

The Fear of God
Part 4
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)

“28 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. *“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,” (Hebrews 12:28 NIV)*

“17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.” (1Peter 2:17) Men might be honored, Brothers to be loved, king and governed authorities to be honored, 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 and applying them will impart wisdom and makes you understand and adopt yourself to live in the fear of the Lord.

The prophet Jonah fled from the presence of God when he was asked to go to Ninevah, therefore God sent strong wind that even the ship was about to be broken. When the mariners cast the lot to see who is the cause of the tempest it fell on Jonah; when they asked 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. Finally the mariners needed to throw Jonah in the sea, and 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)* The Judgment of God on Jonah was a teaching to others on the ship, that God needed to be feared.

David when he sinned against God by counting the men and when the Lord punished him and the Israelites with the plague of His angel, 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.” (2Chronicles 21:28-30)*

Almost always, God’s discipline and judgment brings the fear of God in the life of the people. Good example is what had happened 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)*

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 the humility repentance, that brought them back and made them return to Him and fear Him who would be 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 dealt with his brother on such bases. He arrested them as spies and he would release them, by keeping one of them on custody and he requested them that he will not see their faces unless they will bring their small brother, *“18 And Joseph said unto them the third day, This do, and live; for I fear God.” (Genesis 42:18 KJV)* 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 God that would lead them to repentance. Read *(Genesis 42-46 in your own bible)*. According to the condition that he put on them, Simon was put in prison till his brother would come back bringing with them Benjamin. His brothers were repented, they brought Benjamin with them, and their repentance were tested for they were willing to take the responsibility and the accountability to bring Benjamin back safely to Jacob their father. In addition to that, when Joseph feared God and agreed to obey him in disciplining his brother, 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, only because he is 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 these measure to discipline his brethren, sure, was not happy and comfortable to do that but because He fears God he obeyed Him and was willing to do it even it is painful to his heart. Joseph’s brother 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)**

The purpose of the miracle of God is to impart the fear of God in the lives of His people. Jesus when he 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)**

Further miracle of that about the purpose of God’s miracle when His people crossed miraculously the Jordan’s river, **“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 thos” 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 generation 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.

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)** **“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)** Also you 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)**

Those who fear God they will give audience and respond to the call of God to serve Him, **“16 Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with his hand said, Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, give audience.” (Acts 13:16 KJV)** In the book of Haggai we read, **“12 Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him, and the people did fear before the LORD.” (Haggai 1:12 KJV)** God called His people to serve Him. His message to them through the prophet Haggai

was for them to take an active part in rebuilding the temple of God. Those who fear God they will respond to take an active part in the ministry, and for this they will be rewarded. **“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)**

“32 Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the LORD.” (Leviticus 19:32 KJV) To rise up in the presence of the elders and those that the old age made their hair hoary, the meaning of it, is to fear God by obeying the teaching that you receive from those who are elder than you in the Lord. Those elderly had taught generations and need to be respected and honored by obeying the teaching of the Lord that they give. Parents as they teach and instruct the children with God’s word, the law of God required the following: **“3 Ye shall fear every man his mother, and his father, and keep my sabbaths: I am the LORD your God.” (Leviticus 19:3 KJV)** Parents who teach God’s word, not only needed to be respected but to be feared because they are giving the word of God to their children. God also required to keep the day of the Sabbath, the day in which we gather to worship God and hear His word from God’s teacher in the church. Fearing God is when we listen and submit to one another according to the teaching of the word of God, **“21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.” (Ephesians 5:21 KJV)** It does not matter who is the person who say it as long as is the word of God.

To offer our children to God and to discipline them is the way to fear God. When God asked Abraham to offer his one and only son Isaac to Him as you can read, **“1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. 2 And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. 3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him. 4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. 5 And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you. 6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together. 7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? 8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. 9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. 10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.” (Genesis 22:1-10)** Abraham obeyed and did not withhold his son Isaac from God, up to the point that he was willing to slay him. When he did not withhold his own son from God, the Lord knew that Abraham fear God, **“11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. 12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.” (Genesis 22:11-12 KJV)** Parents should fear God by showing that they obey God’s command more than their love to their children. Many parents they love their children more than God. Even they disobey God’s command and God’s will in order not to discipline or correct their children. Many

children are spoiled and even they become wicked, lazy, glutton, immoral and drunkard, because their parents they did not obey God's word who teaches to discipline children.

To fear God means that you do not take advantage of others: Various examples the word of God teaches us as we can read and meditate on the following scriptures:

A- "14 Thou shalt not curse the deaf, nor put a stumblingblock before the blind, but shalt fear thy God: I am the LORD." (Leviticus 19:14 KJV) Those who cannot hear they will not hear you when you curse them. If you speak at the back of the people you do not fear God because they will not hear you. And when you cheat the people and hide things or knowledge from their mind and eyes you do not fear God. Those who do such things are cheating and they do not fear God.

B- "17 Ye shall not therefore oppress one another; but thou shalt fear thy God: for I am the LORD your God." (Leviticus 25:17 KJV) "43 Thou shalt not rule over him with rigour; but shalt fear thy God." (Leviticus 25:43 KJV) If you are in a high position do not use your position to force people to do things against the word of God or against His will.

C- "35 And if thy brother be waxen poor, and fallen in decay with thee; then thou shalt relieve him: yea, though he be a stranger, or a sojourner; that he may live with thee. 36 Take thou no usury of him, or increase: but fear thy God; that thy brother may live with thee." (Leviticus 25:35-36 KJV) "9 Also I said, It is not good that ye do: ought ye not to walk in the fear of our God because of the reproach of the heathen our enemies? 10 I likewise, and my brethren, and my servants, might exact of them money and corn: I pray you, let us leave off this usury. 11 Restore, I pray you, to them, even this day, their lands, their vineyards, their oliveyards, and their houses, also the hundredth part of the money, and of the corn, the wine, and the oil, that ye exact of them." (Nehemiah 5:9-11 KJV) If people asked you to lend them money, especially if they are believer, you shall not take interest.

Do not be enticed with others who do not fear God; you fear Him, "12 *Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him:*" (Ecclesiastes 8:12 KJV) You repent early "1 *Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.*" (2Corinthians 7:1 KJV)

The fear of God is important to help us to stand against the work of Devil that he is doing against us. Job is a good example of a person who fears God, "1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil. 2 And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters. 3 His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east. 6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them. 7 And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. 8 And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? 9 Then Satan

answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? 10 Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. 11 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse* thee to thy face. 12 And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD. 13 And there was a day when his sons and his daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: 14 And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them: 15 And the Sabeans fell upon them, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. 16 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. 17 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. 18 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: 19 And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. 20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, 21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD. 22 In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly." (Job 1:1-3,6-22) "1 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD. 2 And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. 3 And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause. 4 And Satan answered the LORD, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. 5 But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face. 6 And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life. 7 So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown. 8 And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself withal; and he sat down among the ashes. 9 Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die. 10 But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips. 11 Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that was come upon him, they came every one from his own place; Eliphaz the Temanite, and Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite: for they had made an appointment together to come to mourn with him and to comfort him. 12 And when they lifted up their eyes afar off, and knew him not, they lifted up their voice, and wept; and they rent every one his mantle, and sprinkled dust upon their heads toward heaven. 13 So they sat down with him upon the ground seven days and seven nights, and none spake a word unto him: for they saw that his grief was very great." (Job 2:1-13) Devil attacked Job. He lost all he had from material things and children and he even lost his health but he kept his integrity and continued to fear God. Even his wife attacked him

to waver his commitment toward God, even later on his friends tried to accuse him but he refused to give in to them and continued to fear God till the end until God restored Him. Job was not aware that what he was passing through was an attack of the devil and he continued to fear God and that fear of God protected him and sustained Him. ***“10 And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before. 11 Then came there unto him all his brethren, and all his sisters, and all they that had been of his acquaintance before, and did eat bread with him in his house: and they bemoaned him, and comforted him over all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him: every man also gave him a piece of money, and every one an earring of gold. 12 So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses.”*** (Job 42:10-12)

My dear and beloved: “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) I pray that as you read and 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 agree to 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. Lord build in me the fear of yours that will make me obedience and fruitful in my life and service unto you. Lord reminds 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.

For more spiritual enrichment please visit our website at:
www.churchofgoduae.com

Jesus christ



The Bread Of Life

Vol. 17

Issue 27

“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)

Share the message with a friend.