

Reverencing God

Lesson 4

Perfecting Holiness In The Fear of God

Reverencing God In Our Worship

1. Importance of reverence in worship
2. How reverence is displayed in worship
3. Teaching children about reverence in worship

2

What Is Reverence?

- Reverence is not defined by externals
- Reverence is a response to God's greatness, His power, His holiness and His mercy – to all He is
- Reverence is a deliberate caution in how we approach God, an attitude of modesty, bashfulness toward God
- Reverence is also a fearful attitude toward God based on godliness, our desire to obey God in all things

3

Introduction

- Problem - make serving God simply an academic exercise having little to do with daily living
- Perform a few external tasks and live as we please each day following the guidance of the world
- Reverence must characterize our daily lives

4

Introduction

- Deception – being holy is not doing holy things but it comes from within
- Compartmentalization – a deadly enemy
- Realize reverence for God must become a part of the deepest character of who we are, not be confined to some things we do
- This type of reverence will lead us to live a godly and holy life at all times

5

Recognize God's Holy Nature

- God is holy, morally pure, does not ever have anything to do with sin
- Holiness is God's nature, what He is
- Mistake – viewing God like us, diminishing His holiness so He becomes like us with similar lustful desires (some say this about Jesus)
- Result – we feel comfortable in our sins

6

Recognize God's Holy Nature

Isa 6:1 In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple.

Isa 6:3 And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."

7

Recognize God's Holy Nature

Isa 6:5 Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."

8

Recognize God's Holy Nature

1Pe 1:14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours* in your ignorance,

1Pe 1:15 but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior;

1Pe 1:16 because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

9

Recognize God's Holy Nature

Rom 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

Rom 1:23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

10

Fear God Above All

- To live a holy life, we must fear Him above all
- A cautious respect that recognizes His holiness and power
- Those who say they love Him and do not fear Him cannot be holy before Him

11

Fear God Above All

Ecc 12:13 The conclusion, when all has been heard, *is*: fear God and keep His commandments, because this *applies to* every person.

Mat 10:28 "Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

12

Fear God Above All

2Co 7:1 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

13

Recognize Our Minds And Bodies Belong To God

- God allows us to use our minds and bodies as we choose
- But, we must understand both mind and body belong to Him
- He is creator of all flesh and spirit and we are accountable to Him
- We have no Divine authority to think and behave sinfully

14

Recognize Our Minds And Bodies Belong To God

Ecc 12:7 then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.

1Co 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

1Co 6:20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

15

Submit Our Thinking To God First

- Since mind controls body, we must yield our minds to God to live a holy life
- Holiness begins with a change of our thinking through study and submission to His Word

16

Submit Our Thinking To God First

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

17

Desired Result – A Reverent Holy Life

- When we think of God properly and learn to fear and reverence Him, we will practice what He would have us do in worship and in our daily lives
- The result will be a holy life, separated to serve God, sanctified for His service
- Reverence for God will define our very being and how we act in all relationships in life

18

Desired Result – A Reverent Holy Life

2Ti 2:19 Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to abstain from wickedness."

2Ti 2:20 Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor.

19

Desired Result – A Reverent Holy Life

2Ti 2:21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these *things*, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.

2Ti 2:22 Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love *and* peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

20

Desired Result – A Reverent Holy Life

Mat 23:25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence.

Mat 23:26 "You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also.

21

Desired Result – A Reverent Holy Life

Eph 4:22 that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit,

Eph 4:23 and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

Eph 4:24 and put on the new self, which in *the likeness of God* has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

22

Desired Result – A Reverent Holy Life

Eph 5:21 and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

Eph 5:22 Wives, *be subject* to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

23

Desired Result – A Reverent Holy Life

Eph 6:5 Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ;

Eph 6:6 not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

24

Perfecting Holiness In The Fear of God

1. Recognize God's holy nature
2. Fear God above all
3. Recognize our minds and bodies belong to God
4. Submit our thinking to God first
5. Desired result – a reverent holy life