

## Fear of God

For the unbeliever and back slider, the fear of God is the fear of the judgment of God and eternal death, which is eternal separation from God.

- **Luke 12:5** *But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him!*
- **Heb. 10:26-31** *26 For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries. 28 Anyone who has ignored the Law of Moses is put to death without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 How much more severe punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge His people." 31 It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

For the believer, the fear of God is something much different. The believer's fear is reverence of God.

- **Hebrews 12:28-29** *Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our 'God is a consuming fire.*
- **Ephesians 5:15-21** *15 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, 20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.*

Reverence is demonstrated in honor and respect for who God is and what HE HAS SAID! What he has said MUST be **deeply accepted within your heart and outwardly demonstrated in your obedience.**

In acknowledgement of the Lord God's awesome power and majesty, He is absolutely deserving of the highest level of reverence from all of his created!

\*\*Reverence for God is a quality missing in much of what masquerades as Christianity today. Instead of the kind of reverence we see demonstrated throughout the Bible,

modern Christianity has adopted a “Jesus-is-my-buddy” attitude that grossly downplays the holiness, power, and righteous wrath of the Sovereign Creator. Reverence does not refer to God as “The Big Guy in the Sky” or “The Man Upstairs.” Once we truly know who God is, we reverence Him in our hearts. Even the thief on the cross, after he realized who Jesus was, rebuked the other thief for his irreverence.

- **Luke 23:39–45** **39** *One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!”* **40** *But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?”* **41** *And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.”* **42** *And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”* **43** *And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”*

## Holiness

Meaning- sacred, morally blameless, consecrated, saint.

**1 Peter 1:13-19** **13** *So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world.* **14** *So you must live as God’s obedient children. Don’t slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn’t know any better then.* **15** *But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy.* **16** *For the Scriptures say, “You must be holy because I am holy.”* **17** *And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time here as “temporary residents.”* **18** *For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value.* **19** *It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.*

Biblical examples of the choices you can make that will cause you to not walk in Holiness and respectively not demonstrate the reverence we should have for our Holy God:

- **Galatians 5:19-21** **19** *When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures,* **20** *idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division,* **21** *envy,*

*drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.*

- **James 4:17 17** *So for one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, for him it is sin.*
- **Mark 7:20-23**

## Morality

Morality is the distinction between right and wrong. It is the determination of what should be done and what should not be done. Morals deal with behaviors as well as motives. There is a great deal of discussion on what is the source of morals and whether or not they are objective. **Biblically, morals are derived from God's character and revealed to us through the Scriptures.**

Morals differ among cultures, and there are morals that are relative, i.e., dependent upon situations and context. For example, people drive on different sides of the street in different countries. Bowing is morally acceptable in one culture, and kissing the cheek is in another. But there are other morals which seem to be universally true. For example, it is morally wrong to murder. It is morally wrong to torture babies merely for your personal pleasure.

A Christians morality must be derived from God's word and our relationship with him.

- **Hebrews 8:10** *For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*
- **John 14:15** *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments.*
- **Romans 2:15 15** *They demonstrate that God's law is written in their hearts, for their own conscience and thoughts either accuse them or tell them they are doing right.*
- **[2 Timothy 3:16-17](#)** *All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.*
- **[Psalm 119:10-11](#)** *With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.*

We must immutably stand on what God has said in the midst of where the world is going.