Greatly Fear the LORD

*Ps 89:7 God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him.*

Heb. 5:7*—Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was* ***heard in that he feared****;*

The Son of God feared the Father

Always remember He is able.

*(God is to be greatly feared.)*

1 Sam. 12:18—*So Samuel called unto the LORD; and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day: and all the people* ***greatly feared the LORD*** *and* ***Samuel.***

Ex. 14:31—*And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people* ***feared the LORD, and believed the LORD****,*

*and his servant* ***Moses.***

***“Greatly Feared the Lord”***

* *“Feared The Lord”*
* *“Believed The Lord”*

*They had respect to* ***His terrible majesty****; and they feared Samuel and Moses perceiving that they had*

*so much power with God.*

* *“Greatly feared the Lord and Samuel”*
* *“Feared the Lord and believed the Lord and his servant Moses”*

People have lost their respect for the Men of God and too many people are full of the fear of the devil and have not the fear of God in them. It should be a greater concern to us that God’s Will is not being accomplished than that the devil should threaten us. We fear being sick, evil-doers, and the devil when, all the while, the power of all things is in the hand of God Almighty.

**A proper fear and reverence for God must govern our hearts**, instead of a terror of the devil and what his plans are. As our understanding of God’s Will and relationship with Him is perfected in each situation, fear is conquered in those areas.

1 John 4:18—*There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.*

1. **You must greatly Fear God to always be heard by God***.*
2. **A proper fear of God leaves no room for fear of the devil.**
3. **True Prayer and devotion are only effective in a spirit of reverence, of awe and godly fear.**

1 Sam. 12:14—*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:*

*“If ye will”*

* *If ye will fear the LORD*
* *If ye will…* serve *him*
* *ye will fear the LORD, and serve him, and obey his voice*

*15—But if ye will not obey the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall the hand of the LORD be against you, as it was against your fathers.*

1. *Samuel was the product of his mother’s prayer.*
   1. *Samuel was Hannah’s by faith, (a barren woman gave birth).*
   2. *Samuel was her firstborn. (She had (3) sons and (2) daughters*

1Sam. 2:21*—And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and* ***bare three sons and two daughters****. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD.*

1Sam. 2:22*—Now Eli was very old, and heard all that his sons did unto all Israel; and how they lay with the women that assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.*

1. *Samuel’s character showed victory over great bitterness.*
2. *Samuel’s character showed victory over wickedness.*

*There was a striking contrast between the two families.*

* *Hannah’s son Samuel grew before the Lord*
* *Eli’s sons did evil before all Israel.*

*The truly humble were restored by faith*

* 1. ***David*** 2 Sam. 12:22*—And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said,* ***Who can tell whether GOD will be*** *gracious to me, that the child may live?*
  2. **King of Nineveh** Jon 3:9*—****Who can tell if God*** *will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?*
  3. **Hannah** 1 Sam. 1:10*—And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore.*

*26—And she said, Oh my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.*

*27—For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him:*

1. *Samuel was one that learned the voice of God young.*

1Sam. 3:10*—And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered,*

***Speak; for thy servant heareth****.*

1. *Samuel learned to greatly fear God.*

*On two occasions 7:10; 12:18 (Thunder)*

1Sam*.* 7:10*—And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the* ***LORD thundered*** *with a* ***great thunder*** *on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel.*

1Sam. 12:18*—So Samuel called unto the LORD; and* ***the LORD sent thunder*** *and rain that day: and all the people greatly feared the LORD and Samuel.*

Ex. 34:10—*And he said, Behold, I make a covenant: before all thy people* ***I will do marvels****, such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation: and all the people among which thou art shall see the work of the LORD:* ***for it is a terrible thing that I will do with thee.***

Deut. 7:21*—Thou shalt not be affrighted at them: for the LORD thy God is among you, a mighty God and terrible.*

Job 37:22—*Fair weather cometh out of the north: with God is terrible majesty.*

Psalms 47:2—*For the LORD most high is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth.*

66:3—*Say unto God, How terrible art thou in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee.*

66:5—*Come and see the works of God: he is terrible in his doing toward the children of men.*

66:16*—Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.*

99:3*—Let them praise thy great and terrible name; for it is holy.*

106:22—*Wondrous works in the land of Ham, and terrible things by the Red sea.*

145:6—*And men shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will declare thy greatness.*

Habakkuk 3:16—*When I heard, my belly trembled; my lips quivered at the voice: rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled in myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble: when he cometh up unto the people, he will invade them with his troops.*

*Pr 3:7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.*

*Jos 24:14 Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.*

*1Sa 12:14 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:*

*Ho 3:5 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.*

Heb. 12:21*—And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:*

1. **A proper fear of God leaves no room for fear of the devil.**

To be afraid is to be in bondage to the devil

To not be afraid is to be a True Servant of God

John 14:30*—Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.*

Eph. 2:2*—Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:*

Heb. 2:15—*And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.*

2Tim. 1:7*—For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.*

1 John 4:18—*There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.*

1Sam. 12:20*—And Samuel said unto the people,* ***Fear not****: ye have done all this wickedness: yet turn not aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart;*

*“fear”—(terror, dread, horror, fright, panic, afraid)*

“**FEAR NOT**”

*“No Fear” is only a slogan for the world*

*“No Fear” is a reality for the true believer*

**“Only fear the LORD”**

1 Sam. 12:24*—****Only fear the LORD****, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you.*

* *Fear not*
* *Only Fear the Lord*
* *Serve Him in Truth*
* *Serve…with all your heart*
* *Consider what great things He hath done for you*

1 Sam. 12:20*—And Samuel said unto the people,* ***Fear not****: ye have done all this wickedness: yet turn* ***not*** *aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart;*

* *“Fear* ***not****”*
* *“Yet* ***turn not aside*** *from following* ***the LORD****, but* ***serve the LORD*** *with all your* ***heart;”***

Eli was old and feeble, his sons were steeped in wickedness, and the lamp of God had nearly gone out. Eli’s slackness and his son’s cup of iniquity had come to the brim and God would judge them.

* I Sam. 2:12-17; 22-24;
* 1Sam. 8:3—And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment.

Samuel was growing spiritually.

* 1Sam. 2:11—And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. And the child did minister unto the LORD before Eli the priest.
* 1Sa 2:18—But Samuel ministered before the LORD, being a child, girded with a linen ephod.
* 19—Moreover his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

While the priests were being condemned by the people, Samuel was finding favor with the people and being commended by them.

(I Sam. 12:3-4)

1 Sam. 12:4—And they said, Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken ought of any man's hand.

While the priests were being condemned by God, Samuel was finding favor with the Lord

(I Sam. 12:16-18)

1 Sam. 12:18*—So Samuel called unto the LORD; and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day: and all the people greatly feared the LORD and Samuel.*

Ex. 14:31—*And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people* ***feared the LORD, and believed the LORD****,* ***and his servant Moses.***

* *The people feared the Lord. They were convinced by the intervention of Jehovah that his power was unlimited, and that he could do whatsoever he pleased, both in the way of judgment and in the way of mercy.*
* *The people believed the Lord*
* *The people feared and believed His servant Moses.*

Num. 11:10*—Then Moses heard the people weep throughout their families, every man in the door of his tent: and the* ***anger*** *of the LORD was kindled* ***greatly****; Moses also was displeased.*

Mal. 3:16—*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.*

* *Feared the LORD*
* *Thought upon his name*

1. **True Prayer and devotion are only effective in a spirit of reverence, of awe and godly fear.**

Heb. 12:28*—Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:*

Heb 4:1*—Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.*

1. Pray until God intervenes
2. Pray until the Lord sends the answer to us what He would have done.

Col. 4:12*—Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.*

*Eph, 1:15-23*

Eph. 1:16*—Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;*

*Eph. 3:14-21*

Eph. 3:14*—For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,*

1Sam. 14:15*—And there was* ***trembling in the host****, in the field, and among all the people: the garrison, and the spoilers, they also trembled, and the earth quaked: so it was a very great trembling*

22*—Likewise all the men of Israel which had hid themselves in mount Ephraim, when they heard that the Philistines fled, even they also followed hard after them in the battle.*

1 Kings 18:3*—And Ahab called Obadiah, which was the governor of his house. (Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly*

1 Chron. 16:25*—For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all gods.*

Ps 96:4*—For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods.*

Mat. 27:54—*Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.*

Job 3:25—*For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.*

Eccl. 12:13*—Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.*

Micah 6:8*—He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?*

Rev. 14:7*—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.*

God’s Judgments on man are with Mercy and are for the purpose to cause true repentance not destruction.

The judgments of God become more and more severe as man refuses to repent.

Ps 36:6 Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; thy judgments are a great deep: O LORD, thou preservest man and beast.

Ps 48:1 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness.

1Ch 16:25 For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all gods.

Ps 96:4 For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods.

Ps 145:3 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable.