

Get Real

(What's not being preached in most "churches" and "ministries")

The Holiness and Reverential Fear of and the Sheer Power of God

(Refuting the, "I've been hanging out in the throne room, sitting on Daddy's lap," and similar claims.)

Old Testament Accounts – The (Holy Spirit Anointed/Empowered) Prophet Isaiah & Mount Sinai

In the year that King Uzziah died, I [Isaiah] saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple...***So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone!*** Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts." Isaiah 6:1, 5

Now all the people witnessed the thunderings, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people [who had been consecrated] saw *it*, they trembled and stood afar off. Then they said to Moses, "You speak with us, and we will hear; but ***let not God speak with us, lest we die.***" ***And Moses said to the people, "Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin."*** Exodus 20:18-20

God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be held in reverence by all those around Him. Psalm 89:7

New Testament Accounts – Jesus' Command; The (Born Again) Apostle John & The Return of Christ

Jesus said, "But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; ***yes, I say to you, fear Him!*** Luke 12:5

I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice... Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength, ***and when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead.*** But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid..." Revelation 1:9-10, 12-17

Now I [Apostle John] saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, **and in righteousness He judges and makes war**. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. **He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God**. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. **Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God**. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. Revelation 19:11-16

Fear of the Lord for True Ministry

Knowing, therefore, the **fear [orig. Greek: “phobos”: fear, terror, dread, reverential awe, respect] of the Lord**, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences. 2 Corinthians 5:11 [In other words, **because of** our fear of the Lord we are able to **truly** minister to people (i.e., “therefore” in the text). It is important to understand that we are not to be afraid that the Lord is going to condemn us or unleash His wrath upon us. He loves His children, forgives us and gives great mercy and grace to us, and there is no condemnation, judgment for sin, or wrath for those who are in Christ Jesus. No, what this is talking about is the importance of having the utmost awe, respect and honor for the Almighty and Powerful God.

The Necessity of True Repentance – Godly Sorrow and Turning Away from and To

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” Matthew 3:1-2 [The cornerstone of his ministry and preparation for Jesus’ first coming.]

From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Matthew 4:17 [The first directive of His ministry.]

I [Jesus] tell you, no; but unless you repent [having sorrow for your sin **and** turning your ways of thinking and being from sin to God’s ways] you will all likewise perish. Luke 13:3

The Necessity of the Sufferings of Christ in the (True) Believer

“For as the sufferings of Christ **abound** in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ.” 2 Corinthians 1:5 [The Greek word translated “abound” (transliterated “perisseuō”) means persisting, remaining, lasting, exceeding and overflowing abundance; to exist in abundance. (Strong’s & Vine’s) So are the sufferings of Christ to be realized in us and manifested through us. It is **because of** the abounding sufferings of Christ in us that the consolation of Christ can exist within us and overflow from us onto others. In short, it is a **dependent relationship** between the two – abounding in sufferings in order to be able to abound in (true) consolation (See 1:7: “And our hope for you is steadfast, because we know that **as you** are partakers of the sufferings, **so also** you will partake of the consolation.”) It is also important to understand that the Greek word translated consolation does not mean worldly sympathy or charity or the like. It means to call to one’s side for aid by providing **Godly** comfort, encouragement, exhortation yes, but also

for admonition (reproof, counsel and warning against ungodly/unbiblical/wrong thinking, speaking and actions) and instruction. (Strong's, Vine's & Merriam-Webster)

Regarding Keeping God's Law

Yes, we are saved (from judgment for sin) by grace – an unmerited gift from God – and not by performing legal works – earning righteousness and salvation by keeping the law. (The Bible says that, “Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.” Romans 10:4) However, we are to obey the commandments and other words of God in the living of our eternal lives and working out of our faith. Quite simply, the claim that “we are not under the law” is a gross, erroneous overstatement, is unbiblical, is often an excuse for disobedience, sin and laziness and is causing great damage individually and corporately among Christians, leaving many stuck in error, misguidedness and immature stages of faith instead of walking in truth and progressing to spiritual maturity and becoming to fullness as we are instructed to in the Word of God.

[Jesus speaking] “Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. ¹⁸ *For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.* Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:17-19 NKJV

In terms of the law, what did Christ's sacrifice attain for born again followers: “that **the righteous requirement of the [Jewish] law might be fulfilled** in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.” Romans 8:4 Again, Christ's sacrifice provided salvation/justification by faith and grace for born again believers thereby eliminating deferment of punishment for sin by righteous through legal compliance. *However, it did not eliminate God's commandments for us to live godly, holy lives accordingly to His ways expressed in His words in the Bible.* It should also be noted that only those who walk according to the Spirit, and not according to the flesh, are spared condemnation (judgment) for sin. Id.; Romans 8:1 This begs the question: Can there even be such a thing as a “carnal Christian”?

Extremely compelling on this point is God's explanation for His covenant with Isaac's son Jacob *who became Israel* and the father of the twelve tribes and God's chosen people: “because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.” Genesis 26:5. *This was hundreds of years before Moses, Mount Sinai, the Ten Commandments and law as to righteousness (and other law) that followed.* God clearly has legal requirements for His people to be obedient to and live by that existed long before there even was a pronouncement of law as to compliance and works for righteousness. In short, Christ's atonement returned righteousness to where it was with Abraham – by faith in God – and as with Abraham, we have God's *eternal* commandments, statutes and laws to abide by if we are to truly *live* faithful, godly lives.

[Jesus speaking] “*If you love Me, keep My commandments...He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me.* And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”...Jesus answered and said to him, “*If anyone loves*

Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. ²⁴ *He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me.*" John 14:15, 21, 23-24 NKJV

[Jesus speaking] "*But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.*" Matthew 19:17

"Here is the patience of the saints; here are those *who keep the commandments of God* and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12

"Blessed are those *who do His commandments*, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city." Revelation 22:14

"Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! *On the contrary, we establish the law.*" Romans 3:31 NKJV

"Now the days of David drew near that he should die, and he charged Solomon his son, saying: 'I go the way of all the earth; be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man. *And keep the charge of the LORD your God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn*; that the LORD may fulfill His word which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons take heed to their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul,' He said, 'you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.'" 1 Kings 2:1-4 NKJV

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: *Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.*" Ecclesiastes 12:13 AKJV

"Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.* Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences." 2 Corinthians 5:9-11 NKJV

"Look at the commandment and reply, 'Ah! commandment, Christ hath fulfilled thee already-I have no need, therefore, *to fulfill thee for my salvation, but I rejoice to yield obedience to thee because God is my Father now and He has a claim upon me, which I would not dispute.*' May the Holy Ghost make your heart obedient to the constraining power of Christ's love, that your prayer may be, 'Make me to go in the path of Thy commandments; for therein do I delight.' Grace is the mother and nurse of holiness, and not the apologist of sin." Charles Spurgeon