

WHO FEARS THE LORD GOD?

Proverbs 1:7; Jeremiah 10:6-7

Introduction: It seems that people have more problem with "fearing" the Lord than "loving" Him. Who holds the Lord God with respect? We fear and respect our own parents more than we do God. It's a fact! People don't fear the Lord God. Consider television programs, books, magazines, style of dress, language, disrespect of others, empty Church pews, lack of commitment, or giving or serving among Christians and look at the life styles of people. It is very clear and plain to see that very few fear the Lord God.

I. WHAT IS IT TO "FEAR THE LORD GOD?"

1. Of all people who should fear the Lord, it should be believers.
 - **Deuteronomy 8:6** - Believers should fear the Lord considering that they will one day stand before Him in judgment and give an account of their lives.
2. Fearing the Lord helps one mature mentally.
 - **Proverbs 9:10; Psalm 111:10** - To fear the Lord God is beginning to be wise (get smart).
3. Fearing the Lord is the first step in learning how God wants us to live.
 - **Proverbs 1:7** - If one doesn't fear the Lord God, then he/she is not wise nor knowledgeable.
 - **Proverbs 1:29; 2:1-6**
 - Fearing the Lord causes one to pay attention to God's Words.
 - Fearing the Lord causes one to apply God's Word to one's heart.
 - Fearing the Lord causes one to ask for help in understanding more about God.
 - Fearing the Lord causes one to search for more knowledge.
 - Fearing the Lord causes one to discover that God is the source of all wisdom/knowledge.
 - Fearing the Lord causes one to discover that God is anxious to give wisdom/knowledge.
4. Therefore, the wisest thing for a person to do is to FEAR THE LORD GOD.

II. SOME BENEFITS OF FEARING THE LORD GOD

1. Fearing the Lord God causes one to hate all evil (**Proverbs 8:13**)
 - One doesn't want to participate in evil.
 - One doesn't want to accept it in any form.
 - One doesn't want to pass it on to others.
 - **Psalm 15:4**
2. Fearing the Lord God helps one overcome evil in his/her own life. (**Proverbs 16:6**)
3. Fearing the Lord God helps keep one from evil. (**Proverbs 19:23**)
4. Fearing the Lord God enables one to have a contented life. (**Proverbs 19:23; 14:27**)
5. Fearing the Lord God will take away the desire/envy to be like others. (**Proverbs 23:17**)
6. Fearing the Lord God and being humble, one will have the necessities of life. (**Proverbs 22:4**)
7. Fearing the Lord God will give cause to praise and glorify God. (**Psalm 22:23**)
8. Fearing the Lord God will cause one to be watched over by God. (**Psalm 33:18**)
9. Fearing the Lord God will cause one to have no fear of God. (**Psalm 34:9**)
10. Fearing the Lord God will cause one to be blessed. (**Psalm 115:13**)
11. Fearing the Lord God will cause one to live longer. (**Proverbs 10:27**)
12. A woman who fears the Lord God shall be honored/praised. (**Proverbs 31:30**)

13. Fearing the Lord God will cause God's mercy to be extended toward him/her. (*Psalm 103:11*)
14. Common sense warns one to fear the Lord God. (*Luke 12:4-5*)
 - One can fear the Lord God or fear all that man can do to him/her.
 - One can fear the Lord God or fear all the circumstances that can befall him/her.
 - One can fear the Lord God or fear the Devil and all that he can do to him/her.

CONCLUSION:

1. Believer, why worry? God is your light, your salvation and our strength, IF YOU FEAR HIM!
2. If, however the believer is living in continued sin, then there is cause for concern for God can and will chasten and does in some extreme cases, do so unto death.
3. The fear of the Lord God should bring to the believer fearlessness, righteousness, service, proper love for the Lord God, and to God in the way He desires.
4. *"...Teach me thy way, O Lord; I will walk in thy truth; unite my heart to fear thy name..."*
(*Psalm 86:11*)
5. Believer, what does God require of you? *Deuteronomy 10:12*