



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Do you know why we celebrate Father's day? Well, this is what I've discovered from the

Internet..

The United States is one of the few countries in the world that has an official day on which fathers are honored by their children. On the third Sunday in June, fathers all across the United States are given presents, treated to dinner or otherwise made to feel special. The origin of Father's Day is not clear. Some say that it began with a church service in West Virginia in 1908. Others say the first Father's Day ceremony was held in Vancouver, Washington. The president of the Chicago branch of the Lions' Club, Harry Meek, is said to have celebrated the first Father's Day with his organization in 1915; and the day that they chose was the third Sunday in June, the closest date to Meek's own birthday!

Regardless of when the first true Father's Day occurred, the strongest promoter of the holiday was Mrs. Bruce John Dodd of Spokane, Washington. Mrs. Dodd felt that she had an outstanding father. He was a veteran of the Civil War. His wife had died young, and he had raised six children without their mother.

In 1909, Mrs. Dodd approached her own minister and others in Spokane about having a church service dedicated to fathers on June 5, her father's birthday. That date was too soon for her minister to prepare the service, so he spoke a few weeks later on June 19th. From then on, the state of Washington celebrated the third Sunday in June as Father's Day. Children made special desserts, or visited their fathers if they lived apart.

States and organizations began lobbying Congress to declare an annual Father's Day. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson approved of this idea, but it was not until 1924 when President Calvin Coolidge made it a national event to "establish more intimate relations between fathers and their children and to impress upon fathers the full measure of their obligations." Since then, fathers have been honored and recognized by

their families throughout the country on the third Sunday in June.

Strange that President Wilson is given the credit for what God decreed centuries before!

"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.

Exodus 20:12

This commandment is repeated seven times: Deuteronomy 5:16; Matthew 15:4; Matthew 19:19; Mark 7:10; Mark 10:19; Luke 18:20; Ephesians 6:2.

We also have *'Every one of you shall revere his mother and his father, and keep My Sabbaths: I am the Lord your God.*

Leviticus 19:3

So, you see, observing Father's Day (in addition to Mother's Day) is in keeping with what God has commanded us. Of course, we are supposed to honor our parents every day, not just one day in May and one in June.

Have you been honoring your father as you ought? I am not referring to your human father, I am referring to your other Father who is also to be honored.

Therefore the Lord God of Israel says: 'I said indeed that your house and the house of your father would walk before Me forever.' But now the Lord says: 'Far be it from Me; for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed.

I Samuel 2:30

God becomes angry when honor is withheld from Him: *"A son honors his father, And a servant his master. If then I am the Father, Where is My honor? And if I am a Master, Where is My reverence? Says the Lord of hosts'*

Malachi 1:6

This honor is to be extended to the Son as well: *For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.*

John 5:22-23

So, as we celebrate this Father's Day 2000, let us not forget our heavenly Father

Wayne

