

March 2026

Hello Brethren:

Greetings, in the matchless name of our King, Jesus Christ. In this *Monthly Letter*, I would like to write to those whom God has called, those whose minds have been opened by God, those who are the household of God, those who know the plan of God, and those who know God.

What I would like to write about is: *Do we fear God?* We, the called out ones, know God. We know His Plan, but do we fear Him?

Many people can tell you how they know God, and many things they can say about Him. But, when you ask them, "Do you fear God?," the answer might be what you did not expect.

We are to fear God after knowing Him. This is the everlasting gospel that John, on the Isle of Patmos, heard the angel preach to all the people, tongues and nations.

Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people—saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water" (Revelation 14:6–7, *New King James Version* throughout).

David, in the book of Psalms, says, "The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether" (Psalm 19:9).

Many do not fear Him: "There is no fear of God before their eyes" (Romans 3:18).

In the world population, many are Christians who claim that they know God. They are "saved," but the Apostle Paul said this to such people:

[B]ecause, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Therefore God also gave them up to

uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen (Romans 1:21–25).

We are not talking about the fear that somebody can have when he sees a lion, or fear that people have concerning death. Yes, most people fear death, but we are talking about fear when we reverence God, or in simple terms, we respect Him with all our hearts.

Many fear God with the thought that if they do not, God will kill them. So, this fear can be called cowardliness.

Those who fear the Lord truly, will receive their reward when Christ comes back:

The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth (Revelation 11:18).

Let us look at some who feared the Lord even when they were in hard situations. Joseph was taken down to Egypt as a slave. Then, he was in Potiphar's domain taking care of his house, and Potiphar's wife wanted Joseph to commit sin with her, but Joseph, who showed real fear of God, said:

So it was, from the time that he had made him overseer of his house and all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was on all that he had in the house and in the field. So he left all that he had in Joseph's hand, and he did not know what he had except for the bread which he ate. And Joseph was handsome in form and appearance. Now it came to pass after these things that his master's wife cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me." But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand. There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" So it was, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not heed her, to lie with her or to be with her. But it happened about this time, when Joseph went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the house was inside, that she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside (Genesis 39:5–12).

And in speaking to his brothers: "Then Joseph said to them the third day, 'Do this and live, for I fear God'" (Genesis 42:18).

Fearing God will be seen by the way we live our lives, not how much we talk about it. Many are good in talking about God, but living the way God wants is not easy.

When Christ was hung on the stake, one of the thieves mocked him, "But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation?'" (Luke 23:40). This guy, even though he was a thief, knew that God is to be feared.

The churches that were in Judea and Galilee came to fear God after their persecution ceased:

Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied (Acts 9:31).

Now, what is needed after knowing God, whom we worship? The conclusion, when everything has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments (Ecclesiastes 12:13).

Christ Himself feared His Father:

[W]ho, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear (Hebrews 5:7).

He set us an example that we, too, must fear God. "Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king" (1 Peter 2:17).

He is the one to be feared. Many people fear men, politicians, kings, and rich people, but we are to fear God. "For the LORD is great and greatly to be praised; He is also to be feared above all gods" (1 Chronicles 16:25).

Nehemiah appointed his brother to be in charge because his brother feared God:

[T]hat I gave the charge of Jerusalem to my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the leader of the citadel, for he was a faithful man and feared God more than many (Nehemiah 7:2).

Even those who are to be in the church leadership must be those who fear God.

You, Yourself, are to be feared; And who may stand in Your presence When once You are angry? You caused judgment to be heard from heaven; The earth feared and was still, When God arose to judgment, To deliver all the oppressed of the earth (Psalm 76:7–9).

If there be those who fear the Lord, they will speak one to another.

Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, And the LORD listened and heard them; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the LORD And who meditate on His name. "They shall be Mine," says the LORD of hosts, "On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them As a man spares his own son who serves him" (Malachi 3:16–17).

People can boast about how much they know God, how much they know truth, but if they do not fear Him, their "knowing Him" is nothing.

If we know God, He, too, will know us. Let us not wait until Christ comes and says this to us: "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" (Matthew 7:23)

We must fear God if we want to have knowledge. That is what the Bible says: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction" (Proverbs 1:7). "Oh, fear the LORD you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him" (Psalm 34:9).

Moses, in the book of Deuteronomy, said to the Israelites:

That you may fear the LORD your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your sons and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged (Deuteronomy 6:2).

May God bless you all, your fellow in the Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Isaya Owak', with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

Isaya Owak

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon W. Brisby', with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

Jon W. Brisby