

The Fear of God

Rev. Dr. Leon McDaniels, Sr., Paradise Baptist Church, Oakland, CA

"So the church throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria enjoyed peace, as it was being built up; and as it continued in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it kept increasing." Acts 9:31 (NASB)

We are living in a time when people, even those who consider themselves God's people, have little or no fear of God. To fear God is to give reverential awe and honor to the person of the Lord and to the things of the Lord. It includes keeping spiritual things sacred.

Fearing God doesn't mean being afraid of God in a way that causes one to withdraw and hide from him. It means to live in awareness daily and to hold no one in higher esteem and honor than Him. I'm reminded of what God said about Job in Job 1:8, *"The LORD said to Satan, 'Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil'"* (NASB). However, also notice what Satan asked in 1:9, *"Then Satan answered the LORD, 'Does Job fear God for nothing?'"* (NASB). You have:

- Protected his body from illness.
- Protected his family from harm.
- Protected his possessions from destruction.

Let us now take a broader biblical look as what fearing God is. Those who fear God:

1) Have a reverence for God's _____.

"All Scripture is inspired by God and beneficial for teaching, for rebuke, for correction, for training in righteousness;"
2 Timothy 3:16 (NASB)

"The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether."
Psalm 19:9 (NASB)

- _____
- _____

2) Have reverence for God's _____

"My sheep listen to My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; ²⁸ and I give them eternal life, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand." John 10:27-29 (NASB)

3) Have reverence for God's _____

"Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their way of life, imitate their faith." Hebrews 13:7 (NASB)

"Obey your leaders and submit to them—for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account— so that they may do this with joy, not groaning; for this would be unhelpful for you." Hebrews 13:17 (NASB)

"On that day the LORD exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel, so that they revered him, just as they had revered Moses all the days of his life." Joshua 4:14 (NASB)

4) They also have a reverence for the Lord's _____, universal and local.

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it (Matthew 16:16-18 NASB).

The Church is:



Paradise Baptist Church
9670 Empire Road Oakland, CA 94603
Rev. Dr. Leon McDaniels Sr., Pastor-Teacher
510.562.8370 | pbc5star@sbcglobal.net | www.pbc5star.org

• _____
"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her" (Ephesians 5:25 NASB).

• _____
"But in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one should act in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth" I Timothy 3:15 (NASB).

• **The Church is by membership only.**

1. _____
(Acts 2:41)

2. _____
(1 Corinthians 12:13)

3. _____
(Acts 2:42-46)

4. _____
(Hebrews 10:25)

The church is made up of a group of believers who have 5 purposes: **Worship** – **Ministry** – **Evangelism** – **Fellowship** and **Discipleship**.

1. Without *Worship* we become _____.

2. Without *Ministry* we become _____.

3. Without *Evangelism* we become _____.

4. Without *Fellowship* we become _____.

5. Without *Discipleship* we become _____.

Without the Lord's Church we become defenseless.

Pastor's Class

Sunday Church School

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