



[Psalm 34:11](#)

(11) Come, you children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

New King James Version

Notice that the [fear of God](#) does not come naturally; it must be learned. We are not born with it already existing within. It is a vital quality given through [contact with God](#) and someone qualified to teach it, as [David](#) surely was.

If we study and meditate on Him, the Scriptures will reveal that [God](#) is supreme in everything, including in qualities like [love](#), power, [wisdom](#), [forgiveness](#), [mercy](#), [patience](#), [kindness](#), etc. God is sovereign over all. These virtues alone provide multiple reasons for fearing Him.

In this church, the overwhelming majority of our messages address our responsibilities to the Creator, for this is always a need that must be filled in us. However, what about God? Has He no rights to be a solidly entrenched reality in our minds, always serving as the guide to our lives?

How can we possibly live by a truly vital [faith](#) if a strong and true awareness of the reality of His oversight and presence is not our guide in every aspect of life each day? After all, who is regulating affairs on planet earth today—God or the Devil? Intellectually, a person will quickly concede that God reigns supreme in heaven, but that He does so over [the world](#) is almost universally denied. How is this denied? [Titus 1:15-16](#) provides the answer:

To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.

Despite their claims to be Christian, people's consistent disobedience discloses the falsehood that they are truly Christians and that God is a reality in their lives.

In our time, because of the influence of evolution in education and the weakness of religious teaching in the churches, it is not only commonly denied that God created everything by personal and direct action, but few also believe, as proved by their conduct, that He has any immediate concern about regulating the works of His own hands. Everything is assumed to be ordered according to the impersonal and abstract laws of nature.

The churches contain many members who are either outright Deists or incipient ones. A Deist believes God created the world and then stepped away, taking no interest in its operations. We must not allow ourselves to have this attitude. We have to know and obey what we know—that is our responsibility as a Christian.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[Living By Faith and God's Sovereignty](#)

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