

# The Ten Commandments

## Fifth Commandment: Honor Your Father and Mother

### Exodus 20:12

כִּבֵּד אֶת אָבִיךָ וְאֶת אִמְךָ לְמַעַן יָאָרְכּוּן יְמֵיךָ עַל הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ נֹתֵן לָךְ

“Honor your father and your mother, in order that your days be lengthened on the land that the Lord, your God, is giving you.”

### Leviticus 19:3

אִישׁ אָמוֹ וְאָבִיו תִּירָאוּ

Every man shall fear his mother and his father

### Maimonides Positive commandment #210

The 210th *mitzvah* is that we are commanded to honor our parents. The source of this commandment is G-d's statement (exalted be He), "Honor your father and your mother."

The details of this *mitzvah* are explained in many Talmudic passages, mostly and primarily in tractate *Kiddushin*. The *Sifra* says, "What constitutes 'honor'? To give them food and drink, to clothe and cover them, to bring them inside and take them outside."

### Maimonides Positive commandment #211

The 211th *mitzvah* is that we are commanded to fear our parents. We should think of them as we do of someone who people fear, and who is able to administer punishment, such as a king; and act towards them as we do with someone we fear can do us harm.

The source of this commandment is G-d's statement (exalted be He), "A person shall fear his mother and his father." The *Sifra* says, "What constitutes 'fear'? Not to sit in their seat, not to speak instead of them, and not to contradict them." The details of this *mitzvah* are also explained in tractate *Kiddushin*.