

The Reverence Of Jesus

- I. No analysis of the character of Jesus would be complete which failed to recognize His reverence.
 - A. **To write a definition of reverence is not easy. There are some things which the heart can sense, but which the intellect cannot easily define.**
 1. We know what reverence is, and yet we stumble in trying to define it.
 2. **Noah Webster's 1828 dictionary defines it this way: "Fear mingled with respect and esteem."**
 3. The fact is, reverence is a complex emotion, made up of mingled feelings of the soul. There is in it, respect, affection, fear, along with an abiding consciousness of dependence.
 4. **There is probably no expression which defines what we mean by reverence so well as the Old Testament phrase, "The fear of the Lord."**
 - B. The Fear Of The Lord!
 1. **Holy fear is the key to God's sure foundation, unlocking the treasuries of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge.**

Isaiah 33:5-6 - "The LORD is exalted, for he dwells on high; he will fill Zion with justice and righteousness. He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the LORD is the key to this treasure." NIV

Psalm 34:9 - "Fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing." NIV

Psalm 34:9 - "Let the LORD's people show him reverence, for those who honor him will have all they need." NLT
 2. **You need to learn that you cannot truly love God until you fear Him; nor can you properly fear Him until you love Him.**
 - a. Do you think the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords is going to come into a place where He is not given due honor and reverence?
 - b. **Do you think the Master of all creation is going to speak when His word is not respected enough to be listened to attentively?**
 - c. You're deceived if you do.

C. Conduct Yourselves in the Fear of God

1 Peter 1:15-18 - *“He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.” And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear.”* NKJV

1. Is your conduct an indication that you have lost the vision of the “majesty of God.”

a. There is too much shallowness and levity among God’s people.

1) In public worship do you is your posture of slouching and sitting an indication of your callousness where the fear of God is concerned?

2) Is kneeling and prostrating yourselves before the Lord in humility common in your prayer time?

3) Is it more characteristic of you to clap your hands with joy, then to bow your head with shame and tears?

b. When you saunter up to God to claim His friendship, does it occur to you that He might send you away.

1) Do you think He reveal His will to those who take Him lightly? Would you?

2) He keeps His will secret from those who do not fear Him.

Psalm 25:14 - “The secret of the LORD is for those who fear Him, And He will make them know His covenant.” NAS

“Friendship with the LORD is reserved for those who fear him. With them he shares the secrets of his covenant.” NLT

“Friendship with God is reserved for those who reverence him. With them alone he shares the secrets of his promises.” TLB

2. We fear God because of His wrath and we love God because of His mercy.

a. Only he who knows the greatness of God’s wrath will be mastered by the greatness of His mercy.

b. We can cry “*Hallelujah*” with authenticity only after we have first cried “*Woe is me*”

D. The Blessings of fearing God.

1. It positions our hearts to receive answers.

Hebrews 5:7 - *“Who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear.” NKJV*

2. It assures that God’s great goodness abounds.

Psalm 31:19 - *“Oh, how great is Your goodness, Which You have laid up for those who fear You, Which You have prepared for those who trust in You In the presence of the sons of men!” NKJV*

3. It promises angelic protection.

Psalm 34:7 - *“The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him, And delivers them.” NKJV*

4. It secures God’s continual attention.

Psalm 33:18 - *“Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, On those who hope in His mercy.” NKJV*

5. It supplies His provision.

Psalm 34:9 - *“Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him.” NKJV*

6. It contains great mercy.

Psalm 103:11 - *“For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him.” NKJV*

7. It provides assurance of food.

Psalm 111:5 - *“He has given food to those who fear Him; He will ever be mindful of His covenant.” NKJV*

8. It promises protection.

Psalm 115:11 - *“You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield.” NKJV*

9. It fulfills our desire and delivers us from harm.

Psalm 145:19 - *“He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cries for help and rescues them.” NLT*

10. It provides wisdom, understanding, and time management.

Proverbs 9:10-11 - *“To be wise you must first have reverence for the LORD. If you know the Holy One, you have understanding. Wisdom will add years to your life.”* TEV

11. It is our confidence and protection in the face of death.

Proverbs 14:26-27 - *“In the fear of the LORD there is strong confidence, And His children will have a place of refuge. The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, To turn one away from the snares of death.”* NKJV

12. It provides peace of mind.

Proverbs 15:16 - *“It is better to the peace of mind that goes with the fear for the LORD than to have great treasure with turmoil.”* NLT

13. It results in complete satisfaction.

Proverbs 19:23 - *“The fear of the LORD leads to life, And he who has it will abide in satisfaction; He will not be visited with evil.”* NKJV

14. It leads to riches, honor and life.

Proverbs 22:4 - *“By humility and the fear of the LORD Are riches and honor and life.”* NKJV

15. It will keep us on the path.

Jeremiah 32:40 - *“And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from doing them good; but I will put My fear in their hearts so that they will not depart from Me.”* NKJV

16. It results in enjoyment of our labor, and full rewarding lives.

Psalms 128:1-4 - *“How happy are those who fear the LORD— all who follow his ways! You will enjoy the fruit of your labor. How happy you will be! How rich your life! Your wife will be like a fruitful vine, flourishing within your home. And look at all those children! There they sit around your table as vigorous and healthy as young olive trees. That is the LORD's reward for those who fear him.”* NLT