

“Reverence”

Psm. 111:9

Introduction

- I. The English word “reverence” appears only once in the Bible (Psm. 111:9).
 - A. This reference shows that God is to be held in “reverence”.
 - B. We should never forget that God is truly holy and worthy of our admiration.
- II. In the Greek, there are actually three words that are used to translate the English word “reverence”
 1. Entrope-reverend, awesome, terrible, dreadful
 2. Phobeo-fear, afraid of, fearful
 3. Eulabeia-devout, godly fear, God-fearing
- III. Let us study how these words were used.

Discussion

- I. Entrope-reverend, awesome, terrible, dreadful
 - A. Vine and Thayer indicate that “entrope” means “to feel respect for, show deference to, reverence”.
 - B. It is used in Matthew 21:37 as “reverence”.
 - C. It is also used in Hebrews 12:9 as “reverence”.
- II. Phobeo-fear, afraid of, fearful
 - A. This is usually used at the end of words to describe fears (claustrophobia, acrophobia, arachnophobia, etc.).
 - B. It is used several times to denote the reverence that we should have toward God (Matt. 10:28; Acts 10:2; 1 Pet. 1:17; 2:17; Rom. 3:18).
 - C. It is used to show how that we should think toward earthly leaders (Rom. 13:3-4).
 - D. It is used toward other people (Gal. 2:11-12).
 - E. It is used in regard to the “unjust judge” (Luke 18:1-5).
 - F. Wives should “fear” their husbands (Eph. 5:33).
 - G. There are other things that we should “fear” (Heb. 4:1; Phil. 2:12; 1 Pet. 3:15).
- III. Eulabeia-devout, godly fear, God-fearing
 - A. Used to describe Jews on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:5).
 - B. Used to describe those who buried the body of Stephen (Acts 8:2).
 - C. Ananias was a “devout” man (Acts 22:12).
 - D. Noah acted with “godly fear” (Heb. 11:7).
 - E. It is used to refer how Jesus behaved (Heb. 5:7-8).
 - F. We are commanded to demonstrate it (Heb. 12:28). {different word for reverence this time, “aidos”, which means modesty, bashfulness, awe, downcast eyes}
- IV. Irreverence is rampant in the world today.
 - A. Making light of “holy” things.
 - B. Vulgar language
 - C. Immodest attire
 - D. Etc.

Conclusion

- I. We should all remember the need to show reverence in a Biblical way.
- II. Perhaps if we learn to reverence God, then maybe will learn to love our fellow man.

