

Reverence for God: The Foundation of a Godly Nation

*“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.”*

Hebrews 12:28

What is Reverence for God?

Reverence for God is a recognition of the holiness of God, the superiority of God over man, the profound glory of God. Reverence for God is a commitment to holding precious and sacred the Lord our God, Creator of heaven and earth, our Father and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is a holy respect.

Reverence for God is a way of life. It is a choice in the heart to see God all around you, to hear Him through others, to love with His heart. It is a determination to never take Him or His Presence in our life for granted. It is an operating system of tenderness of heart towards God our Father and His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. It is a radical humility, continually dying to self, to make room for a deeper bond with Him. It is an unquenchable hunger and desire to know Him more deeply, to experience Him more profoundly, to be one with Him eternally.

When we truly love someone, we honor them, we respect them, we are considerate of them. Love needs no reward and has no agenda. Nonetheless, holding reverence for God offers many blessings. Conversely, lack of reverence for God degrades life. It degrades culture. It degrades our own personal relationship with God. Like any relationship that slips into being taken for granted, our bond with our Creator becomes frayed and compromised. Why does this matter?

Reverence for God: The Foundation of a Godly Nation

Reverence is a Recognition

Reverence for God is a recognition of who He is. It is a recognition of His Word, His Torah — His teachings that are law, the moral compass for our lives. Reverence for God is recognizing that He is the supreme moral authority over our lives; that He knows best what is right for us and our lives.

Reverence for God is often translated or expressed in the scriptures as ‘awe’ or ‘fear’ of the Lord. It is good to have a healthy fear of the Lord. This does not mean living in fear in a relationship. Fear of the Lord is a healthy fear of what would be the repercussions for living outside of God’s will for our life. Reverence for God is the recognition that God’s law always eventually prevails.

The Costs of Lack of Reverence for God

All we have to do is look at the condition of our culture and country today to witness the costs of lack of reverence for God. It’s hard to even believe the onslaught of horrific headlines. How did we get here? What does lack or loss of reverence for God have to do with the state of our affairs? Like so many relationships, it’s little things over time; to the point you don’t remember where you started in the first blush of wonderment and love.

It used to be when someone entered into a house of God, they would get down on one knee and genuflect before the altar, recognizing and honoring the Presence of God. Then it became just a bowing of the head. Now it’s barely a nod or must commonly, nothing at all. The sacredness that was embedded within religious traditions has been slowly drained out. Now there are generations who have not even been taught to recognize and honor the Presence of God on the altar of a church. Now, so many “churches” are no more than warehouse-like buildings filled with chairs and a stage. Some feel more like a concert hall. Worship music without sacredness is enjoyable music that moves the emotions, but it does not stir the soul.

Reverence for God: The Foundation of a Godly Nation

Blessings That Come from Reverence for God

The scriptures are filled with the benefits that come from reverence for God. We will declare these in our petitions to bring reverence for God back to our lands.

Psalm 128:1 proclaims: *“How blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in His ways.”*

Reverence brings protection: *“The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and rescues them.”* Psalm 34:7

Reverence keeps away evil: *“By lovingkindness and truth iniquity is atoned for, and by the fear of the Lord one keeps away from evil.”* Proverbs 16:6

*“In the fear of the Lord there is strong confidence,
And his children will have refuge.”*
Proverbs 14:26

PETITIONS TO BRING REVERENCE FOR GOD

Dear Heavenly Father, I come before You this day because my heart yearns for true reverence for You to be restored in the hearts and lives of Your sons and daughters, Your Ekklesia Church and all the people of my beloved country America. I understand now that reverence for You is reverence for righteousness itself; and when reverence and righteousness are restored, my country shall be restored.

Wherever You are Present

◆ Dear Heavenly Father, wherever You are present, help all Your sons and daughters to discern, to feel and experience Your holy presence; in so doing, honor Your holy presence by bringing a comportment of

Reverence for God: The Foundation of a Godly Nation

reverence, respect and stillness into that place and space. Convict them, Lord God, to wear appropriate garments to be in Your presence, to speak and carry themselves knowing and understanding that they truly ARE in Your holy presence.

- ◆ *“But when the king entered to see those who were reclining, he saw there a man not wearing a wedding garment and he said to him, friend, how did you enter here not having a wedding garment? But he was silent.¹ Then the king said to his servants, ‘After you bind his feet and hands you must cast him into the furthest darkness: in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of the teeth.’ For many are invited, but few are chosen.”*
Matthew 22:11-14
- ◆ Exodus 3:5 instructs: *“Then He said, “Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.”* Dear Lord God, convert the hearts of people across this land, convict them of Your Presence and let them feel and receive Your love, that these deep personal experiences will instill in them a true reverence for You and so restore sacredness to their own lives and families, and to our country.
- ◆ Dear Father God, Matthew 18:20 declares: *“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”* I ask You Lord God, to have Your Holy Spirit fill Your sons and daughters with the remembrance and significance of this verse; that even as we gather to pray, just a few of us wherever that might be, that Jesus Christ is with us, and that is reason enough to hold reverence for God. You are in Him and He is in You; as John 10:30 affirms, *“I and the Father are one.”*

¹ “The wording, “And he was speechless,” indicates that he was without excuse. It was not just that he lacked a wedding garment, but that he did not wear one on purpose. He had defiantly refused to put one on.” Source: <https://www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Topical.show/RTD/cgg/ID/21206/Providing-Wedding-Garments-for-Guests.htm>

Reverence for God: The Foundation of a Godly Nation

You Respond to Piety

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Hebrews 5:7 instructs us in how Your Son Jesus received Your answers to His prayers: *“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.”*
- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, piety IS reverence for God.² Any relationship is only as good and healthy as the respect and honoring therein. I recommit to being aware of and attentive to Your Presence and to the sacredness of our relationship with each other. I pray that all those who call themselves believers will be filled with a true sensitivity to Your Presence and a stillness that enables them to be filled with You more and more. I ask in the name of Your Son Jesus, that You will bring them an understanding, capacity and commitment to piety, a sincere devotion to You in tender love and gratitude.

Reverence for God Brings Peace

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Your Word in Jeremiah 33:9 declares: *“It will be to Me a name of joy, praise and glory before all the nations of the earth which will hear of all the good that I do for them, and they will fear and tremble because of all the good and all the peace that I make for it.”*
- ◆ This fear of the Lord is also awe of Your wonder and power, to fathom and bear witness to how You can turn chaos into grace, evil into good, war into peace. Dear Lord God, in the tests and travails that await, open the eyes of the hearts of Your people, that they shall fear and tremble with gratitude and amazement at how You bring blessings from sorrows.
- ◆ Help Your Ekklesia, the Body of Christ, to **live** Acts 9:31, *“So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria enjoyed peace, being built up; and going on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it continued to increase.”* Fear of the Lord sustains peace and grows life in the Spirit.

² ‘Piety’: “reverence for God or devout fulfillment of religious obligations”, dictionary.com

Reverence for God: The Foundation of a Godly Nation

Reverence for God Brings Obedience

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Exodus 1:17 says: *“But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt had commanded them, but let the boys live.”*
- ◆ Lord God, Your Word shows that when we are filled with true reverence for You, we are also emboldened to do only YOUR will, and that You will guide and protect us in the process. I ask You, in the name of Your Son Jesus, to pour out Your Holy Spirit as You did at Pentecost, across this nation; that this infilling of Your Holy Spirit will more mightily embolden Your sons and daughters to live YOUR will in bringing forth Your Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

Reverence for God Brings Nations to God

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, 1 Samuel 12:14 says: *“If you will fear the Lord and serve Him, and listen to His voice and not rebel against the command of the Lord, then both you and also the king who reigns over you will follow the Lord your God.”*
- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Your Word demonstrates that a righteous fear of the Lord can bring kings and therefore nations to You. Dear Lord, pour out Your Spirit on all men according to Joel and release a tsunami of fear and awe of You, a true and holy reverence for Your superiority over man; that world leaders, leaders in every field of life will turn to you, convert their hearts to You and follow Your way and will; and in so doing, whole nations will be converted to Your heart.
- ◆ Dear Lord God, pour out Your awe in the midst of councils of holy ones across these lands, as in Psalm 89:7: *“A God greatly feared in the council of the holy ones, and awesome above all those who are around Him.”*

Reverence for God Brings Favor

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Psalm 147:11 says: *“The Lord favors those who fear Him, those who wait for His lovingkindness.”*

Reverence for God: The Foundation of a Godly Nation

- ◆ Dear Lord God, we reverence You because we love You, not to seek favors and yet we pray that You will convict the hearts of men, women and children across these lands to devote time to stillness, to hear from You, commune with You, to shut out the world and listen for You and to You. We wait for Your lovingkindness and pray that You will open the hearts of the masses to also wait for Your lovingkindness as they seek Your wonder.
- ◆ Psalm 60:4 declares this favor: *“You have given a banner to those who fear You, that it may be displayed because of the truth. Selah.”*

Reverence for God Makes a Way for Wisdom

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Psalm 111:10 says: *“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments; His praise endures forever.”*
- ◆ Reverence for You Lord God makes way for wisdom because we are putting ourselves and our egos last; because we are submitting our ego mind to You which makes room for actual wisdom, replacing our opinions, beliefs and vanities with Your heart, Your ways and Your will. Reverence for You Lord God, makes a way for wisdom!

Reverence for God Brings Protection

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Your Word consistently proclaims the favor of Your protection that comes to those who hold a healthy fear of the Lord. Psalm 34:7 says: *“The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and rescues them.”*
- ◆ Proverbs 16:6 says: *”By lovingkindness and truth, iniquity is atoned for, and by the fear of the Lord one keeps away from evil.”*
- ◆ You Lord God, are our help and our shield, according to Psalm 115:11, *“You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord; He is their help and their shield.”*
- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, reach into the hearts of Your people, saved and unsaved, to bring them a tender understanding of how loving You brings with it a desire to live to please Your heart. Convict them O Lord,

Reverence for God: The Foundation of a Godly Nation

that Your Torah, Your commandments are a roadmap for holiness, for righteousness and right living that bring fruits of peace, joy and love. Your ways are a shield of protection and blessings.

Reverence for God is to Cleave to Him

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, by human ego standards, we do not understand Your instructive to fear You or revere You. However, by my spirit and through my love for You, I now understand that this is an invitation to cleave to You, to keep us close to You, to keep us in righteousness, to bring us to holiness. This is how You are able to protect us and bring us favor, being one with You as the source of all righteousness; just as our Lord Jesus Christ came to fulfill all righteousness. Indeed Psalm 19:9 declares: *“The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true; they are righteous altogether.”*
- ◆ When You provide moral guidance in Leviticus 19:14, You enjoin it with the instructive to revere You. *“You shall not curse a deaf man, nor place a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall revere your God; I am the Lord.”*
- ◆ This is demonstrated again in Deuteronomy 6:24: *“So the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God for our good always and for our survival, as it is today.”*
- ◆ Dear Father God, bring this revelation into the hearts of men, women and children across my country. Water the seed of Your Word that has been planted in their hearts. Awaken their understanding to the law You have written in their hearts according to Jeremiah 31:33; that they will be convicted to follow Your moral code and cleave to You in reverence and love.

We Celebrate Our Reverence for God

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, guide our hearts, the hearts of our countrymen, in ways to demonstrate our reverence for You, through sacrifices and thanksgiving; as in Jonah 1:16: *“Then the men feared the Lord greatly, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.”*

Reverence for God: The Foundation of a Godly Nation

Gratitude Brings Reverence for God

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, 1 Samuel 12:24 reminds us to take time for reflection and observance to consider all the ways You bless and guide us in our life: *“Only fear the Lord and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you.”*
- ◆ Oh! Lord God! What You have done for us! Thank you for Your mercy, forgiveness, love and patience. Thank you for Your grace, that brings us renewal, re-birth, regeneration; that brings us second chances and hope; hope of our eternal life with You.

*“Honor all people, love the brotherhood,
fear God, honor the king.”*

1 Peter 2:17

Thanks and Gratitude.

- ◆ Thank you beloved Father in Heaven, for hearing and receiving my petitions to restore reverence for God to our people, to the Ekklesia Church, to our lands, to our country.
- ◆ To You alone be all the glory in Heaven and Earth forever and ever! Amen!

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*“And a voice came from the throne, saying,  
“Give praise to our God,  
all you His bond-servants, you who fear Him,  
the small and the great.”*

*Revelation 19:5*

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