



# Where Has All the Reverence Gone?

Psalms 89:1-11

“HOLY and REVEREND is His Name” (Psalm 111:9). The basic meaning of “reverend” is “to be feared.” God is terrifying in the sense that He demands our total respect because of the greatness of His Person. He is awesome and awe-inspiring. The LORD said, “If I be a Master, **where is My fear?**” (Malachi 1:6). Where is the respect, reverence and fear that we owe to our awesome Master?

“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” (Psalm 89:7). Not only is God to be feared, but He is *greatly to be feared*. What is the atmosphere of our worship? Is there an atmosphere of casualness? Do the worshipers come dressed as if they are going to the beach or to a sporting event? Is there an impression of levity or are we serious about doing business with the living God? Is there an anticipation of entertainment and emotionalism or is there a holy hush as God’s people sit quietly and prepare their hearts?

Biblical worship is God-centered; not man-centered. It is not what we can get out of the service, but what we can give to God. “**Give unto the LORD** the glory due unto His name” (Psalm 29:2). In 1828 Noah Webster defined worship as “the act of **paying** divine honors to the Supreme Being; or **the reverence and homage paid to Him**...consisting in adoration, confession, prayer, thanksgiving and the like.” It is not, “How can this service make me feel better?” Rather, it is, “What can I give unto the Lord?”

God is seeking true worshipers (John 4:23). There may not be many, but may God find **a remnant of reverent believers** who speak often one to another and who fear the LORD and think lovingly upon His name (Malachi 3:16).

George Zeller, [www.middletownbiblechurch.org](http://www.middletownbiblechurch.org)



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