

The Fear of God Part 2

In Building Godly Families and God's Church

* It is so important requirement for Godly marriage is that men and women fear God. Because the purpose of marriage is to raise up children who fear God who would ultimately build God's church. * But if the man or the woman do not fear God then neither their children would fear God. So better for the children to be without a father or without mother who do not fear God, and they will be raised up in a better way. * Also if you are single and looking to have a family then you need to put in your mind to marry someone who fears God.

The Scriptures encourage us with the values of fearing God and shunning evil.

1. The fear of God imparts knowledge and wisdom. "7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.." (Proverbs 1:7 KJV) "10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding." (Proverbs 9:10 KJV) "33 The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility." (Proverbs 15:33 KJV) Those who fear God will be given wisdom and understanding and will be instructed of what they need to say and what to do in the critical situations.

2. The fear of God is to depart from evil. "7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil." (Proverbs 3:7 KJV) "13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate." (Proverbs 8:13 KJV) "6 By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil." (Proverbs 16:6 KJV) Those who fear God will depart from doing the wrong things and hate pride, arrogance, and speaking lies and evil. The fear of God will help you to repent from your sins, to depart from evil, and to start to do what is right and His will.

3. The fear of the Lord prolongs life. "27 The fear of the LORD prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened." (Proverbs 10:27 KJV) Those who fear God will live a sufficient period of time that their departure will be on time and after had fulfilled the purpose of God in their lives. It is good for you to fear God, so you will live a long life and you will be able to fulfill all your assignments to God.

4. The fear of God brings reward. "13 Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded." (Proverbs 13:13 KJV) Those who obey the command of God they show clearly that they fear God, and such attitude shall be rewarded by the Lord. Therefore if you fear God He will reward you. But God shall destroy those who despise His Word.

5. The fear of the Lord is refuge and confidence. "26 In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge." (Proverbs 14:26 KJV) Those who fear God they have their big trust in the Lord and they will run to Him in times of trouble. If you fear God and obey His commands then He is your refuge in times of troubles and you will have confidence on Him that He will protect you.

6. The fear of Lord is provision, protection and satisfaction. "23 The fear of the LORD tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil." (Proverbs 19:23 KJV) "4 By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honour, and life." (Proverbs 22:4 KJV) Those who fear God they will be honored, well provided protected and are satisfied. God will allow His provision and His protection to flow in your life and you will have riches and honor as you continue to fear Him. That is why, "16 Better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith." (Proverbs 15:16 KJV) Better the little with the fear of God than much and troubles accompanied it because there is no protection from God. Sometime you have not much but you are more blessed than others who have much and they don't fear God because they don't have God's protection and they will be visited with evil events, but you will not be visited by evil because you are protected by God.

In this message we will continue and will tackle examples of men and women who feared God and their God's fearing attitude that had aided them to build their families, protect God's church and worked with God to promote His Kingdom.

We spoke previously about the two Hebrews midwives who feared God and not Pharaoh and their story is in ***Exodus 1***, how they feared God and did not kill the Hebrew boys whom Pharaoh commanded them to kill while they were aiding the Hebrew women in their delivery, and because of that God rewarded them for that action and gave them their own houses, ***"17 But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive. 20 Therefore God dealt well with the midwives: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty. 21 And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that he made them houses." (Exodus 1:17, 20-21 KJV) The same with you, when you fear God then He will reward you and give you family or He will build your existing family. God is looking today for such people who fear Him and are willing to work with Him.***

Here we will tackle few examples of men and women who feared God who their God fearing attitude had aided to build their families, protect God's church, and work with God to promote His Kingdom. Glory to God, for every man and woman who is willing to fear God, to stand with Him, to respond to His call and is willing to do His work and abide in His service. Therefore, let us continue to study the Scriptures and learn from the good example of the men and women who fear God.

1. Noah feared God and built the ark to save His family: "7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." (Hebrews 11:7 KJV) Noah moved with the fear of God when God told him about the coming flood, and built the ark that with it saved his family and condemned the rest of the world that were living in the disobedience to God. The fear of God should motivate you and move you to commit yourself to God and start to do the things that God wants you to do to save your family. Christ's coming is soon and we need to be ready with our families as Noah was ready and prepared with his family when the flood came. People may laugh on you and ridicule you but put in your mind that judgment is coming and Jesus is coming soon and He will judge such as we read here: "26 And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. 27 They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed

them all.” (Luke 17:26-27 KJV) “37 But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, 39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 40 Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.” (Matthew 24:37-41 KJV) We need to be ready with our families for the coming of Christ to be with Him and escape His judgment.

2. Rahab who hid and protected the spies that Joshua sent: *“31 By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.” (Hebrews 11:31 KJV) She hid them in her house and sent away the soldiers of the king of Jericho to other side to protect the people of God and their mission, “1 And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there. 2 And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, Behold, there came men in hither to night of the children of Israel to search out the country. 3 And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country. 4 And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus, There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were: 5 And it came to pass about the time of shutting of the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out: whither the men went I wot not: pursue after them quickly; for ye shall overtake them. 6 But she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order upon the roof. 7 And the men pursued after them the way to Jordan unto the fords: and as soon as they which pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate.” (Joshua 2:1-7 KJV) We should not open up the secrets of God’s ministry and His church to the non believers and those sons of Belial, the evil doers who wants to destroy His church. Rahab feared God and did not fear man when she hid the spies from the king of Jericho. This woman, ultimately God rewarded her and gave her family of her own and made her marry an Israelites, the son of the leader of the tribe of Judah, “5 And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse;” (Matthew 1:5 KJV) You can see clearly how Rahab feared God and that fear of God generated in her faith and action to protect the spies, “24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. 25 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?” (James 2:24-25 KJV) We need such kind of women in our church to work with God and to protect His church and His work. The fear of God in her enabled her not to fear the King of Jericho, to leave her sin of immorality, her profession of prostitution, to be willing to loss her city and her people but she saved herself and her father’s house and finally God gave her a family.*

3. Jael the wife of Heber who killed Sisera the commander of the army of Jabin the king of Canaan: *“15 And the LORD discomfited Sisera, and all his chariots, and all his host, with the edge of the sword before Barak; so that Sisera lighted down off his chariot, and fled away on his feet. 16 But Barak pursued after the chariots, and after the host, unto Harosheth of the Gentiles: and all the host of Sisera fell upon the edge of the sword; and there was not a man left. 17 Howbeit Sisera fled away on his feet to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite: for there was peace between Jabin the king of Hazor and the house of Heber the Kenite. 18 And Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said unto him, Turn in, my lord,*

*turn in to me; fear not. And when he had turned in unto her into the tent, she covered him with a mantle. 19 And he said unto her, Give me, I pray thee, a little water to drink; for I am thirsty. And she opened a bottle of milk, and gave him drink, and covered him. 20 Again he said unto her, Stand in the door of the tent, and it shall be, when any man doth come and enquire of thee, and say, Is there any man here? that thou shalt say, No. 21 Then Jael Heber's wife took a nail of the tent, and took an hammer in her hand, and went softly unto him, and smote the nail into his temples, and fastened it into the ground: for he was fast asleep and weary. So he died. 22 And, behold, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him, and said unto him, Come, and I will shew thee the man whom thou seekest. And when he came into her tent, behold, Sisera lay dead, and the nail was in his temples. 23 So God subdued on that day Jabin the king of Canaan before the children of Israel.” (Judges 4:15-23 KJV) When God called Deborah and Barak to deliver His people out of the hand of the King of Canaan, they engaged in battle with his army that was under the commander of Sisera whose army was routed before the Israelites and he fled and went to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber. Her husband was not there, but being a woman who fears God knew what to do with the enemy of God. She treated him wisely till she put him to death. God wants such kind of women who fear God, who even at home they do the great work of the Lord. They are blessed women and well mentioned as **“Blessed above women”**, and recommended in His Word, **“24 Blessed above women shall Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite be, blessed shall she be above women in the tent. 25 He asked water, and she gave him milk; she brought forth butter in a lordly dish. 26 She put her hand to the nail, and her right hand to the workmen's hammer; and with the hammer she smote Sisera, she smote off his head, when she had pierced and stricken through his temples. 27 At her feet he bowed, he fell, he lay down: at her feet he bowed, he fell: where he bowed, there he fell down dead.” (Judges 5:24-27 KJV)** **The men and women who fear God, are blessed in their houses, the Holy Spirit flow through them and the Holy Spirit would give wisdom to such men and women and teach them how to act and to behave.** In the case of Jael the wife of Heber when Sisera asked her for water she brought him milk that will put him to sleep, and she gave it to him in a lordly dish, just to give him the impression that he is in a safe place, and he even requested her, **“when any man doth come and enquire of thee, and say, Is there any man here? that thou shalt say, No.”** She acted with him shrewdly till she put him to death. **Men and women who fear God will put an end to the work of Devil and with the wisdom that they will receive from God will not allow devil to enter their homes and families. Men and women who fear God will protect the church and will not allow the work of Devil to prevail or spread. Such women they will build up Godly families and God will use them to build His church.***

You want God to use you to build up your Godly family and to build up His church? If your answer is ‘Yes’, then from now start to fear God and obey Him and tremble at His presence and start to serve Him.

4. The wife of a man in Bahurim who hid the two sons of the priests who were carrying a warning message to King David to protect him from Absalom: *“15 Then said Hushai unto Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, Thus and thus did Ahithophel counsel Absalom and the elders of Israel; and thus and thus have I counselled. 16 Now therefore send quickly, and tell David, saying, Lodge not this night in the plains of the wilderness, but speedily pass over; lest the king be swallowed up, and all the people that are with him. 17 Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz stayed by Enrogel; for they might not be seen to come into the city: and a wench went and told them; and they went and told king David. 18 Nevertheless a lad saw*

them, and told Absalom: but they went both of them away quickly, and came to a man's house in Bahurim, which had a well in his court; whither they went down. 19 And the woman took and spread a covering over the well's mouth, and spread ground corn thereon; and the thing was not known. 20 And when Absalom's servants came to the woman to the house, they said, Where is Ahimaaz and Jonathan? And the woman said unto them, They be gone over the brook of water. And when they had sought and could not find them, they returned to Jerusalem. 21 And it came to pass, after they were departed, that they came up out of the well, and went and told king David, and said unto David, Arise, and pass quickly over the water: for thus hath Ahithophel counselled against you.” (2 Samuel 17:15-21 KJV)

This woman with her action protected the two priests and helped them to reach David soon to warn him. * Such a woman or other women alike, who knew the will of God and work with the Lord to promote His missions and protect His church is what the church needs today. * Such kind of courageous women will be suitable mothers and wives and will work with God to build up Godly families and to build up His church.

My dear and beloved: “30 Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. 31 Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.” (Proverbs 31:30-31 KJV) Make up, painting, gold and jewels, expensive dress will not make you beautiful but fearing God will bring the blessings of God and His reward into your life. God does not need handsome men or beautiful women, but men and women who fear Him and serve Him. Actions and deeds as we explained in the examples that we used in the Scripture will enable us to harvest the great blessings of God in our lives as we continue to fear Him.

To fear God is to understand the message of God, to go along with Him, to commit yourself to Him, to do His will and to stand firm with God and work with Him to achieve His purpose and plan.

To fear God is to be heart to heart with God, to work with Him and to serve Him; to do His will, to prepare yourself and your family, to be away from worldly things, to stand with God and fight the good fight of God against the enemies of God.

To fear God is to nurture Godly families, to raise up Godly children and disciples, who obey and abide with the commands of the Lord and who understand the will of God and stand firm with His purpose and plan and work with God to achieve all that are needed in building His church and in building Godly families.

Let us pray.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that showing me clearly the truth and the way that you wants me to go through and live my life to you.

Repent and renounce all your sins. Repent of the worldliness, immoralities, and selfishness, breaking the commands of God, lack of commitment, yoked with non believers and being loyal to them, your compromises, pride, arrogance, speaking evil, doing your own will, etc. Lord I confess and repent from the following sins _____ .

Lord I commit myself to your Word and the principles that we learn today in this message. Lord builds the fear of yours in my life so that I can stand firm for your cause and purpose. Lord gives me discernment to be able to grasp and understand your will and your good plan in my life and in the life of my family, and in the life of your people. Lord I commit myself to reproduce the fruit of the Holy Spirit and to set good example to others to know you through my life.

Lord thank you for my brethren and my sisters who repented of their sins and committed their lives to live for you and to fear you and do your will and the plan that you have for them. Lord I pray for them to give them the courage to do your work and your will. Lord I pray for them to be protected from all their enemies and that they will be well provided by you so they can continue to serve you. Lord fills them with your Holy Spirit and gives them the Spiritual gifts to go on and serve you.

Lord I pray that you will bless us as a church, and let the fear of yours be upon the workers and the church members that each and everyone will do your will. Lord prepare us for your coming to take us with you when you come. Lord enable us to evangelize and to spread your Word. Lord help us to make new disciples and to train others to serve you to plant new congregations and Bible studies. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us, and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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