

The Fear of God Part 7 More about the Fear of God

“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)

“Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:” (Hebrews 12:28 KJV) Christ died on the cross for our sins and with that we are receiving eternal life and be part of God’s Kingdom. Therefore let us thank God, serve Him and fear Him.

“17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.” (1 Peter 2:17 KJV) Men might be honored and respected, Brothers to be loved, kings and government authorities to be honored and submitted to, but God is to be feared.

“1 My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; 2 So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; 3 Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; 4 If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; 5 Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.” (Proverbs 2:1-5) * Receiving God’s Word, keeping them and applying them in your life will impart wisdom and makes you understand and adopt yourself to live in the fear of the Lord. * We need to teach our children and train them in the fear of God.

The prophet Jonah fled from the presence of God when he was asked to go to Nineveh, therefore God sent strong wind that even the ship was about to be broken. When the mariners cast the lot to see who was the cause of the tempest it fell on Jonah; when they asked him to know why that had happened, ***“9 And he said unto them, I am an Hebrew; and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land. 10 Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, Why hast thou done this? For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.” (Jonah 1:9-10 KJV)*** The tempest that God allowed was a form of discipline and a reminder for Jonah that God needed to be feared. Jonah said, ***“I fear the LORD”***, but he was not fearing God in what he did and in what he caused to happen. Many who say they fear God, but in reality they don’t fear God that is why God is allowing many terrible trials to happen to His people. That is why, finally the mariners needed to throw Jonah in the sea; no other way, and then after the sea ceased from its raging. When that happened, ***“16 Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice unto the LORD, and made vows.” (Jonah 1:16 KJV)*** The Judgment of God on Jonah was also a teaching to others on the ship, that God needed to be feared. The hard trial and the judgment of God on you the purpose of it is to teach you to fear God.

David when he sinned against God by counting the men and when the Lord punished him and the Israelites with the plague, David was sore afraid from God and that is why he was even afraid to go and enquire of the Lord at His altar at Gibeon ***“28 At that time when David saw that the LORD had answered him in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite, then he sacrificed there. 29 For the tabernacle of the LORD, which Moses made in the wilderness,***

and the altar of the burnt offering, were at that season in the high place at Gibeon. 30 But David could not go before it to enquire of God: for he was afraid because of the sword of the angel of the LORD.” (1 Chronicles 21:28-30 KJV) The great judgments of God to those who sin is restraining to them and to impart the fear of God on those who miss the way.

Almost always, God’s discipline and judgment bring the fear of God in the life of the people. Good example is what had happened to the church after the death of Ananias and Sapphira, ***“1 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, 2 And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles’ feet. 3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? 4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own*? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God. 5 And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things. 6 And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him. 7 And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in. 8 And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much. 9 Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out. 10 Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying her forth, buried her by her husband. 11 And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.” (Acts 5:1-11 KJV)*** The whole church seized with fear with what God had brought calamity on those who sinned against Him. God would allow calamities certain times in the life of His people so that they will fear Him and behave in the way that they will walk with Him.

God said about the Israelites who went astray from Him, ***“5 Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.” (Hosea 3:5 KJV)*** * The Israelites being away from God, that brought judgment on them, and judgment brought suffering, and the suffering humility and humility repentance, that brought them back and made them returned to Him and feared Him who would do good to them. * Always returning to God due to trial or discipline that God would allow is accompanied by the fear of the Lord.

Joseph in Egypt dealt with his brothers who sold him on such bases. Joseph arrested them as spies and then he released them, by keeping one of them in custody and he requested them that he will not see their faces unless they will bring their youngest brother. Joseph said to his brothers the following: ***“18 And Joseph said unto them the third day, This do, and live; for I fear God.” (Genesis 42:18 KJV)*** The fear of God was the reason to push Joseph to discipline his brethren and squeeze them in such a manner. The condition that Joseph put upon his brothers was hard but that was the discipline of God on them to bring on them the fear of God that would lead them to repentance. When you read ***Genesis 42-46*** in your own Bible you will understand the whole story. According to the condition that he put on them, Simeon was put in prison till his brothers would come back bringing with them Benjamin. In addition to that, when Joseph feared God and agreed to obey Him in disciplining his brothers, God also disciplined Jacob and judged his sin of favoritism in favoring Benjamin over the rest of his children. Jacob refused at the first instance to send Benjamin with them back to Egypt to buy

grain, because he was the child of Rachel. His favoring for Rachel made him favoring Benjamin over the rest of his sons even to the point of endanger the life of the rest of his family by the lack of food due to famine, just to keep Benjamin in safety near to him. **Joseph in taking those measures to discipline his brethren, sure, was not happy and comfortable to do that but because he feared God he obeyed Him and was willing to do it even it was painful to his heart.** His father finally was willing to sent Benjamin with them, and his brothers repented when they brought Benjamin with them. Their repentance was tested for they were willing to take the responsibility and the accountability to bring Benjamin back safely to Jacob their father. So praise God that Joseph's brothers and his father Jacob repented in the same set up and trial that God allowed to pass into their lives.

The wicked will not fear God and they will continue to sin, ***"18 There is no fear of God before their eyes." (Romans 3:18 KJV)*** **Those who fear God will respond to the discipline and the punishment of God to bring them to repentance, and they will be bold to rebuke those who do not fear God.** The repented thief who was hanged with Jesus on the cross rebuked the other hanged thief who did not repent, ***"40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?" (Luke 23:40 KJV)***

Also, the purpose of the miracles of God is to impart the fear of God in the lives of His people. Jesus when healed the paralytic man that was brought to Him on mat, the people who witnessed that they feared God, ***"26 And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen strange things to day." (Luke 5:26 KJV)*** *** When God do miracle in your life the purpose of Him for such is that you would fear Him and start to walk in His ways, and not to boast. * Don't think that God did such miracle in your life because you are good or you are special. No, it is only because He is good and that is for you to start to fear God.**

Further miracles to show the purpose of God to impart His fear in the life of His people is when He did miracle and made His people crossed miraculously the Jordan's river on dry land, ***"19 And the people came up out of Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and encamped in Gilgal, in the east border of Jericho. 20 And those twelve stones, which they took out of Jordan, did Joshua pitch in Gilgal. 21 And he spake unto the children of Israel, saying, When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean these stones? 22 Then ye shall let your children know, saying, Israel came over this Jordan on dry land. 23 For the LORD your God dried up the waters of Jordan from before you, until ye were passed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red sea, which he dried up from before us, until we were gone over: 24 That all the people of the earth might know the hand of the LORD, that it is mighty: that ye might fear the LORD your God for ever." (Joshua 4:19-24 KJV)*** The twelve stones that Joshua pitched in Gilgal was a teaching for the next generations and to the whole world to know the great miracle that God did to the Israelites; in this way people would know that the hand of the LORD is mighty and that will cause them to fear the Lord forever. John the Baptist when he was baptizing at the Jordan river spoke the following to the people about those stones, ***"9 And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham." (Matthew 3:9 KJV)*** So he was pointing to those stones that Joshua pitched and so was reminding them with the miracle that God did to their forefathers to make them reach the promised land and so was challenging them to fear God. **In the same way today, I remind you**

to remember all the good things and the miracles that God did to you and admonish you to fear Him, to obey Him and to walk in His ways.

Those who fear God they have blessings and heritage from the Lord, ***"5 For thou, O God, hast heard my vows: thou hast given me the heritage of those that fear thy name." (Psalm 61:5 KJV)*** **In the same way as you fear God then the heritage that we have in Heaven, the eternal life, will be secured to you and to all those who fear Him. "2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. 3 And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts." (Malachi 4:2-3 KJV)** **As you fear God then the healing of God and His blessings will come to you and you will be able to deal with your enemies.**

Also we can read further about the blessings of God to those who fear Him: ***"16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. 17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. 18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not." (Malachi 3:16-18 KJV)*** God will listen and ponder on what those who fear Him speak among themselves; and therefore here we are assured that as we fear God and direct our thoughts on Him that He is considering us to be His, to be His precious people, and that He will spare us troubles, and will make it clear to everyone in term of blessings and destiny, the difference between us and those who are wicked, and between us and those who do not serve God.

My dear and beloved: I pray that as you meditate on the message, the Word of God will build in you the fear of God that will help you to obey Him, doing His will and serve Him as you are considering the following:

Christ died on the cross for our sins and with that we received eternal life and became part of God's Kingdom. Therefore let us thank God, serve Him and fear Him.

Receiving God's Word, keeping them and applying them in your life will impart wisdom and makes you understand and adopt yourself to live in the fear of the Lord.

The tempests and the hard trials that God allowed in your life is a form of discipline and a reminder for you that you need to put in your mind that God needed to be feared.

The Judgment of God on you is a teaching for you and to others around you, that God needed to be feared.

The great judgment of God on His people who sin against Him is to restrain them and to impart the fear of God on those who miss the way. For almost always, God's discipline and judgment bring the fear of God in the life of His people.

To move away from God, that will bring judgment on you, and judgment will bring suffering, and the suffering humility and humility repentance, that will bring you back to God and makes

you return to Him. All this will take place because the trial and discipline of God is accompanied by the fear of the Lord.

The fear of God is the reason to push you to discipline others and to squeeze them in such a manner so they will fear God and will go back to Him. Even if you are not happy or comfortable to take the measures to discipline others but the fear God would be the one to drive you and push you to be willing to obey God and do it even if that painful to your heart.

Put in your mind that those who fear God will respond to the discipline and the punishment of God to bring them to repentance, and they will be bold to rebuke those who do not fear God.

Put in your mind that when God will do miracle in your life the purpose of Him for such is that you would fear Him and start to walk in His ways, and not to boast. Don't think that God did such miracle in your life because you are good or you are special> No, it is only because He is good and that is for you to start to fear God. Therefore I remind you today to remember all the good things that God did to you and admonish you to fear Him, to obey Him and to walk in His ways.

Put in your mind that as you fear God then the heritage that we have in Heaven, the eternal life, will be secured to you and to all of us who fear Him.

Put in your mind that as you fear God then the healing of God will come to you and you will be able to deal with your enemies.

Put in your mind and be assured that as you fear God and direct your thoughts on Him, then He will be considering you His, His precious people, and that He will spare you troubles, and God will make it clear to everyone in term of blessings and destiny, the difference between you and those who are wicked, and between you and those who do not serve God.

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 opened my eyes to understand new things and how the fears of yours will be manifested in the life of the people.*

Confess and renounce all your sins. Renounce your non willingness to serve God, the sin of doing your own will, the sin of fearing man but not fearing God; the sin of compromising. Renounce your pride, arrogance, your lack of commitment, your non reading to God's Word and your disobedience to God's command. Lord I confess and renounce the following sins

Lord build in me the fear of yours that will make me obedient and fruitful in my life and service unto you. Lord reminds me of these Scripture and helps me in applying them. I need your love, support and grace in doing that. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

Lord thank you for my brethren and Sisters who repented and committed their lives to live in the fears of yours. Lord we pray that you will protect them and deliver them from the evil one

and provide their needs so they will continue to serve you. Devil I rebuke you in the name of Jesus; go away from their lives. Lord I pray for those who are not willing to repent and comply with your will that you will deal with them according to your ways to implant the fears of yours in their lives.

Lord empower us as a church to go on in the fear of yours and to implement your Word and discipline on those who do not fear you, that finally will direct them to face you to deal with them and their trespasses. Lord protect us as we continue to endeavor to serve you. Lord empower us with the Holy Spirit to go on and serve you. We come against all the work of the devil and the fear of men in the name of Jesus. Lord we pray for us as a church to bless us that we will continue to teach and to preach your Word and to implement your will in our lives and in the lives of our families and the people that we are reaching out. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the Spiritual gifts that we need to go and serve you and do the work of yours. Lord go before us and lead us to evangelize and make new disciples, and to train new workers and to plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. 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 7. More about the Fear of God. Deuteronomy 10:12. Hebrews 12:28. 1 Peter 2:17. Proverbs 2:1-5. Jonah 1:9-10, 16. 2 Chronicles 21:28-30. Acts 5:1-11. Hosea 3:5. Genesis 42:18. Romans 3:18. Luke 23:40. Luke 5:26. Joshua 4:19-24. Matthew 3:9. Psalm 61:5. Malachi 4:2-3. Malachi 3:16-18.

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