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

*“he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him”*

Always remember He is able.

*“unto him that was* ***able*** *to save him from death”*

*(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.*

Ps 46:1*—God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*

2*—***Therefore will not we fear***, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;*

3*—Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.*

1. **You must greatly Fear God to always be heard by God***.*

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.* 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** Jonah 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)*

Psalm148:8*—Fire, and hail; snow, and vapour; stormy wind fulfilling his word:*

Job 38:22*—Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail,*

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.*

Ps. 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.*

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

*Jer 4:11 At that time shall it be said to this people and to Jerusalem,* ***A dry wind*** *of the high places in the wilderness toward the daughter of my people, not to fan, nor to cleanse,*

*Jer 51:1 ¶ Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will raise up against Babylon, and against them that dwell in the midst of them that rise up against me,*

***a destroying wind****;*

*2 And will send unto Babylon fanners, that shall fan her, and shall empty her land: for in the day of trouble they shall be against her round about.*

*15:7 And I will fan them with a fan in the gates of the land; I will bereave them of children, I will destroy my people, since they return not from their ways.*

*Isa 9:13 For the people turneth not unto him that smiteth them, neither do they seek the LORD of hosts.*

*Jer 5:3 O LORD, are not thine eyes upon the truth? thou hast stricken them, but they have not grieved; thou hast consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return.*

*2Ch 16:9 For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars.*

**Many say it is to hard to serve the Lord, but obedience is the only way.**

*1Sa 13:13 And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the LORD have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever.*

*1Sa 13:14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.*

*Ho 7:10 And the pride of Israel testifieth to his face: and they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek him for all this.*

*Jer 3:3 Therefore the showers have been withholden, and there hath been no latter rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed.*

*Ho 1:2 ¶ The beginning of the word of the LORD by Hosea. And the LORD said to Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the LORD.*

*Ho 6:1 ¶ Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.*

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.*

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 faithful 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.
* 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*

Gen. 12:8*—And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, having Bethel on the west, and Hai on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the LORD, and* ***called upon the name of the LORD.***

*Abraham planted some trees for a shield from the wind, shade from the sun*

*but he planted the trees mainly for a gathering place for true worship in calling upon the name of the Lord.*

Gen. 21:33—*And Abraham planted a grove in Beersheba, and* ***called there on the name of the LORD, the everlasting God.***

Gen. 22:12*—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.*

Gen. 26:25—*And he builded an altar there, and* ***called upon the name of the LORD****, and pitched his tent there: and there Isaac's servants digged a well.*

* *Abraham calling on the name of the Lord and his servants digging a well are great signs of good wholesome relationships building.*
* *The best working relationships are always founded and maintained through much prayer.*

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****;*

**John 17** *is the High priestly prayer-Intercession Royalty, loyalty, unity, a perfect calmness*

**John 18** *is the Gethsemane Prayer- A bitter cup-(Weakness, sorrow and agony)*

**Spirit willing flesh weak**

Mat. 26:41*—Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*

Mark 14:38*—Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.*

Luke 22:42*—Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.*

**Being in an agony**

Luke 22:44*—And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.*

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*

1Sam. 14:22*—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:* 4*—For it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah took an hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.)*

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 is working out Special purposes of His Love

Zephaniah 2:11*—The LORD will be terrible unto them: for he will famish all the gods of the earth; and men shall worship him, every one from his place, even all the isles of the heathen.*

3:8*—Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy.*

9*—For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent.*

3:17*—The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy;* ***he will rest in his love****, he will joy over thee with singing.*

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.

* God will have no rival with our affections

1. Idolatry must be destroyed
   1. Giving our love to things in place of God.
      1. Wealth-health
      2. Pleasure-happiness-entertainment-fun
      3. Fame-(being heard and seen)-reputation
   2. Giving time to things in place of worship.
   3. Self worship is Idolatry
2. Fear of evil must be destroyed
   1. Giving in to feelings is always dangerous.
   2. Going by the Principles of the bible is safe.

Ps 19:9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

111:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.

Pr 1:7—*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction*. {the beginning: or, the principal part}

8:13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

9:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

14:26—*In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge.*

27*—The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.*

15:33—The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.

Isa 33:6 And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of thy times, and strength of salvation: the fear of the LORD is his treasure.

Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; 5:21 ¶ Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

6:5 Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;

Php 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Col 2:1—*For I would that ye knew what* ***great conflict*** *I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh;* {conflict: or fear- care}

2Co 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

Ps 119:39—*Turn away my reproach which I fear: for thy judgments are good.*

1Cor. 16:10—*Now if Timotheus come, see that he may be with you without fear: for he worketh the work of the Lord, as I also do*.

Ex 18:21 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:

True God Fearing Servant

Psa. 119:38 Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who is devoted to thy fear.

The True Servant devoted to fear God desires to be established with the Word

Thy Word is truth and thy word establishes us as a True God Fearing Servant

“Thy Word”

1. Stablish **thy word** unto thy servant
   1. Thy Word causes thy servant to be established
   2. Thy Word continues to produce thy fear
   3. Thy Word is confirmed to thy servant

“Thy Servant”

1. Stablish **thy servant** with thy word
   1. Thy servant is caused to receive of the promise
   2. Thy servant continues to be strengthened in thy word
   3. Thy servant must have the fullness confirmed in him

“Thy Fear”

1. Stablish **thy fear** in the servant of the word
   1. Thy fear devotes thy servant to thy word
   2. Thy fear stablishes thy servant with thy word
   3. Thy fear serves thy word

If we are going to be effective intercessors we must first be devoted to the Lord, to His Word and to His Love.

Our devotion to the Lord must be true Love for Him so that we can even intercede for the lost and the needy.

Many lack devotion

* to the fear of the Lord
* to the Word of God,
* to the Love of God
* to serve God

All True God fearing servants prove their love for God by being established in the Word to win the lost