Living Godly Lives in 2021 – (Part 3)

1 Timothy 4:7 (ESV) Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness;

3 essential elements for living Godly lives:

1. Fearing God
2. Understanding of God’s love for His children
3. A Great Desire for God

1. Fearing God

“The fear of God is the soul of godliness.” - John Murray

2. An Understanding and Appreciation for God’s Amazing Love!

1 John 4:7-12 (ESV) 7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

- How much we appreciate God’s love is conditioned by how deeply we fear Him.

- But it is also true that the deeper our perception of God’s love to us in Christ, the more profound our reverence and awe of Him.

Psalm 130:3-4 (ESV) 3 If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? 4 But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

“It is not enough to believe that God loved the world; I must be gripped by the realization that God loves me, a specific person. It is this awareness of His individual love that draws out our hearts in devotion to Him.” – Jerry Bridges

1 Timothy 1:15 (ESV) The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.
Ephesians 1:3-6 (ESV)  
3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

Romans 8:31-39 (ESV)  
31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 (ESV)  
14 For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; 15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

1 John 4:18-19 (ESV)  
18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 19 We love because he first loved us.

Summary:

- Devotion to God begins with the fear of God—with a biblical view of His majesty and holiness that elicits a reverence and awe of Him.
- The fear of God leads naturally to a great appreciation of the love of God for us as shown in the atoning death of Jesus Christ.