

Lesson 5

Godliness Deepens with a Right Understanding of Who God Is

“The fear of God is Soul of Godliness”

Review:

- ~ What is the goal of this study?
- ~ Explain how godliness is inseparably linked to biblical truth?
- ~ How does a young man keep his way pure or godly? (Ps 119:9)
- ~ What is the primary tool that God uses to sanctify His people and His church? (Jn 17:17)
- ~ Is it possible to live a godly life apart from God’s Word? (Proverbs 2:1-22; 2 Tim 3:5; Titus 1:9-16)
- ~ What is the greatest defense to impurity, including pornography?
(Ps 1:1-6; Ps 119:11, 104, 128)
- ~ How does a husband learn how to love his wife? (Eph 5:25-33; Col 3:19; 1 Pet 3:7)
- ~ What makes a father godly? What is the ultimate gauge on whether a father is faithful? (Eph 6:4; Dt 6:1-25)

Five Biblical Facts that help lay a strong foundation of godliness

1. Godliness is inseparably linked to biblical_____
 2. Godliness is tethered to_____ and_____ for God
- ~ What happens when man lives with a wrong/low view of God? (Ex 5:2; 9:30; Jer 2:19)
 - ~ What is the ultimate manifestation and attitude of ungodliness? (Rom 1:19-23)
 - ~ What is the ultimate driving force behind all ungodliness? (Rom 3:18)

“All wickedness flows from a disregard of God...Since the fear of God is the bridle by which our wickedness is held in check, its removal frees us to indulge in every kind of licentious conduct (without moral restraint).” John Calvin

~ If the lack of the fear of God is the heartbeat of wickedness than the fear of the Lord is the foundation for which true and lasting godliness springs! (Prov 1:7; 2:4-5; 14:26-27)

~ God’s character should drive God like _____! (1 Pet 1:15-16)

~ The Greek term for godliness means “awesome respect _____.” (1 Tim 4:7-8)

~ The fear of the Lord is often better described than defined! (Ex 20:20-21)

~ The fear of God is often directly connected to godly conduct (Job 1:1)

- The fear of God and _____ (2 Cor 7:1)
- The fear of God and _____ (Ps 5:7; Heb 12:28-29)
- The fear of God and _____ (Ps 2:11; Col 3:22-25)
- The fear of God and _____ (Prov 3:7)
- The fear of God and _____ (2 Cor 5:11)
- The fear of God and _____ (Prov 23:17)
- The fear of God and _____ (Eph 5:21)
- The fear of God and _____ (Lev 19:14)
- The fear of God and _____ (Ex 14:31)
- The fear of God and _____ (1 Pet 1:17)

~ A beginning definition of the fear of God is reverential _____ (Heb 12:28-29)

- A mixture of fear, veneration, wonder, and admiration that is all directed toward God

“Where have the saints gone? *There is no substitute for godliness.* It is the best thing that can be said of any man when it can be said of him that he is ‘a man of God’. Great spiritual movements begin when men take seriously the claims of truth upon themselves and their churches. Truth has a chemistry all of its own. It has a way of transforming the ordinary mind and the average tongue into instruments of awful power for God. It is not only the geniuses of history whom God has used to begin a revival. It has been men of modest talent, yet men who had a surpassing personal knowledge of God, learned in the secret place and made molten with holy desire to do something which would make mountains tremble. Real holiness is not a pale and passive medieval kind but that which kindles with a consuming passion in the regenerate soul and cries, in the face of our decadent and indifferent society, ‘Let God arise! I shall give thee no rest, O Lord, till thou come!’ Such saints this world sorely needs. Perhaps more now than ever.”

(The Thought of God by Maurice Roberts, pg 142)

Home Work:

1. The truth concerning the fear of God permeates the Scriptures but sadly the concept is rarely discussed among Christians today and often misunderstood. On a scale from one to ten with one being very limited or no knowledge at all how would you rate your understanding of the fear of the Lord? Read Proverbs 9:10 and try to explain why the fear of the Lord the beginning of wisdom.

See also Prov 1:7; 8:13; 10:27; 14:26-27; 15:16; 15:33 for furthering your understanding.

2. Now, consider Prov 9:10 & 14:26-27 with Col 2:3 and Rev 1:12-18; 14:6-7. Is there any connection between these verses and others in the Scriptures between the fear of the Lord being the beginning of wisdom and Jesus Christ being the full treasure of wisdom?

What about the fear of the Lord being a life giving fountain and the fear of the Lord being part of the gospel? How is the fear of the Lord part of the Gospel? Read John 3:16-21; Acts 10:34-43; 17:30-31; 1 Thess 1:8-9; 2 Thess 1:5-10; Rev 19:5; 20:11-15.

3. To help us better understand “reverential awe” as a beginning definition for the fear of God look up both the words “reverence” and “awe” in a few dictionaries and give their meanings.

4. Look up these passages where the fear of God is used and ask yourself how would have the words “fear God” been understood by the people in these contexts? What does “fear God” mean in these passages? Consider the context that is the surrounding verses.

- Ex 9:27-30
- Ex 20:18-21
- Deut 31:9-13
- Josh 4:15-24
- 1 Sam 12:16-24
- 2 Sam 23:1-4
- I Kings 8:37-43
- 2 Chron 19:4-10
- Neh 5:1-9
- Acts 10:27-35

Memory Verse: Psalm 119:11