

You Shall Fear Your God

Nehemiah 8:1-12

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I. Petunia, The Silly Goose

II. Respecting the Voice of God

A. A Hunger to Know (cf. Dt 6:20-25)

1. Assembling *en masse*

The walls were completed on the 25th day of the _____ month. On the 1st day of the 7th month the people of Israel assembled in Jerusalem *en masse* for one of the three annual festivals, the Feast of _____.

2. Bottom-up Reformation

B. Manifestations of Respect

1. Bodily Gestures and Verbal Responses

We demonstrate respect, we demonstrate attentiveness not only with our _____ but with our _____. Bodily gestures and verbal responses are manifestations of our heart attitude.

2. Cultural Egalitarianism (cf. Lev 19:32)

Our culture has become increasingly _____ – refusing to show respect to those to whom it is due; at times refusing to demand respect from those from whom it is due.

Leviticus 19:32 (NKJV)

³²You shall rise before the _____ and honor the presence of an _____, and fear your God: I am the Lord.

C. Comprehension not Superstition

1. What type of respect? (cf. Dt 31:9-13)

God wanted His people to understand and give heed to the Word, to comprehend it. Hence the law made provision for the _____ reading of the Word at least every _____ years to all Israel.

2. Respect that brings joy (cf. Ps 19:8)

III. Conclusion (cf. 1 Cor 11:17-22)