

Honor: The Culture of The Kingdom!

ESV Romans 13:7 Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Every **realm** has its own **rules, authorities and hierarchy**—**basically culture!**

Culture is the rules, attitudes and customs shared by those in a The Kingdom!

❖ The giving of honor is the **culture of The Kingdom!**

Honor is giving respect, esteem and high regard for something or someone!

Again, if we begin to look at The Bible as a book of rights and privileges, we understand that **honor** is a right all created things are owed.

Why? Because when God finished creation, He said it was **ALL very GOOD!**

As Kingdom citizens we are to give respect to whom respect is due and honor to whom honor is due; not doing so dishonors the King who set the rules in place!

We don't lie to people we honor, we don't steal from people we honor! We love, honor and cherish people in The Kingdom!

The first person in The Kingdoms hierarchy we **honor** is The LORD!

KJV Malachi 1:6 A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear? saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name?

As our heavenly Father He has the **right to be honored, it is He that made us, the world and everything in it!**

ESV Proverbs 3:9 Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;

10 So your store-houses will be full of grain, and your vessels overflowing with new wine.

We started this year off with this message in order to give people the opportunity to set the proper order in their lives, which is God first!

This is the last Sunday you can give your **first-fruits offering to The LORD!**

When God isn't first in our lives, He is **NOT** getting the proper Honor He deserves!

1 Samuel 2:30b..."But now the LORD declares: I promise that I will honor those who honor me, and those who despise me will be considered insignificant.

❖ God our Heavenly Father is honored through our **worship!**

Worship literally is “**appraising properly**”!

The first part of the word worship is “*worth*” from the word “*wor*” meaning **worth, valuable and significant!**

The last part of the word worship is “*ship*” it means **the state or condition of!**

True worship is recognizing the proper value of God and then giving Him the praise (appraisal **declaring His value**) and honoring His presence.”

This is why everyone’s worship is at different levels, because some have **appraised and valued** God’s presence in their lives **higher** than others!

- **Worship is expressing to God what He’s worth to us!**

Our worship, the amount of our time, talent and treasure we give to God is equal to our appraisal of His value in our lives!

GWN Luke 7:36 One of the Pharisees invited Jesus to eat with him. Jesus went to the Pharisee's house and was eating at the table.

37 A woman who lived a sinful life in that city found out that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house. So she took a bottle of perfume (an alabaster box).

38 and knelt at his feet. She was crying and washed his feet with her tears. Then she dried his feet with her hair, kissed them over and over again, and poured the perfume on them.

39 The Pharisee who had invited Jesus saw this and thought, "If this man really were a prophet, he would know what sort of woman is touching him. She's a sinner."

Although the Bible doesn’t say, many believe this woman to be a prostitute because it was obvious, she was a sinner.

This sinner woman enters the house of a Pharisee, a highly respected member of society.

Jesus is now a famous teacher and miracle worker, the culture of that day like today made it inappropriate for this kind of woman to be in the presence of these two highly respected men.

But because this woman recognized (rightly appraised) the value of Jesus presence in her life, she broke all worldly protocol and followed Jesus everywhere.

She didn’t care what people thought of her, she had to worship—publicly and privately!

She cried over His feet wiping them with her hair (a women's glory) **1 Cor 11:15**.

She's giving God glory, she's totally humbling herself, not humiliating herself!

She has rightly appraised who Jesus is and so the Bible says she cries over Jesus feet and washes the dust from the road off His feet and anoints them with expensive perfume.

The **alabaster box** itself was valuable, (not to mention the perfume) it was made from hard stone like marble, it was used in the construction of Solomon's Temple.

The Bible says she does this over and over again, continually!

- Why does he do this?

Because she has **appraised Jesus** and determined **He's worthy!**

She tried Jesus for herself and found out He is worthy of all the glory and honor!

The Bible just says Jesus had forgiven her of her sins! He didn't bless her with a chariot, get her a house or a husband, or even a new job!

She was just grateful to be saved! That was enough for her to HONOR HIM!

And notice Jesus doesn't stop her!

Jesus **honors her by** let her stay in the house and **HONOR HIM!**

- **The world has a problem when you give God your best, but doesn't have a problem when you give it your best!**

The Bible lets us know Jesus perceived the thoughts of the Pharisee who was dishonoring this woman in his heart and said to him:

*ESV **Luke 7:40** And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher."*

Jesus goes all to tell a parable about a creditor who had two people who owed him money, one owed 10 times as much as the other.

Neither one could pay him back, so he forgave them both. Jesus asks which one will love him the most, he said the one forgiven the most!

You see often times when people join a church for selfish reasons, they can't understand the people who seriously worship!

They think they do too much in the ministry, cry to often, praise too loud and give too much of their time!

They don't understand **The Kingdom Culture of Honor!**

ESV Luke 7:44 Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "*Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair.*

45 *You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet.*

46 *You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment.*

These things were customary, they were common courtesies a hospitable host respectful does for guests—it wasn't anything out of the ordinary!

Jesus told this religious leader he didn't properly appraise who Jesus was!

I believe Jesus had **more respect** for the woman than the Pharisee! Because she honored Him and He didn't! 1 Sam 2:30

I wonder how many people come to church without **appraising** who their **praising!**

47 *Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven-- for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little."*

Jesus said **she loved much!** Her worship was **personal, costly and honorable** because she humbled herself to lift Jesus up!

