

# PROPER RESPECT FOR THE ELDERLY

**TEXT:** *Leviticus 19:32: Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the LORD.*

## GOD TEACHES PROPER RESPECT FOR THE ELDERLY

Rising up to one's feet in the presence of the aged is God's Commandment, not man's.

This Commandment was disobeyed in:

*Lamentations 5:12: Princes are hanged up by their hand: the faces of elders were not honored.*

**Tribute is to be given to the elderly:**

*Job 12:12: With the ancient is wisdom; and in length of days understanding.*



When tribute doesn't apply:

*Job 32:9: Great men are not always wise: neither do the aged understand judgment.*

When tribute is conditional.:

*The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness.*

**GRAY HAIRS** were considered beautiful in ancient times:



*Proverbs 20:29: The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the grey head.*

A GOOD EXAMPLE of a RESPECTABLE ELDERLY MAN is found in the book of **Samuel**:



**1 Samuel 12:2-4:**

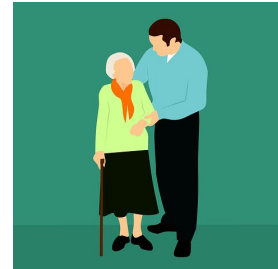
***2 And now, behold the king walketh before you: and I am old and grayheaded; and, behold, my sons are with you: and I have walked before you from my childhood unto this day.***

***3 Behold, here I am: witness against me before the Lord, and before His anointed: whose ox have I taken? Or whose ass have I taken? Or whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed? Or of whose hand have I received any bribe to blind my eyes therewith? And I will restore it you.***

***4 And they said: Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken ought of any man's hand.***

## **CONCLUSION**

Age is honorable and those whom God has honored with the common blessing of long life, we ought also to honor with the distinguishing expression of visible respect. God's Word teaches us good manners and obliges us to give honor to those to whom honor is due. On the other hand, it is a dishonor to any nation where the child behaves himself proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honorable.



***Job 30:1: But now they that are younger than I have me in derision, whose fathers I would have disdained to have set with the dogs of my flock.***

***Job 30:12: Upon my right hand rise the youth; they push away my feet, and they raise up against me the ways of their destruction.***

***Isaiah 3:5: And the people shall be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbour: the child shall behave himself proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honourable.***

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