this purpose. Parents must also give time to ensure that their children are aware of the demands of God’s Word. This requires talking to them about the things of God. They should note Deuteronomy 6:6-8: *“And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.”*

We thank you for worshipping with us today. We trust that your heart has been encouraged, your spirit filled, and that you will leave here equipped for the work to which God has called you. If you would like to find out more information about Poplar Springs Baptist Church, please visit our website: www.poplarspringsws.org or call (864) 861-2196.

Church Contact Information:

Church/Fellowship Building: (864) 861-2190

Office/Parsonage: (864) 861-2196

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 124, Ware Shoals, SC 29692

Church Office: 6466 Poplar Springs Road, Ware Shoals, SC 29692

Hours: Wednesday and Thursday, 8-4

Email: balentine@poplarspringsws.org

Pastor:

Youth Pastor: Travis Gosnell

Music Leader: Deck Balentine

Pianist: Jean Powell

Website: www.poplarspringsws.org

Poplar Springs

Baptist Church



“And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.”

(Deuteronomy 6:6-8)

THE LORD’S DAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

**6000 Poplar Springs Road
Ware Shoals, SC 29692
(864) 861-2196
www.poplarspringsws.org**

Sunday School: 10:00 am

Worship: 11:00 am