

The Importance of Reverence for God

Malachi 1:6-11

Last book in the Old Testament

The “Restoration” period **Ezra-Nehemiah**

Malachi at the end of this period

Nehemiah 8-13

What Good Was A Rebuilt “Holy City”
Without “Reverence For The Holy God?”

What “Reverence” Means

Expressions in **Malachi**

“Where *is My honor?* . . . Where *is My reverence?*” (1:6)

“**Despise My name**” (1:6)

“My name *shall be* great among the Gentiles . . . But you **profane it**” (1:11,12)

“**Give glory** to My name” (2:2)

“Those who **feared the LORD**” (3:16) . . .

“**fear My name**” (4:2)

**Reverence = to “hallow” God,
treat Him as *holy***

What Is Reverence?

- Reverence is **a response to God's greatness, His power, His holiness and His mercy** – to all He is
- Reverence is **a deliberate caution in how we approach God**, an attitude of modesty, bashfulness toward God
- Reverence is also **a fearful attitude toward God based on godliness, our desire to obey God in all things**

Some Things We Can't Do

- **Be indifferent** to God
- **Accommodate** God to ourselves
- **Confine** God to one compartment
- **Mock** God

Descending
Into
Depravity
Begins
With A Lack Of
Reverence In Worship!

“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, **they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.** Professing to be wise, **they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into** an image made like corruptible man--and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.” **Romans 1:20-23**

What Is The Importance of Reverence In Worship?

“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, **let us have grace,** by which we may **serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.** **For our God is a consuming fire.”**
Hebrews 12:28-29

How To Reverence God in Worship

1. Remember

- Remember what we are coming here to do.
1 Corinthians 11:20-26; 2 Timothy 4:1-2;
Psalm 100:2; Ephesians 5:18-20;
Matthew 6:9-10
- Remember who God is.
- Remember why God is worthy of our worship.
Psalm 95:6-7

How To Reverence God in Worship

2. Attitude

- Heart - **Matthew 15:8**
- Humility - **Luke 18:9-14**
- Respect - **Isaiah 66:2**

How To Reverence God in Worship

3. Dress

- “God sees my heart. He doesn’t care how I am dressed” - **1 Peter 3:3-4**
- **Exodus 3:4-5** – Moses had to remove his sandals
- **Exodus 28:40-43** – Priests had special clothing for approaching God

How To Reverence God in Worship

4. Conduct

- **Worship is to be conducted decently and in order - 1 Corinthians 14:40**
- **Don't cause distractions.**
 - **Silence your cell phone, don't send text messages**
 - **Stay seated, unless necessary**

Teaching Children About Reverence In Worship

- Teach our children in the way of the Lord **including reverencing Him in worship**
- **Not a play time or entertainment time**
- Teach them to **sit quietly, sing, take notes during lesson and be respectful and active in Bible classes**
- Teach them to **sacrifice their schedule to worship** because it is first priority for us

Teaching Children About Reverence In Worship

"For I have known him, **in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice,** that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him."

Genesis 18:19

“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: **Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all.**”
Ecclesiastes 12:13

And **Jesus** came and spoke to them, saying, **"All authority has been given to Me** in heaven and on earth. **Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;** and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. **Matthew 28:18-20**