

The Fear of God Part 5. In God's Service

"12 And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul," (Deuteronomy 10:12 KJV)

The fear of God is so important before starting serving the Lord. If you fear God, then you will be walking in the ways of God not the ways of the world, and in this way you will show that you love Him and you will be in the right set up to go spontaneously in serving Him.

In setting the government Moses was advised to set judges over the people, and he was given the criteria of how he will chose able men among those whom he trained, ***"21 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:" (Exodus 18:21 KJV)*** He was instructed to chose men first they fear God. Workers and church leaders should not be selected based on talents, nor skills, nor spiritual gifts, but on the fear of God. Those who fear God they are able to serve and keep service and ministry in the way that will please God. Because those who fear God they are honest, Godly, faithful, and the Holy Spirit is with them and He will sustain them, and sustain their ministry that comes from God. ***So keeping church pastors, workers and leaders who fear God will impart Godliness and the fear of the Lord in the Church of God. But those leaders who do not fear God whom their heart covetous for material things, the love of money and worldly things will impart immoralities, compromises, worldliness, bad stewardships, and finally division and pulling after them people to serve their wrong motive and purpose.***

Moses by the command of God put forward the things that each and every King should do when he sit to rule as a king, ***"18 And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites:" (Deuteronomy 17:18 KJV)*** That the king should write his own copy of the Bible, at that time the Bible was the first five books that Moses wrote (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy). He would do that for the following purpose: ***"19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:" (Deuteronomy 17:19 KJV)*** The copy that he write with his hand is to be kept with him all the days of his life, to continue to read, in order for him to learn to fear God, and as he learn to fear God then he can keep the laws and the statutes and the judgments of God. This is how God ordained the way for them to fear Him, by reproducing their own copy of the Bible, to value it, and to spend on it precious time and effort, and to read it and meditates on what is written, perhaps those actions would impart to them the fear of God that will enable them to keep the laws and the statutes and the judgments of God. Possibly Jesus being the King when He came it might be he wrote his own copy of the Scripture.

Now a day the Bible is available even in soft copies and people does not read, how much more if we had been requested to write our own copy? People have time and money and effort to spend on many things but not reading the Bible. ***But let us continue to read the Bible, daily four chapters, every day, from the beginning to the end, in sequence, book by book, chapter by chapter, verse by verse, no jumping from place to place, and when we finish the whole Bible restart from the beginning. Let us continue meditate on it and apply it in our lives.***

"3 The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God." (2 Samuel 23:3 KJV) King David emphasized the importance of the fear of God to those who are set to rule, and further he said, ***"4 And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth, even a morning without clouds; as the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain." (2 Samuel 23:4 KJV)*** The light of God's righteousness will shine clearly through those who rule with the fear of God. ***The one who rule should fear God so he will be a bold man who can handle sin and deal with those who are evil doers, and described here that they will be burned by fire: "6 But the sons of Belial shall be all of them as thorns thrust away, because they cannot be taken with hands: 7 But the man that shall touch them must be fenced with iron and the staff of a spear; and they shall be utterly burned with fire in the same place." (2 Samuel 23:6-7 KJV)*** Jesus' government as described by John the Baptist is the same, that he will burn the chaff, ***"10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: 12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." (Matthew 3:10-12)*** The chaff are the ungodly, as they are described in ***Psalms 1, "The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away." (Psalm 1:4)*** Those who fear God in the leadership are capable and will be used by God to deal with the sons of Belial. ***As we fear God, he will enable us to deal with those evil doers who try to destroy the works and the ministries of God.***

"39 But the LORD your God ye shall fear; and he shall deliver you out of the hand of all your enemies." (2 Kings 17:39 KJV) Those in God's service and the ministry of God should fear the Lord for they will be opposed by devil and with multitude of enemies, but as they fear God, He will deliver them of all their enemies. ***In the same way as we fear God, He will enable us to stand fast against the opposition of the devil and He will deliver us from all the evil work of the enemies. Never be afraid of men as you fear God, and no man can help you but God.***

King Jehoshaphat led the revival in his kingdom when he appointed the Levites as judges and he commissioned them to go forward and judge the people in the cities of Judah and Jerusalem with the fear of the Lord, ***"4 And Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem: and he went out again through the people from Beersheba to mount Ephraim, and brought them back unto the LORD God of their fathers. 5 And he set judges in the land throughout all the fenced cities of Judah, city by city, 6 And said to the judges, Take heed what ye do: for ye judge not for man, but for the LORD, who is with you in the judgment. 7 Wherefore now let the fear of the LORD be upon you; take heed and do it: for there is no iniquity with the LORD our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts. 8 Moreover in Jerusalem did Jehoshaphat set of the Levites, and of the priests, and of the chief of the fathers of Israel, for the judgment of the LORD, and for controversies, when they returned to Jerusalem. 9 And he charged them, saying, Thus shall ye do in the fear of the LORD, faithfully, and with a perfect heart. 10 And what cause soever shall come to you of your brethren that dwell in their cities, between blood and blood, between law and commandment, statutes and judgments, ye shall even warn them that they trespass not against the LORD, and so wrath come upon you, and upon your brethren: this do, and ye shall not trespass. 11 And, behold, Amariah the chief priest is over you in all matters of the LORD; and Zebadiah the son of Ishmael, the ruler of the house of***

Judah, for all the king's matters: also the Levites shall be officers before you. Deal courageously, and the LORD shall be with the good.” (2 Chronicles 19:4-11 KJV) From this passage you will grasp that the fear of the Lord will enable you to apply the following principles in your ministry among the people:

A. You judge for God and not for man: “6 And said to the judges, Take heed what ye do: for ye judge not for man, but for the LORD, who is with you in the judgment.” (2 Chronicles 19:6 KJV) As you fear God in your decisions and judgments you will abide with the Word of God and you will not favor and be deviated toward friends, relatives, family ties, or get enticed with gifts or bribes, **“7 Wherefore now let the fear of the LORD be upon you; take heed and do it: for there is no iniquity with the LORD our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of gifts.” (2 Chronicles 19:7 KJV)**

B. As you fear God that you shall judge with a perfect heart: “9 And he charged them, saying, Thus shall ye do in the fear of the LORD, faithfully, and with a perfect heart.” (2 Chronicles 19:9 KJV)

C. Warn those who do wrong that the wrath of God shall come on them if they will not repent: You need to do that to free yourself from sinning against God and from receiving God’s wrath, “10 And what cause soever shall come to you of your brethren that dwell in their cities, between blood and blood, between law and commandment, statutes and judgments, ye shall even warn them that they trespass not against the LORD, and so wrath come upon you, and upon your brethren: this do, and ye shall not trespass.” (2 Chronicles 19:10 KJV)

It is so important for those who serve God and do the ministry of the Lord to fear God; and they will be able to see that God is over them and He is the one who is ruling over His church through their lives. As we fear God then we will be able to see that God is over us and He is the one who is ruling over His church through our lives.

Those who fear God will live because they want to serve God, and they will not use the ministry in delight for position, privileges, greedy for gain or a way for living. Nehemiah in his leadership as governor over Jerusalem because he feared God, he did not use his privileges as a governor, **“14 Moreover from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even unto the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that is, twelve years, I and my brethren have not eaten the bread of the governor. But the former governors that had been before me were chargeable unto the people, and had taken of them bread and wine, beside forty shekels of silver; yea, even their servants bare rule over the people: but so did not I, because of the fear of God.” (Nehemiah 5:14-15 KJV)**

Nehemiah knew very well the importance of fearing God in the life of the leader. Therefore when he finished the work on the wall he appointed two people who fear God to carry on the government of Jerusalem, **“1 Now it came to pass, when the wall was built, and I had set up the doors, and the porters and the singers and the Levites were appointed, 2 That I gave my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the ruler of the palace, charge over Jerusalem: for he was a faithful man, and feared God above many.” (Nehemiah 7:1-2 KJV)** * We need to put people who fear God, because they can grasp His will and understand and accept the instructions that we are giving to them, and the Holy Spirit with them. * Among those who fear God truly there

are some who fear Him greatly, and excel others in the expressions and being examples of that fear; and they are worthy a double portion of that honor which is due to those that fear the Lord. Therefore we need to find out who fears God above others and put him in charge to do the responsibility.

There were many in Jerusalem that feared God, but those good men Hanani, and Hananiah were more eminent in faith and serious in Godliness and in the fear of God than any. Those that fear God must show it by being faithful, honest and Godly, and God’s Jerusalem is then likely to flourish when those rule in it, and have charge of it, who excel in the fear of God. At that time Nehemiah was about to return to the Persian court to have his commission renewed, and that is why he left those two worthy men in charge with the affairs of the city in his absence. Therefore good governors, when and where they cannot act themselves, must be very careful whom they will put instead of them. In the same way we need to be aware whom we put instead of us to govern and do certain works for a certain times when we cannot attend that important work.

According to **Psalm 15:4 “4 In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the LORD. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not.”** Those who fear the Lord need to be honored, **“but he honoureth them that fear the LORD.”** So Nehemiah in his leadership honored those who feared the Lord above other men and put them in charge of Jerusalem city. We need to do the same with the affairs of the church and appoint people who fear God so no more worldly, immoral or greedy people are found in the church.

“Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded.” (Proverbs 13:13) To fear God is to fear the commandment of the Lord and those who obey God’s commandments they will be rewarded and kept safe.

King Darius after the miracle that he witnessed when God saved Daniel from the mouth of the lions he issued the following that shows how to fear God, **“26 I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.” (Daniel 6:26 KJV)** To fear God is to tremble before God who is able to do great miracles. Those who witness the miracles and the mighty works of God they should tremble and fear at His presence.

“1 Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it: 2 That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son’s son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.” (Deuteronomy 6:1-2 KJV) The fear of God will be imparted into the life of people of God when the commandment of God will be taught and imparted to the people. That is why we continue to teach and implement the commandment of God, those who fear God they will continue with us and those who do not fear God you find them leaving the church. That is how God is cleaning His church.

Samuel commissioned the people to fear God, **“14 If ye will fear the LORD, and serve him, and obey his voice, and not rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall both ye and also the king that reigneth over you continue following the LORD your God:” (1**

Samuel 12:14 KJV) To fear God would lead you to serve Him, and to enable you to listen and obey His voice, and to refrain from rebelling against Him, and to continue to follow Him.

Another way to impart the fear of God is through tithing and giving the first fruit, **“22 Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year. 23 And thou shalt eat before the LORD thy God, in the place which he shall choose to place his name there, the tithe of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the firstlings of thy herds and of thy flocks; that thou mayest learn to fear the LORD thy God always.” (Deuteronomy 14:22-23 KJV)** Tithing should be directed and brought to the place that God ordained for you to bring. The tithes and the firstfruits will be used to maintain the place and the ministry of God. The place that God direct His people to bring the tithes and the offerings and the firstfruits, there the people should be gathered to be taught the Word of God. The Word of God and the teaching will impart the fear of God in the life of the people of God. That what the Israelites were asked to do when they will come to the promise land: **“11 When all Israel is come to appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose, thou shalt read this law before all Israel in their hearing. 12 Gather the people together, men, and women, and children, and thy stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the LORD your God, and observe to do all the words of this law: 13 And that their children, which have not known any thing, may hear, and learn to fear the LORD your God, as long as ye live in the land whither ye go over Jordan to possess it.” (Deuteronomy 31:11-13 KJV)** Because the tithes and the first fruits will be used to maintain the place and the ministry of God that will concentrate to give the Word of God and the discipline of God’s law to His people. Now a day churches are busy spending on music programs, parties, trips to enjoy traveling, and other worldly programs but no time is given to read, study and implement the Word of God. Therefore the people of God are now without the fear of God. The disciples’ life will be corrupt if they will not learn primarily from the Church of God to fear God.

“5 Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, so the LORD thy God chasteneth thee. 6 Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him.” (Deuteronomy 8:5-6 KJV) The fear of God will be imparted into the heart and the life of His people through discipline and hardship. Suffering, trials and punishment for sin God will use to make people fear Him and revere Him. That is why God wants us to discipline our children and disciples so they will fear God. The Lord also promised chastisement and consequences to those who fail to fear Him as we read the following terrible things: **“58 If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD; 59 Then the LORD will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance. 60 Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee. 61 Also every sickness, and every plague, which is not written in the book of this law, them will the LORD bring upon thee, until thou be destroyed. 62 And ye shall be left few in number, whereas ye were as the stars of heaven for multitude; because thou wouldest not obey the voice of the LORD thy God. 63 And it shall come to pass, that as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good, and to multiply you; so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to nought; and ye shall be plucked from off the land whither thou goest to possess it. 64 And the LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other; and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, even wood and stone. 65 And among**

these nations shalt thou find no ease, neither shall the sole of thy foot have rest: but the LORD shall give thee there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind: 66 And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life: 67 In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning! for the fear of thine heart wherewith thou shalt fear, and for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see. 68 And the LORD shall bring thee into Egypt again with ships, by the way whereof I spake unto thee, Thou shalt see it no more again: and there ye shall be sold unto your enemies for bondmen and bondwomen, and no man shall buy you.” (Deuteronomy 28:58-68 KJV) Those punishments God will do in order to let the people fear Him. The lack of the fear of God will bring and determine the final judgment of God, **“He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.” (Revelation 14:7)**

My dear and beloved: **“13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.” (Ecclesiastes 12:13 KJV)** God determines man’s duty toward Him by fearing God which will be expressed by keeping all His commands. **“12 And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,” (Deuteronomy 10:12 KJV)** To fear God will direct you to understand the will of God and will help you to stand firm with His purpose and plan, and work with Him and serve Him in accordance to His Word and laws. Therefore commit yourself to Him to fear Him and walk faithfully toward Him. 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 showing me clearly the truth of your Word. Lord thank you for the teaching that I received in this message and opened my eyes about the importance of the fear of yours in life and ministry.

Let us confess and renounce our sins. Confess and renounce the lack of reading of God’s Word, no fear of God but the fear of man, compromises, flattering, wrong decisions, non teachable, worldliness, love of material things, favoritism, unfaithful in giving your tithes and offerings and firstfruits. Lord I confess and the renounce the following sins

Lord builds in me 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 your people and the ministry. Lord I am willing to suffer and go along with your will in serving you.

Lord thank you for my brethren and my sisters who repented of their sins and who are willing to suffer the consequences of their sins and willing to abide with your Word and will and to live in the fears of yours. Lord guide them to make right decisions and good choices that comes from you and the leading of the Holy Spirit. Lord protect them and their families from the evil ones and provide all their needs so they can continue to serve you.

We come against all the work of the devil against us and against the church and the ministry of God. Lord give us strength and boldness as a church to stand firm on your Word and to combat the sons of Belial and the work of the evil doers that are used by the devil.

Lord we commit ourselves as a church to abide with your teaching that we receive in this message that we will continue to fear you and not to compromise with man and we will do what is right and just in your sight. Lord we pray that the fear of yours will be upon the leaders, the workers and the church members and all the families that each and everyone will do your will and the plan and the ministries that you ordained for the church. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need to go on and serve you. 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.

The Fear of God Part 5. In God's Service. Deuteronomy 10:12. Exodus 18:21. Deuteronomy 17:18-19. 2 Samuel 23:3 -4, 6-7. Matthew 3:10-12. 2 Kings 17:39. 2 Chronicles 19:4-11. Nehemiah 5:14-15. Nehemiah 7:1-2. Psalm 15:4. Proverbs 13:13. Daniel 6:26. Deuteronomy 6:1-2. 1 Samuel 12:14. Deuteronomy 14:22-23. Deuteronomy 31:11-13. Deuteronomy 8:5-6. Deuteronomy 28:58-68. Revelation 14:7. Ecclesiastes 12:13.

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