

“Growing Our Church God’s Way: A Growing Church is a **Reverent** Church”

Acts 2:43a

Scripture reading: Acts 2: 37-43 “Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? [38](#) Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. [39](#) For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. [40](#) And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. [41](#) Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. [42](#) And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. [43](#) **And fear came upon every soul:** and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.”

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### 1. The **Church’s** Reverance for The Lord

Hebrews 12:28-29 “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.”

#### a. To Truly Reverence God, We Must Think of God **Biblically**

Revelation 21:1-2 “And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. <sup>2</sup> And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”

#### b. To Truly Reverence God, We Must Serve God **Acceptably**

#### c. To Truly Reverence God, We Must Serve God **Respectfully**

#### d. To Truly Reverence God, We Must Serve God **Fearfully**

### 2. The **World’s** Fear of the Lord

Hebrews 12:29 “For our God *is* a consuming fire.”

Deuteronomy 4:24 “For the LORD thy God *is* a consuming fire, *even* a jealous God.”

Exodus 24:17 “And the sight of the glory of the LORD *was* like **devouring fire** on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel.”

Matthew 12:30 “**He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.**”

### 3. Reverent **Applications**

#### a. We Must Reverently **Worship**

#### b. We Must Reverently **Evangelize**

2 Corinthians 5:11 “Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.”

c. We Must Reverently **Disciple**

d. We Must Reverently **Counsel**

Jude 1:23 “And others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.”

e. We Must Reverently **Live**

1 Peter 1:17 “And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning [here] in fear.”

Philippians 2:12 “Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.”

2 Corinthians 7:1 “Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”