**Fear God…**

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

1. Fear His Wrath (Matthew 10:28).
2. God is good, but He is also just.

* Romans 11:19-22 (Paul took the gospel to the Gentiles; the Gentiles were not to be haughty about this.)(They could be cut off just like the Jews were through unbelief.)

1. God’s punishment causes fear.

* Acts 5:1-11 (Ananias and Sapphira)

*God warns us for a reason. It is necessary to fear His wrath (cf. Ecclesiastes 12:14).*

1. Fear Sinning Against Him
2. Fear is included in repentance.

* 2 Corinthians 7:11
  + Clearing of yourselves – quick to stop doing what is wrong. Making sure the blame is taken away.
  + Fear – fear toward repeating the sin again.
    - This is part of being watchful (1 Peter 5:8 – self-controlled and watchful).

1. Our ignorance will be judged. (What we don’t know won’t hurt us?! Yes it will.)

* Luke 12:42-48 (did not know, yet deserving of stripes.)
* 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8 (those who don’t know God)
  + This is why it is necessary to dwell on Christian living.

1. Fear Him Because He is God

* Fear – *yârê'* (yaw-ray') – to fear; morally to revere (Ecc. 12:13).
* Fear – *eulabeia* (yoo-lab'-i-ah) – reverence (piety) (Hebrews 12:28-29; 5:7).

1. God is holy, He must be revered.

* Reverence in worship – Hebrews 12:25-29 (kingdom – church).
  + Exodus 3:1-6 (Moses at burning bush)
  + “Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be your name” (Matthew 6:9) (not only our attitude in prayer, but all aspects of worship) 🡪
* Revere His name. (Leviticus 24:10-16)
  + When you take the Lord’s name in vain (of no real value), you are saying, “God means very little to me, and I don’t care what He thinks of me.”

1. There are consequences to irreverence.

**Conclusion**

* We must fear the inevitable conclusion of disobedience to God – being cast into hell.
* We must be vigilant and fear sinning against the one who can send us there.
* We must be cognizant of His nature, and revere Him.