

The Fear of The Lord, Part 2

1. There are people whom are quick to acknowledge Jesus as Lord and Savior, Healer, Deliverer...yet they reduce His glory to the level of corruptible men by their actions and heart attitudes.

KEY POINT:

Do you think the King of kings and Lord of lords is going to come into a place where He is not given appropriate honor and reverence?

Leviticus 10:3

Then Moses said unto Aaron, This [is it] that the LORD spake, saying, I will be sanctified in them that come nigh me, and before all the people I will be glorified. and Aaron held his peace.

Leviticus 19:30

Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I [am] the LORD.

2. The problem:

Isaiah 29:13

Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near [me] with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men.

People have reduced the glory of the Lord to the glory of corruptible man. They serve God in the image they have created, not His true image. We worship God by our own standards.

A. Old Testament example:

- Exodus 32: 1-8

Verse 7: corrupted – shachath [Strong's: 7843 – to decay, to ruin]

The Israelites became impatient while Moses was on Mt. Sinai, so they built a calf made from golden earrings. This calf represented the extent to which Egyptian culture had influenced the Israelites after 400 years in slavery. They reduced their image of God down to the image of man.

B. New Testament example:

- Romans 1: 20-23

Paul is referring to the Israelites and stating that they did not glorify Him as God.

Verse 23 – again, God's glorious image is reduced.

Egypt – a culture that worshipped animals and insects

Today – we are a society that worships man.

KEY POINT:

The image of God's glory is formed by a culture's limited perceptions rather than by the Holy Spirit revealing God's Word to us.

The more extensive our comprehension of God's greatness, the greater our capacity to reverentially fear and honor Him.

If we wish to see and experience God's glory (Hebrew: kabawd – the weight of something, its splendor, abundance, and honor), we must never reduce His glory to our image of it, based on limited perceptions.

3. In Exodus 33: 18, 19; Moses requested to see God's glory. God responded by stating that His goodness will pass before Moses.
Goodness: tuwb – goodness in the widest sense; the implication that nothing is withheld.
4. When we experience the glory of God, it means His goodness is present as well. In His goodness, nothing is withheld.