

**Crossville Church
of Christ**
P.O. Box 211
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Live audio streaming
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COMPASS

**Using God's Word to Chart The Course
Of A Congregation**

For live video streaming see Website
www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org
Email: Office@crossvillechurchofchrist.org
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Elders:

Frank Bohannon
Jonathan Loveday
Larry McDuffee
Brian McLaughlin
Jon Tatum

Deacons:

Jim Bell
Charles Evans
Kyle Fairman
Dale Hennessee
Mike Isaacson
Doug Loveday
Don Napier
Tom Parham
Mark Roberts
Jason Wyatt
Jerry Wood

Ministers:

Alan Judd
Ken Mears

Missionaries: (India)

Don Iverson
Jim Waldron

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9 AM
Sunday Worship	10 AM 6 PM
Wednesday	6 PM

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Ladies Bible Class	
Tuesdays	11 AM
Prayer Meeting	
Tuesdays	10 AM
Joyful Generation (Youth Devotional & fellowship)	
1st Sunday	7 PM

POLISHING THE PULPIT

(PTP) 365 Audio/Visual Library
available at:
<https://365.polishingthepulpit.com>
Username:
Crossville church of Christ
Password:
crossvilleptp2018

December 2, 2018

**“And be not conformed to this
world, but be ye transformed by
the renewing of your mind, that
ye may prove what is that good,
and acceptable, and
perfect, will of God.”
Romans 12:2 KJV**

THE REIGN OF FEAR HAS ENDED

ROMANS 5:12-21

Ken Mears

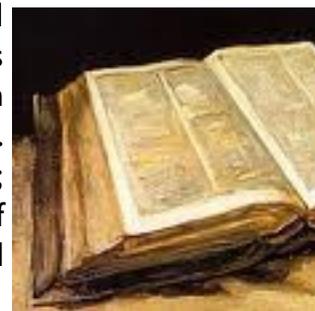
Consider these excerpts from our text, "Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgressions, who is the figure of him that was to come... For if by one man's offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ... That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord." Webster's dictionary defines the word reign to mean: to rule, royal power or rule, dominance, prevalence. When the children of Israel requested an earthly king, it was explained to them that his rule would be full and complete (1 Samuel 8:7-18). The New Testament uses the same idea to describe the reign of sin, death and fear. How did sin, death and fear come to have such dominance in the life of mankind?

On September 11, 2001, the greatest act of terrorism against our country was carried out by an Al-Qaeda group dedicated to the conversion or destruction of those who do not believe as they believe. The results of that attack left about 3000 people dead. The goal of terrorism is to produce change through death and fear.

Now consider the account of Adam and Eve in the book of Genesis. When the serpent deceived Adam and Eve into disobeying God's commandments, the greatest event of spiritual terrorism known to mankind took place. As a result billions have died and billions more will die and be condemn to hell. As a result of Adam and Eve's disobedience, sin and death came into the world. "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Romans 5:12). The companion of death and sin is fear. The consequence of fear is bondage. "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is the devil; and delivered them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage" (Hebrews 2:14-15).

How do we know that terrorism is in the world today? We need only to turn on the TV or the radio or pick up a newspaper and we are confronted by the headlines that inform us that another act of terrorism has taken place. How do we know that spiritual terrorism has taken place? We do not hear about sin in the news or read about it in the newspaper but we know that it exist. All we need to do is look at our own lives and ask ourselves why am I so selfish sometimes? Why am I always thinking about money or material things? Why do I forget to pray? Why do I lose my temper? Why do I sometimes fail to love God as I should? The answer to these questions is we have all been affected by sin.

Consider the words reigned and reign from our text. It is suggested that the word reigned implies that death and sin began to reign. Sin is still in the world, and all men are subject to death. For those who choose not to become children of God, they still must deal with the companion of sin and death which is fear. Through Jesus one can break the bondage of fear and reign with Christ in life. Through death Jesus has destroyed him that had the power of death (Hebrews 2:14). Our Lord proclaimed in Revelation 1:18, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." The child of God will continue to deal with the temptation of sin and be subject to death but they have broken the bondage of fear.



WHAT MUST BE THE WORSHIPPER'S ATTITUDE?

Curtis A. Cates

What must be the worshipper's attitude? Great responsibility has always rested upon the worshiper, in the Old Testament as well as in the New. Not only must one have the right object, but he must have certain attitudes.

First, the True Worshiper Feels the Desire To Worship. "Both young men, and virgins; Old men, and children: Let them praise the name of Jehovah; For his name alone is exalted; His glory is above the earth and the heavens" (Psalm 148:12-13). "These things I remember, and pour out my soul within me, how I went with the throng, and led them to the house of God, With the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude keeping holyday" (Psalm 42:4). David exclaimed, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go unto the house of Jehovah" (Psalm 122:1). Man needs to realize his need for His maker and thirst for Him. "As the heart panteth after the water brooks, So panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God; When shall I come and appear before God" (Psalm 42:1-2)? Job cried, "Oh that I knew where I might find him! That I might come even to his seat" (Job 23:3)!

Second, the True Worshiper Feels Profound Gratitude for the Wonderful Grace of God. He seeks every opportunity to acknowledge his dependence upon God and his awareness that without God's blessings, he could not live. "O praise Jehovah, all ye nations; Laud him, all ye peoples. For his lovingkindness is great toward us" (Psalm 117:1-2). "What shall I render unto Jehovah for all his benefits toward me" (116:12)? "I will pay my vows before them that fear him" (22:25). "Praise ye Jehovah. O give thanks unto Jehovah; for he is good; For his lovingkindness endureth for ever" (106:1).

Third, the True Worshiper Feels Reverence in and Worships God from the Heart. It is genuine: the emotions are involved. "These things I remember [what God has done for me and that my soul pants after God, CAC], and pour out my soul within me" (Psalm 42:4). "Glory ye in his holy name; Let the heart of them rejoice that seek Jehovah" (1 Chronicles 16:10). "Him shall ye fear [reverence, CAC], and unto him shall ye bow yourselves, and to him shall ye sacrifice" (2 Kings 17:36). "I will give thee thanks with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praises unto thee" (Psalm 138:1). The worshiper is not passive in his worship, awaiting some entertainment or mystical uplift to result from the "performance" of the song leader, the preacher, and others. We actively lift up praise and adoration to God within His prescribed way out of a heart filled with reverence, gratitude, confession, praise, and supplication.

Fourth, the True Worshiper Realizes that God Is Close at Hand. Unlike many who think that God is so remote that He cannot see, know, or be concerned with our needs, thoughts, prayers, and joys, men need to realize that ". . . they should seek God, if haply they might feel after him, and find him [through His Word, of course, CAC], though he is not far from each one of us" (Acts 17:27). With the Israelites, God's glory filled the tabernacle (Exodus 40:33-38), from whence He spoke to the people (Leviticus 1:1). Here we see the marvel of His condescension; He would later dwell among the people when the Word would tabernacle in the flesh (John 1:1-3, 14) and when He would dwell in His holy temple, the church (1 Corinthians 3:16-17). He is with His people in the worship (Matthew 26:28-29; 1 Corinthians 10:16-21; 11:23ff). The righteous people of the Old Testament walked with God, building a close relationship with Him (not the type of "buddy-buddy," "daddy" relationship as some shallow, flippant souls would aver today). Study the faith and reverence demonstrated in the worship of Abraham, Moses, David, and others. Enoch walked with God: David was a man after God's own heart; Daniel was greatly beloved.