

Dishonor Causes Loss

Numbers 12:1-9 (NKJV)

12 Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married; for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

2 So they said, “Has the Lord indeed spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us also?” And the Lord heard it.

3 (Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)

4 Suddenly the Lord said to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, “Come out, you three, to the tabernacle of meeting!” So the three came out.

5 Then the Lord came down in the pillar of cloud and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam. And they both went forward.

6 Then He said, “Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream.

7 Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house.

8 I speak with him face to face, Even plainly,[c] and not in [d]dark sayings; And he sees the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant Moses?”

9 So the anger of the Lord was aroused against them, and He departed.

Honor is one of the most important subjects we can discuss. It's how doors are opened. Additionally, it's how doors are closed. In the scripture passage we just read, Moses didn't hear Miriam and Aaron talking about him. But God did. True honor is displayed not just in presence, but in absence. With this in mind, let's examine: **Dishonor Causes Loss.**

Honor: hold in great respect, hold in high esteem, have a high regard for, reverence, respect, admire, defer to, look up to, think highly of.

Dishonor: fail to observe or respect, discredit, degrade, debase, lower, cheapen, drag down, give a bad name to, show in a bad light.

2 Kings 5:20-27 (NLT)

20 But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha, the man of God, said to himself, “My master should not have let this Aramean get away without accepting any of his gifts. As surely as the Lord lives, I will chase after him and get something from him.”

21 So Gehazi set off after Naaman. When Naaman saw Gehazi running after him, he climbed down from his chariot and went to meet him. “Is everything all right?” Naaman asked.

22 “Yes,” Gehazi said, “but my master has sent me to tell you that two young prophets from the hill country of Ephraim have just arrived. He would like 75 pounds of silver and two sets of clothing to give to them.”

23 “By all means, take twice as much silver,” Naaman insisted. He gave him two sets of clothing, tied up the money in two bags, and sent two of his servants to carry the gifts for Gehazi.

24 But when they arrived at the citadel, Gehazi took the gifts from the servants and sent the men back. Then he went and hid the gifts inside the house.

25 When he went in to his master, Elisha asked him, “Where have you been, Gehazi?” “I haven’t been anywhere,” he replied.

26 But Elisha asked him, “Don’t you realize that I was there in spirit when Naaman stepped down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to receive money and clothing, olive groves and vineyards, sheep and cattle, and male and female servants?”

27 Because you have done this, you and your descendants will suffer from Naaman’s leprosy forever.” When Gehazi left the room, he was covered with leprosy; his skin was white as snow.

We should never take lightly the instructions of a man or woman of God. Elisha knew, first-hand what happened when you fully honor someone God

placed in authority. He received a double portion. His servant, Gehazi was in line to receive quadruple portion. But, he was dishonorable. Honor would have given him access to something the world had never seen. **HIS DESTINY WAS QUADUPLE, BUT HE GAVE IT AWAY FOR SOME MONEY AND CLOTHES, THAT WEREN'T HIS.**

1. Dishonoring people causes the loss of destiny.

Acts 5:1-5 (NLT)

5 But there was a certain man named Ananias who, with his wife, Sapphira, sold some property.

2 He brought part of the money to the apostles, claiming it was the full amount. With his wife's consent, he kept the rest.

3 Then Peter said, "Ananias, why have you let Satan fill your heart? You lied to the Holy Spirit, and you kept some of the money for yourself.

4 The property was yours to sell or not sell, as you wished. And after selling it, the money was also yours to give away. How could you do a thing like this? You weren't lying to us but to God!"

5 As soon as Ananias heard these words, he fell to the floor and died. Everyone who heard about it was terrified.

The danger of lying is that it may get you into people's presence. However, it will keep you from experiencing the fullness of God's presence. Psalms 101:7 says, "A liar cannot even stay in God's sight." It is dishonorable to make promises and not keep them. It's better not to make a vow, than to make one and break it. **God is so concerned about His Word, that He valued it above His Name.**

2. Dishonoring your word causes the loss of God's presence.

2 Kings 2:23-24 New Living Translation (NLT)

23 Elisha left Jericho and went up to Bethel. As he was walking along the road, a group of boys from the town began mocking and making fun of him. "Go away, baldy!" they chanted. "Go away, baldy!"

24 Elisha turned around and looked at them, and he cursed them in the name of the Lord. Then two bears came out of the woods and mauled forty-two of them.

Dishonoring parents causes a shortening of life. When the Bible instructs us to honor our parents, it's not only talking about our biological parents. It's talking about our elders and those in authority. Our westernized culture has lost its honor of our elders/parents. However, if we would all repent and humble ourselves, we would be surprised how much wisdom, information and insight we can gain with just a few minutes of honor of our **"parents."**

3. Dishonoring parents causes the loss of life.

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 (NLT)

18 Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body.

19 Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself,

20 for God bought you with a high price. So, you must honor God with your body.

Sexual sin not only dishonors God. It causes us to dishonor ourselves. It also sets you up for ungodly soul ties. There's a story in the bible of Samson. Samson was God's man. He was supposed to free Israel. But, he was sleeping with Delilah/the enemy. **SHE CAUSED HIM TO TELL HER THE SECRET OF HIS STRENGTH.**

4. Dishonoring virtue causes the loss of position.

1 Samuel 16:1 (NLT)

16 Now the Lord said to Samuel, "You have mourned long enough for Saul. I have rejected him as king of Israel, so fill your flask with olive oil and go to Bethlehem. Find a man named Jesse who lives there, for I have selected one of his sons to be my king."

Saul was chosen to be the King over God's people. The problem was, Saul would never completely obey God. Incomplete obedience is dishonor. Delayed obedience is rebellion. He dishonored God by not fulfilling his purpose. It dishonors God when we know our purpose and refuse to walk in it. **WHEN WE WON'T WALK IN OUR PURPOSE, WE FORCE GOD TO RAISE UP OUR REPLACEMENT (DAVID). THEN GOD ALLOWS US TO LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO SEE THEM REAPING OUR REWARD.**

5. Dishonoring purpose causes the loss of your reward.

Honor is one of the most important subjects we can discuss. It's how doors are opened. Additionally, it's how doors are closed. Remember: **Dishonor Causes Loss.**