

## Reverencing God

### Lesson 1

#### Reverence – A Response To The Greatness of God

## Introduction

- Reverence for God taken for granted
- Result - fail to learn and apply reverence
- Faith, love and reverence all essential
- Without reverencing God, we cannot be saved!

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## Faith Love And Reverence Needed To Please God

Heb 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and *that* He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

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## Faith Love And Reverence Needed To Please God

1Jn 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.

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## Faith Love And Reverence Needed To Please God

Heb 12:28 Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe;

Heb 12:29 for our God is a consuming fire.

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## Introduction

- False – reverence composed of externals only
- Reverence for God is a response to His greatness, who He is, perfect in every way
- Proper reverence can only come by appreciating God's greatness

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## Reverence – A Response To The Greatness of God

The greatness of God's

Power

Holiness

Mercy

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## The Greatness of God

- Great problem today – try to lower God down to our idea of Him
- Familiarity with God causes contempt for His greatness
- Casual, complacent and rebellious attitude results
- Christians insist they love God but do not fear Him
- Warning – don't treat the Lord irreverently!<sup>8</sup>

## Uzzah Treated God Irreverently

2Sa 6:3 They placed the ark of God on a new cart that they might bring it from the house of Abinadab which was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were leading the new cart.

2Sa 6:6 But when they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out toward the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen nearly upset *it*.

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## Uzzah Treated God Irreverently

2Sa 6:7 And the anger of the LORD burned against Uzzah, and God struck him down there for his irreverence; and he died there by the ark of God.

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## God's Power

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Gen 1:2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

**Gen 1:3** Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

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## God's Power

Isa 40:18 To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare with Him?

Isa 40:19 *As for* the idol, a craftsman casts it, A goldsmith plates it with gold, And a silversmith *fashions* chains of silver.

Isa 40:20 He who is too impoverished for *such* an offering Selects a tree that does not rot; He seeks out for himself a skillful craftsman To prepare an idol that will not totter.

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## God's Power

Isa 40:21 Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been declared to you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

Isa 40:22 It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

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## God's Power

Isa 40:23 He *it is* who reduces rulers to nothing, Who makes the judges of the earth meaningless.

Psa 139:3 You scrutinize my path and my lying down, And are intimately acquainted with all my ways.

Psa 139:4 Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, You know it all.

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## God's Power

Eph 1:18 *I pray that* the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

Eph 1:19 and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. *These are* in accordance with the working of the strength of His might

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## God's Power

Eph 1:20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*,

Eph 1:21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

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## God's Holiness

Isa 6:1 In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple.

Isa 6:2 Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

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## God's Holiness

Isa 6:3 And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."

Isa 6:4 And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.

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## God's Holiness

Isa 6:5 Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."

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## God's Mercy

Eph 2:4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,  
Eph 2:5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

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## God's Mercy

Eph 2:6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus,  
Eph 2:7 so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

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## Reverence – A Response To The Greatness of God

The greatness of God's  
Power  
Holiness  
Mercy  
What is reverence?

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## What Is Reverence?

- Reverence is not defined by a series of external actions
- Reverence is a response to God's nature, His power, His holiness and His mercy
- Reverence is a a deliberate caution in how we approach God that results in a fearful attitude based on godliness, our desire to please God in all things as He directs

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## What Is Reverence?

Heb 12:28 Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe;  
Heb 12:29 for our God is a consuming fire.

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## What Is Reverence?

Word translated reverence in NASB is translated godly fear in KJV and NKJV  
Thayer says eulabeia is 1) caution, circumspection, discretion

- 1a) avoidance
- 1b) a reasonable shunning

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## What Is Reverence?

- 2) reverence, veneration
  - 2a) reverence toward God, godly fear, piety
- 3) fear anxiety, dread

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## What Is Godliness?

**1Ti 4:7** But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness;

Thayer says eusebeia is 1) reverence, respect

- 2) piety towards God, godliness

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## What Is Fear?

Rev 14:7 and he said with a loud voice, "Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters."

Thayer says phobeo is "To fear, be afraid, to be struck with fear, to be seized with alarm, to reverence, venerate, to treat with deference or reverential obedience."

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## Reverence – A Response To The Greatness of God

The greatness of God's

- Power
- Holiness
- Mercy

What is reverence?

How do we reverently respond to God's

- Power
- Holiness
- Mercy

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## Reverently Responding To God's Power

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned *by God* about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

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## Reverently Responding To God's Power

Heb 5:7 In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety.

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## Reverently Responding To God's Holiness

1Pe 1:13 Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober *in spirit*, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

1Pe 1:14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours* in your ignorance,

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## Reverently Responding To God's Holiness

1Pe 1:15 but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior;

1Pe 1:16 because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

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## Reverently Responding To God's Mercy

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

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