

The Fear of God Part 23

How the Fear of God Develops in our Lives

“1 Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: 2 Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious. 3 Say unto God, How terrible art thou in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee. 4 All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing to thy name. Selah. 5 Come and see the works of God: he is terrible in his doing toward the children of men. 6 He turned the sea into dry land: they went through the flood on foot: there did we rejoice in him. 7 He ruleth by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah. 8 O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard: 9 Which holdeth our soul in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved. 10 For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried. 11 Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins. 12 Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place. 13 I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows, 14 Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble. 15 I will offer unto thee burnt sacrifices of fatlings, with the incense of rams; I will offer bullocks with goats. Selah. 16 Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul. 17 I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue. 18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me: 19 But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer. 20 Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.” (Psalm 66:1-20 KJV)

This psalm is a psalm for thanksgiving and giving praises to God for all the great things that God had done for all the people in general and in particular for His goodness to His church and for His own people in answering their prayers and saving their lives.

“1 Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands:” All are called to make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the lands and all the nations, for He is good to all men; He created us and He had filled everyone mouth with good things.

“2 Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious.” Sing to the honor of His name, His worth, for His salvation, His justice and judgment, His righteousness, His healing and His miracles. All these are good reason to praise the Lord.

“3 Say unto God, How terrible art thou in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee.” The Psalmist said to God, ***“How terrible art thou in thy works!”*** The Psalmist understood and realized that God when works His work is terrible. And that terrible work of God has great power on the enemies of God, who when they will expose to such terrible power of God and face His terrible work they will be forced to submit themselves to Him and to His will.

“4 All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing to thy name. Selah.” This is a prophetic message that all the nations ultimately will worship God and praise His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. The gospel will be preached to all nations, ***“6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them***

that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, 7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.” (Revelation 14:6-7 KJV) The gospel will be preached and the terrible works of God will impart the fear of God to all nations, who will ultimately give glory to Him and worship Him. When they will start to fear God, they will read His Word and sing psalms, giving praises to Him and worship Him and serve Him.

“5 Come and see the works of God: he is terrible in his doing toward the children of men.” As we observe God’s work we will have more reason to praise the Lord. In Verse 3 the Psalmist understood the terribleness of God’s work, and he is inviting others and telling them, ***“Come and see the works of God:”*** You are invited to come closely and examine and see the terrible works of God, so that you can discern the terrible nature of God’s works and deeds and in return after you experiencing that, ***“Say unto God, terrible art thou in thy works!”*** As what the Psalmist said unto God in verse 3.

The other meaning of the word terrible is awful, dreadful, very bad, appalling, poor, horrifying, shocking, frightful, terrifying, severe, extreme, serious, grave and intense. The opposite meaning of terrible is mild, pleasant and wonderful. Therefore from such description you need to understand that God’s nature in work is horrifying and He is behind and in control over all the shocking experiences, of war, earthquakes, floods, typhoons, tsunamis, volcanoes, and the pandemics, that the world is passing through. Some people when they see such things happening they ask, Where is God? But they are not aware that God is doing all these terrible events to humble and crush the pride of the people, to prepare their hearts to hear and obey the Word of God.

God is sore against those who go against His will. Therefore the church who is obedient to God and submissive to His Word and to His will, then such church will find God a terror against whatever enemy that would raise up against His church. When God’s people left Egypt, God was a terrible terror to their enemies. The enemies of the people of God were terrified to hear how God opened the sea before them to pass over dry land and he let the armies of Pharaoh sink in the water, ***“14 The people shall hear, and be afraid: sorrow shall take hold on the inhabitants of Palestina. 15 Then the dukes of Edom shall be amazed; the mighty men of Moab, trembling shall take hold upon them; all the inhabitants of Canaan shall melt away.” (Exodus 15:14-15 KJV)*** The enemies of the people of God were terrified to hear how God dried the water of the Jordan to let His people to pass over dry ground, ***“1 And it came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites, which were on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites, which were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them any more, because of the children of Israel.” (Joshua 5:1 KJV)***

“6 He turned the sea into dry land: they went through the flood on foot: there did we rejoice in him.” The people of God after they left Egypt they pass through the dry sea and dry Jordan river to cross into the promise land, there their ancestor rejoice in Him, and they were in their loins, there did they rejoice in Him.

“7 He ruleth by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah.” God sees all the nations under the heaven, and He rule over all of them with His power. Therefore let not those that have a rebellious hearts dare to rise up against God. He is warning them. Therefore let the arrogant humble down before God and fear Him in order to avoid the judgment of God.

“8 O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard.” The Psalmist is calling the people of God, His church to bless God. The Psalmist knows that there are other people with Him who know God and who are cleave to His love and mercy. The call is to bless God, and when we bless Him we make the voices of praises to be heard. God deserve these praise from us, for He redeems us from our troubles, fighting our battles for us and destroying our enemies. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, who died for our sins, and saved us, therefore He deserves our praises. On the following verses, 9-12, will see how God will allow us, we who are His church, to pass through trials and troubles in order to prove us and perfect our faith and build in us the fear of the Lord.

“9 Which holdeth our soul in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved.” We bless God and we praise Him because He protects us and deliver us from great distresses. He holds our souls; when we are ready to perish. He upholds our souls and we are safe in His hand even while we are passing through killing disasters and killing diseases. He suffers not our feet to be moved, preventing us from falling into many unseen evils which we are unaware of.

“10 For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried.” The trials and the distresses that God allow us to pass through is to prove us, perfect our faith, clean us and sanctify us as the silver is refined and proved

“11 Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins.” As bird is caught in the net, God would allow us into the net and laid afflictions and burdens on our loins. The affliction can bring burden on the body. But when He says, ***“affliction upon the loins”*** means affliction on the soul, on the feeling, on our children and on our descendents, those who are not yet born, who are in our loins.

“12 Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place. “Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads;” this mean the insult, the abuse and the humiliation that God allow to come on us. ***“we went through fire and through water:”*** It means the affliction of different kinds that God allow on us and in a repeated way where the end of our trouble is the beginning of another. Certain times God allow trial after trial, problem after problem. He does that in order to humble us. Fire and water, could be dangerous men who is attacking us, or God’s discipline for sin, or facing persecution. All these troubles are to refine the church, and when the purpose to refine the church is achieved, then we will be end up in ***“a wealthy place”***, a place of abundance; life again would become sweet and praise rise up again from our mouths toward heaven. He allows men to ride on us in order to humble us and crush our pride and cleans us from our sins. The purpose of God of all these trials will end up making a new man who fears God, and who will characterize with the following:

1. “13 I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows,” The man who fear God is a man who is aware and who give honor to God’s church. He knows that he should

offer his sacrifices publically that everyone would recognize that he fear God and walk in the ways of God. Willingly and without force he will be moving to God’s church; himself willingly will go to the house of God to bring:-

- A- ***His burnt offering:*** The meaning of the burnt offering is the full surrender to God. This to be done willingly, giving your life, your will and your material possession willingly to God.
- B- ***His vows:*** The vows that he had promised to fulfill to God. ***“14 Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble.”*** While we pass through troubles God will force us to humble down, and will lead us to make important decisions in the form of vows that we need to fulfill when we are relieved by God.

2. “15 I will offer unto thee burnt sacrifices of fatlings, with the incense of rams; I will offer bullocks with goats. Selah. burnt sacrifices of fatlings,” means perfect sacrifices without defect, not lame or lean, but the best fed animals. ***“with the incense of rams;”*** the ram denotes the Lord Jesus Christ and the incense is our prayers. There is no meaning for our sacrifices if they are not in the name of Jesus, and that goes according to His Word.

3. “16 Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.” The new man who fears God will call others who fear God, the church, to join him to praise God and to help him in giving thanks to God. We need to share our victories and testimonies with those who fear God, and tell them what the good things that God had done to us.

4. “17 I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue.” The new man who fears God is testifying to the church that the trials that God allowed him to pass through was mandatory for him to repent from sins; his crying out to God was a cry of repentance, and as he repented, God was exalted and glorified in lifting up praises to Him.

5. “18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:” Now this new man knew that if he had cherish sin in his heart and keeping it in his life then God would not be answering his prayers. This new man who fears God has the assurance of forgiveness and salvation.

“19 But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer.” God in answering his prayers gave him assurance of forgiveness and approval for the righteousness that he was living and therefore he concludes the psalm, ***“20 Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.”*** God answered his prayers for God did not turn away His mercy from him. Therefore, God will be good to us when we obey Him not because we are good but because He is good and merciful.

My dear and beloved: As you read and hear the message; discover where you are now in your journey and walk with God; this psalm is a good mirror for you to see yourself and to see where you are in your spiritual journey with God. God is making a new man from you, a man who fear God and who abide with God’s will and plan. The painful trial and the painful discipline and the restriction that you are passing through is making in you a new man of God who fear and who will walk faithfully in the ways of the Lord. Therefore, commit yourself now to God and be willing to undergo the remaining part of your journey with God until He is done with you.

Let us stand. Come to God, come in repentance, and renounce all your sins and short comings.
_____, Renounce your evil ways
_____, and surrender your life and your heart and even all
your plans to God. Persevere in the painful trials that you are passing through. God is doing a
new thing in your life. God is making out of you a real man of God, a man who will do all
what He desire of you to do and to achieve the very purpose of God.

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 death to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your word that makes
me understand life and what I am passing through.*

Lord I repent from the following sins _____.
Lord I renounce all my bad habits, sinful ways and my own understanding.

*Lord I surrender my life and all my plans to you. Lord here am I, I am willing to follow you
and go into the plans that you have for me.*

*Lord I commit my life into your hand to cleanse me and sanctify me and make of me a new
person who fear you and comply with your will. Lord upholds me with your grace and let your
praises coming out from my mouth as I witness your great work in my life.*

*Lord bless your church, bless each and every brother and sister, and continue to work in each
and every one life to fear you and be willingly to walk in all your ways.*

*Lord lead us in the direction that you want us to go. Lord deal with our enemies and humble
them. Lord provide all the needs for your church. Lord fill us with the Holy Spirit and give us
the spiritual gifts that we need to serve you. Lord those who are repenting fill them once again
with the Holy Spirit so they will continue to serve you. Lord help us to evangelize and reach the
Lost. Lord help us to pray for them and help us to continue to testify to them about your
goodness and faithfulness, that they may believe and got saved.*

*Lord bless us indeed, enlarge our territory, let you 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
fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.*

The Fear of God Part 23. How the Fear of God Develops in our Lives. Psalm 66:1-20.
Revelation 14:6-7. Exodus 15:14-15. Joshua 5:1.

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