

# REVERENCE

- Defined
- Whom Directed To
- Problem of Irreverence

Good morning!

The lesson is simply entitled "Reverence".

We live in an age of ir-reverence and Informality with God.

We live in a society that is full of Carelessness in worship and life, due to A lack of reverence Toward God and His Word.

But the Bible says now and forever more,

- "Let all the earth **FEAR** the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world, stand in **AWE** of Him." ([Psa.33:8](#)).

To discuss a lesson on Reverence, we need to first

## I. DEFINE REVERENCE

### A. It means, Profound Respect, and Honor

- awe for that which is greater than one's self
- Feeling of adoration and devotion.

Reverence involves,

### B. Worship:

- The way we receive blessings, and spiritual strength.

Notice some,

### C. Examples of Reverence

Consider [Ex.3:3-6](#)...

At the scene of the burning bush,

- "Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.  
<sup>4</sup> And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. <sup>5</sup> And he said, Draw **NOT** nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is **HOLY** ground.  
<sup>6</sup> Moreover He said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And **Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.**" ([Ex.3:3-6](#))

Now consider [Ezra 9:5-6](#), which reads,

- "And at the evening sacrifice, I arose up from my heaviness; and having rent my garment and my mantle, I fell upon my knees, and spread out my hands unto the Lord my God, <sup>6</sup> and said, O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to Thee, my God: for our iniquities are increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens." ([Ezra 9:5-6](#))

and next, notice [Neh.8:5-6](#)

- "And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up: <sup>6</sup> and Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground." ([Neh.8:5-6](#))

Reverence is a,

## D. Communion between the child of God and his/her Heavenly Father

- “The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that **Call upon Him IN Truth**.  
<sup>19</sup> He will fulfil the desire of them that **FEAR Him**:  
He also will hear their cry, and will **SAVE** them.” ([Psa.145:18-19](#))

That is sweet heavenly fellowship!

C.B. McAfee wrote:

- “There is a place of comfort sweet, Near to the heart of God,  
A place where we our Savior meet, Near to the heart of God.”

The lesson is entitled “Reverence, but

## II. TO WHOM ARE WE TO DIRECT THIS PROFOUND RESPECT?

### A. Great honor is to be paid to SOME human beings:

There should be a degree of adoration and devotion toward:

**Parents**, as the Bible says,

- “Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.  
<sup>2</sup> **HONOUR** thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)” ([Eph.6:1-2a](#))
- “Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them **REVERENCE**: shall we not much rather be in **SUBJECTION** unto the Father of spirits, and **LIVE**?” ([Heb.12:9](#))

There should be a degree of adoration and devotion toward:

**Our God Adjoined Mate, who shares in the grace of life**

- “Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving **HONOUR** unto the **wife**, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being **HEIRS TOGETHER** of the Grace of **LIFE**; that your prayers be **NOT hindered**.” ([1Pet.3:7](#))
- “Nevertheless let every one of you in particular, so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she **REVERENCE** her husband.” ([Eph.5:33](#))

There should be a degree of adoration and devotion toward:

**AGED saints**

- “Thou shalt rise up before the (grayheaded), and **HONOUR** the face of the old man, and **FEAR** Thy God: I AM the Lord.” ([Lev.19:32](#))
- “The (gray) head is a crown of **GLORY**,  
**IF** it be found in the **WAY** of righteousness.” ([Pro.16:31](#))

There should be a degree of adoration and devotion toward:

**Spiritual Shepherds or Elders, and other servants**

- “we beseech you, brethren, to **KNOW** them which **LABOUR** among you, and are **OVER** you **IN** the Lord, and admonish you; <sup>13</sup> and to **ESTEEM** them very highly **IN** love, for their work’s sake. And be at **PEACE** among yourselves.” ([1Thess.5:12-13](#))

There should be a degree of adoration and devotion toward:

**Civil rulers**

- The last part of [1Pet.2:17](#) says, “...**HONOUR** the king.”

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TO WHOM, ARE WE TO DIRECT, THIS PROFOUND RESPECT?

## B. Primarily, REVERENCE is for Almighty God

- "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may **SERVE** God **acceptably** with **REVERENCE** and godly **FEAR**:<sup>29</sup> for our God is a consuming fire." ([Heb.12:28-29](#))

### There is Something wrong, when creatures forget the One, Who Gave them Existence and Life

- God is "neither... worshipped with men's hands, as though He needed any thing, seeing He giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;" ([Acts 17:25](#))
- "for **IN** Him we **LIVE**, and **MOVE**, and **HAVE** our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also **His offspring**." ([Acts 17:28](#))

### We should Reverence a Creator Who Loves us

- "For God so **LOVED** the world, that He **GAVE** His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth **IN** Him, should **NOT** perish, **BUT** have everlasting LIFE." ([Jn.3:16](#))
- "The Lord is **NOT** slack concerning His promise, **AS** some men count slackness; **BUT** is longsuffering to us-ward, **NOT** willing that any should **PERISH**, **BUT** that all should **COME** to Repentance." ([2Pet.3:9](#))

### And We should Reverence a Creator, Who Provides Salvation

- "For I am **NOT** ashamed of the **GOSPEL** of Christ: (Paul said) for **IT** is the **POWER** of God, **UNTO** salvation, to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." ([Rom.1:16](#))
- "God, who is **RICH** in mercy, for His **GREAT** love wherewith He **LOVED** us, <sup>5</sup> **EVEN** when we were **DEAD** in sins, hath **QUICKENED** us together **WITH** Christ, (by **GRACE**, ye are **SAVED**);" ([Eph.2:4-5](#))

### REVERE His Name; Pronounce It as SACRED.

- "He sent **REDEMPTION** unto His people: He hath **COMMANDED** His covenant for ever: **Holy** and **Reverend** is His **Name**." ([Psa.111:9](#))

### REVEREND: Worthy of Profound Respect.

- "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art **IN** Heaven, **Hallowed** be Thy **Name**." ([Matt.6:9](#))

### Proper Reverence, has Always been Demanded.

- "Thou shalt **NOT** take the **NAME** of the Lord Thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless, that **Taketh** His **NAME** in vain." ([Ex.20:7](#))

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### C. Reverence for the Son of God.

#### We Should Revere His Person.

- "all men should **HONOUR** the Son, even as they **HONOUR** the Father.  
He that honoureth **NOT** the Son, honoureth **NOT** the Father, which hath sent Him." ([Jn.5:23](#))

#### We Should Honor His Name.

- "being made so much **BETTER** than the angels,  
as He hath by **INHERITANCE**, obtained a **MORE** excellent **NAME** than they." ([Heb.1:4](#))
- "Wherefore God also hath highly **EXALTED** Him, and **GIVEN** Him a **NAME** which is **ABOVE** every name:  
<sup>10</sup> that at the **NAME** of Jesus, every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth,  
and things under the earth; <sup>11</sup> and that every tongue should **CONFESS** that **Jesus Christ IS Lord**,  
to the **GLORY** of God the Father." ([Phil.2:9-11](#))

#### We Should Respect His authority, because,

- Jesus said, "**ALL POWER** is **GIVEN** unto **Me**, **IN** heaven and **IN** earth." ([Matt.28:18](#))
- God "wrought **IN** Christ, when He **RAISED** Him from the dead,  
and **SET** Him at His own **RIGHT** hand, **IN** the **HEAVENLY** places,  
<sup>21</sup> **FAR ABOVE** all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every **Name** that is named,  
**NOT** only in this world, **BUT** also in that which is to come:  
<sup>22</sup> and hath put **ALL** things **UNDER** His feet, and gave Him to be the **HEAD** over all things **TO** the church,  
<sup>23</sup> which is His body, the **FULNESS** of Him that **FILLETH** all in all." ([Eph.1:20-23](#))

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### D. We Should Hold the Gospel, or Word of God, in Honor

- "for the **HOPE** which is laid **UP** for you **IN** heaven,  
whereof ye **HEARD** before in the **WORD** of the **TRUTH** of the **GOSPEL**;" ([Col.1:5](#))
- "He that **REJECTETH** Me, and receiveth **NOT** My **WORDS**, hath one that **JUDGETH** him:  
the **WORD** that I have spoken, the same shall **JUDGE** him **IN** the last day." ([Jn.12:48](#))
- "Now the God of **PEACE**, that **BROUGHT** again, **FROM** the dead our **Lord Jesus**,  
that Great **SHEPHERD** of the sheep, through the **BLOOD** of the everlasting **COVENANT**," ([Heb.13:20](#))

Reverence toward the Gospel, because it is the **LIVING** message, to a dying world

- "For the **WORD** of God, is **QUICK**, and **POWERFUL**, and **SHARPER** than any twoedged sword,  
**PIERCING** even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow,  
and is a **DISCERNER** of the thoughts and intents of the **HEART**." ([Heb.4:12a](#))

Reverence toward the Gospel, because it is the **SAVING** message to a lost world

- "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and **RECEIVE** with meekness  
the engrafted **WORD**, which is **ABLE** to **SAVE** your **SOULS**. ([Jms.1:21](#))

Reverence toward the Gospel, because it is the **DIVINE** message to human minds

- "**IF** any man **THINK** himself to be a prophet, or spiritual,  
let him **ACKNOWLEDGE** that the things that I write unto you  
are the **COMMANDMENTS** of the Lord." ([1Cor.14:37](#))

**CLAIMS** of Reverence towards the gospel is **EMPTY**, if we do not **SUBMIT** in all things

- “He that believeth **AND** is baptized shall be **SAVED**; but he that believeth **NOT** shall be damned.” ([Mk.16:16](#))
- “Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth **NOT** in the doctrine of Christ, hath **NOT** God. He that abideth **IN** the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.” ([2Jn.vs.9](#))
- “(for we walk **BY** Faith, **NOT** by sight:)” ([2Cor.5:7](#))

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### III. WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF **IR**-REVERENCE.

#### A. We should be aware of the SIN, to Treat sacred things Lightly

- “Be **NOT RASH** with thy mouth, and let **NOT** thine heart be **HASTY** to utter any thing before God: for God is **IN** heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore **LET** thy words be **FEW**.” ([Ecc.5:2](#))

#### B. Our Personal life: Should have Courage and Determination

- “seek ye **FIRST** the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and **ALL** these things shall be **ADDED** unto you.” ([Matt.6:33](#))

To seek **FIRST**, is the order of our values.

We should value each day God has given us,  
And Live each day, as though it were our last

- “When a **FEW** years are **COME**, **THEN** I shall **GO** the way, whence I shall **NOT RETURN**.” ([Job 16:22](#))

We should have the Courage and Determination to,  
**Resist temptation**

- “There hath **NO** temptation **TAKEN** you, but such as is **COMMON** to man: but **God is FAITHFUL**, Who will **NOT SUFFER YOU** to be tempted **ABOVE** that ye are **ABLE**; but will **WITH** the temptation, also **MAKE** a way to **ESCAPE**, that ye may be **ABLE** to **BEAR** it.” ([1Cor.10:13](#))
- “**SUBMIT** yourselves therefore **TO** God. **RESIST** the devil, and he will **FLEE** from you.” ([Jas.4:7](#))

We should have the Courage and Determination to,  
**Meditate on spiritual food**

- “**BLESSED** is the man that walketh **NOT** in the counsel of the ungodly, **NOR** standeth in the way of sinners, **NOR** sitteth in the seat of the scornful. <sup>2</sup>But his **DELIGHT** is in the **law of the Lord**; and **IN** His law, doth he **MEDITATE**, day and night.” ([Psa.1:1-2](#))

We should Engage in spiritual activity

- By “refuse(ing) profane and old wives’ fables, and **EXERCISE thyself rather unto godliness**.  
<sup>8</sup> For bodily exercise profiteth little: but **godliness is profitable unto all things**, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.” ([1Tim.4:7-8](#))

What Do We Do About The Problem of **IR**-REVERENCE?

### C. Be Aware that Our Assembly: is NOT a Social Hour

- “God is greatly to be **FEARED** in the **assembly of the saints**, and to be had in **REVERENCE** of all them that are about Him.” ([Psa.89:7](#))
- “**KEEP** thy foot, **WHEN** thou goest to the **HOUSE of God**, and be **MORE ready** to **HEAR**, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not, that they do evil.” ([Ecc.5:1](#))

In our Assembly, we should give, **Forethought to Decency and Order**

- As the Bible says, “Let **ALL** things be done **DECENTLY** and in **ORDER**.” ([1Cor.14:40](#))
- Early disciples “**CONTINUED** stedfastly **IN** the apostles’ **DOCTRINE** and **FELLOWSHIP**, and in breaking of **BREAD**, and in **PRAYERS**.” ([Acts 2:42](#))  
...We may need advance preparation, even the night before, to do so.

We should have a proper frame of mind, for spiritual fellowship, and spiritual worship.

- “the Lord is **IN** His Holy temple:  
let all the earth keep silence before Him.” ([Hab.2:20](#))

With Reverence, we should show faith and adoration to our Creator.

- “Now unto the King **ETERNAL**, immortal, invisible, the **ONLY Wise God**, be **HONOUR** and **GLORY** for ever and ever. Amen.” ([1Tim.1:17](#))

### D. Proper Worship, requires three Essentials:

- “God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him, **MUST** worship Him **IN** spirit and **IN** Truth.” ([Jn.4:24](#))
1. The proper **OBJECT** (is Jehovah God)
  2. The proper **ATTITUDE** (is Reverence or IN Spirit)
  3. The proper **FACTS** (N.T. Truth)

## IN-CONCLUSION:

- Don’t ever forget [Psa.89:7](#), which says “God is Greatly to be **FEARED** in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in **REVERENCE** of all them that are about Him.”

Do we Fear God in the assembly?

Do we have Him in Reverence in our daily lives?

We should, If we want to be numbered among the devout

- “being made **PERFECT**, (Jesus) became the **AUTHOR** of eternal **SALVATION** unto all them that **OBEY** Him;” ([Heb.5:9](#))
- “And now why tarriest thou? (that is, why wait) arise, and be **BAPTIZED**, and **WASH** away thy sins, **CALLING** on the **NAME** of the Lord.” ([Acts 22:16](#))

If you have need, please COME,  
As together we stand and sing.

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