## **The Holy Fear**

"By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of righteousness that comes by faith." (Hebrews 11:7)

God is love and His love had been from the beginning of the world and it will continue till we reach eternity. He is a loving God, forgiving and merciful but at the same time He is a God of justice and righteousness. He rewards the righteous and he also punishes the wicked; He shows His love and also He shows his judgment.

The Lord God the Creator of the universe, He gave man His laws, so that man may follow God's word and obey His commands so that God's name would be glorified over the whole universe. The Bible tells us the following: "Yet He has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; He provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy." (Acts 14:17) God did all that to show Himself to the mankind and to tell them that behind all what was created a Creator, the Holy God, that need to be feared, revered and worshipped. God had given us His grace and mercy in abundance; He gave His only and One Son Jesus Christ who died on the cross for our sins to redeem us from sin and death. Through Jesus Christ, God made a way for the sinful man to repent from his sinful life and come back to Him in repentance and have a life and have it to the full.

The word of God it tells us, "The fear to the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Man ought to fear God and revere Him. God is Patient to bring us repentance, and consequently salvation. This is what the word of God it tells us, "The LORD is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9) At the time of Noah, when Human kind become corrupt and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was evil, "THE LORD was grieved that He had made man on the earth, and His heart was filled with pain. So the LORD said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth-men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds on the air—for I am grieved that I have made them, but Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time and he walked with God. Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth." (Genesis 6:6-10) God warned Noah about the coming of judgment that is going to take place on earth because of man wickedness. Noah believed God and has faith in Him. Although God is a loving God but He is also a God of Justice. Judgment will come on those who disobey Him, the wicked, who does not fear God and not revere him.

Noah had faith in God, even before he had seen the flood, he believed that God will do it. That faith in God brought to the person of Noah a Holy fear, and that holy fear is the manifestation of our true faith in God that convicts us and lead us to take the right step and action toward the good work that God had commanded us to do.

1) The holy fear brings salvation: The word of GOD it tells us, "Therefore, my dear friend, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling." (Philippians 2:12) The salvation that we received through faith in Christ Jesus our Lord we need to keep by interacting appropriately with God's word that implant in us that can save us.

2) Holy fear brings obedience: Noah when God warned him about things that is going to come the Holy fear brought obedience into his life to respond to God's call and to obey His commands in building the ark. The same with us today, the Holy fear in our lives will help us to obey God's word and instructions in the Bible. "Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall." (2 Peter 1:10)

3) Holy fear brings good work: As Noah built the ark as God instructed him, the same with us today in our service and ministry to the Lord; we continue to do His work in a precise way as we instructed to do, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:10) Noah served God perfectly and achieved exactly what God had commanded him to do. The same with us, we ought to serve God precisely and go on in our ministry according to the rules.

4) Holy fear brings salvation to others: Noah he saved his family through his service in building the ark. The same is with us, as we serve God and we are saved, God will work it out to bring salvation to our family members and to fulfill His promise to us, "Believe in the LORD Jesus, and you will be saved -you and your household." (Acts 16:31)

*5) Holy Fear brings condemnation to the wicked:* Those who did not listen to Noah preaching and did not respond to God's call they were destroyed and perished when the flood came.

*My dear and beloved:* Holy fear will bring us reward. Noah became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith. The same with us as we persevere in serving God we will have our reward from Him, "and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our LORD and Savior Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 1:11) 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 bring Holy fear into my life that brings me to true repentance and salvation. Lord I pray for a fruitful service and a reward awaiting for me in heaven. Lord as I serve you bring salvation to all my family members according to your promise. Thank you Lord, this is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.