

Unholiness Dishonors God

Description

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Numbers 20:1-13

I've never researched my family tree. I probably should. It sounds interesting, but I'm afraid of what I might find—there are likely a few black sheep in the Watson flock. I know I don't want to add another black mark on the family name. However, it would be far worse to dishonor God!

Moses and Aaron should have shared my concern. Instead, they were reprimanded for dishonoring their Holy God. Perhaps Aaron deserved it; but Moses? That great leader, who took God's chosen people from Egypt's slavery to the door of the Promised Land.

Bible scholars disagree on the specific reason for their resulting punishment. However, according to Numbers 20:12, these leaders' actions or attitude failed to "honor (God) as holy in the sight of the Israelites." How does this Old Testament story apply to us? I Peter 1:15 admonishes us, "But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do." Our unholy lives can distort our world's view of God, and that dishonors Him!

We're called to holiness of heart and continued growth in grace.

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