

GOD SAYS WHAT HE MEANS AND MEANS WHAT HE SAYS.

- Hosea 4:6 (NIV) *6 My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. “Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.*

- Mark 7:6-13 (NASB) 6 And He said to them, "Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME. 7 'BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.' 8 "Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men." 9 He was also saying to them, "You are experts at setting aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition.

- **10 "For Moses said, 'HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER'; and, 'HE WHO SPEAKS EVIL OF FATHER OR MOTHER, IS TO BE PUT TO DEATH'; 11 but you say, 'If a man says to his father or his mother, whatever I have that would help you is Corban (that is to say, given to God),'** 12 **you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or his mother; 13 thus invalidating the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down; and you do many things such as that."**

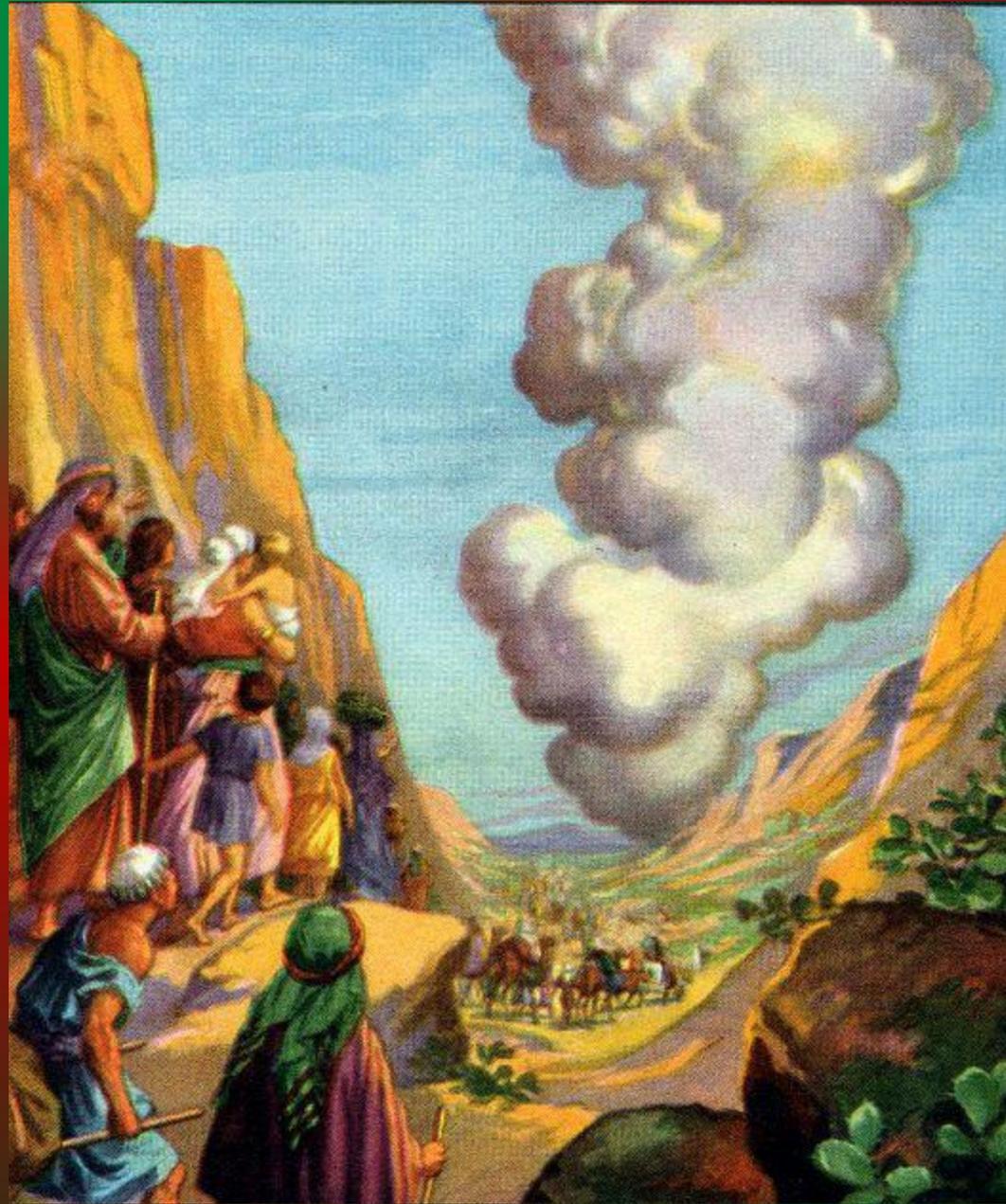
Nadab and Abihu lived during one of the most exciting times in Israel's history

- They had witnessed the plagues that God used to humble Pharaoh
- They had seen their loving God refused to stand by and allow his people to suffer any longer as slaves in a foreign land.
- They had seen the fulfillment of God's promises to Abraham the father of the Israelite nation.

- They had personally walked through the Red Sea on dry land – they had seen God destroy Pharaoh's army in that same Red Sea.







**The Lord was on the move
and they had front row seats.**



Nadab and Abihu had seen their own stature and significance skyrocket!

- Exodus 33:11 - *"God spoke with him face-to-face, as a man speaks with his friend"*.
- Exodus 28:1- *"have Aaron your brother brought to you from among the Israelites, along with his sons Nadab and Abihu... So they may serve me as priests."*

Leviticus 8:36 - 36 *Thus
Aaron and his sons did
all the things which the
Lord had commanded
through Moses.*

NASU

The things that Nadab and Abihu had seen as members of the priesthood

- Leviticus 9:22-24 - *22 Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he stepped down after making the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings. 23 Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting. When they came out and blessed the people, the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people. 24 Then fire came out from before the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the portions of fat on the altar; and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces. NASU*

- Exodus 24:9-11 - *9 Then Moses went up with Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, 10 and they saw the God of Israel; and under His feet there appeared to be a pavement of sapphire, as clear as the sky itself. 11 Yet He did not stretch out His hand against the nobles of the sons of Israel; and they saw God, and they ate and drank. NASU*

FROM FAME TO SHAME

- Leviticus 10:1-3 - *Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took their respective firepans, and after putting fire in them, placed incense on it and offered strange fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them. 2 And fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord. 3 Then Moses said to Aaron, “It is what the Lord spoke, saying, ‘By those who come near Me I will be treated as holy, And before all the people I will be honored.’”* NASU

• Numbers 3:3-4 - These are the names of the sons of Aaron, the anointed priests, whom he ordained to serve as priests. 4 But Nadab and Abihu died before the Lord when they offered strange fire before the Lord in the wilderness of Sinai; and they had no children. So Eleazar and Ithamar served as priests in the lifetime of their father Aaron. NASU

These two men committed a series of tragic, irreverent, and disobedient actions.

- Leviticus 10:8-11 - **8** *Then the Lord said to Aaron, 9 "You and your descendants must never drink wine or any other alcoholic drink before going into the Tabernacle. If you do, you will die. This is a permanent law for you, and it must be observed from generation to generation. 10 You must distinguish between what is sacred and what is common, between what is ceremonially unclean and what is clean. 11 And you must teach the Israelites all the decrees that the Lord has given them through Moses."* NLT

• Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took their respective firepans, and after putting fire in them, placed incense on it and offered strange fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them. Leviticus 10:1.

Nadab and Abihu... offered strange fire before the Lord, which He had not commanded them. 2 And fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord.



**Nadab and Abihu trespassed
into the most sacrosanct place
in the tabernacle when they
entered into the Holy of Holies**



- Leviticus 16:1-2 - *The Lord spoke to Moses after the death of Aaron's two sons, who died after they entered the Lord's presence and burned the wrong kind of fire before him. 2 The Lord said to Moses, "Warn your brother, Aaron, not to enter the Most Holy Place behind the inner curtain whenever he chooses; if he does, he will die. For the Ark's cover—the place of atonement—is there, and I myself am present in the cloud above the atonement cover.*

**‘By those who come
near Me I will be
treated as holy, And
before all the people I
will be honored.’”**

DON'T FEAR TO FEAR GOD

- I want to make THIS point... but I don't want to **over make** it.

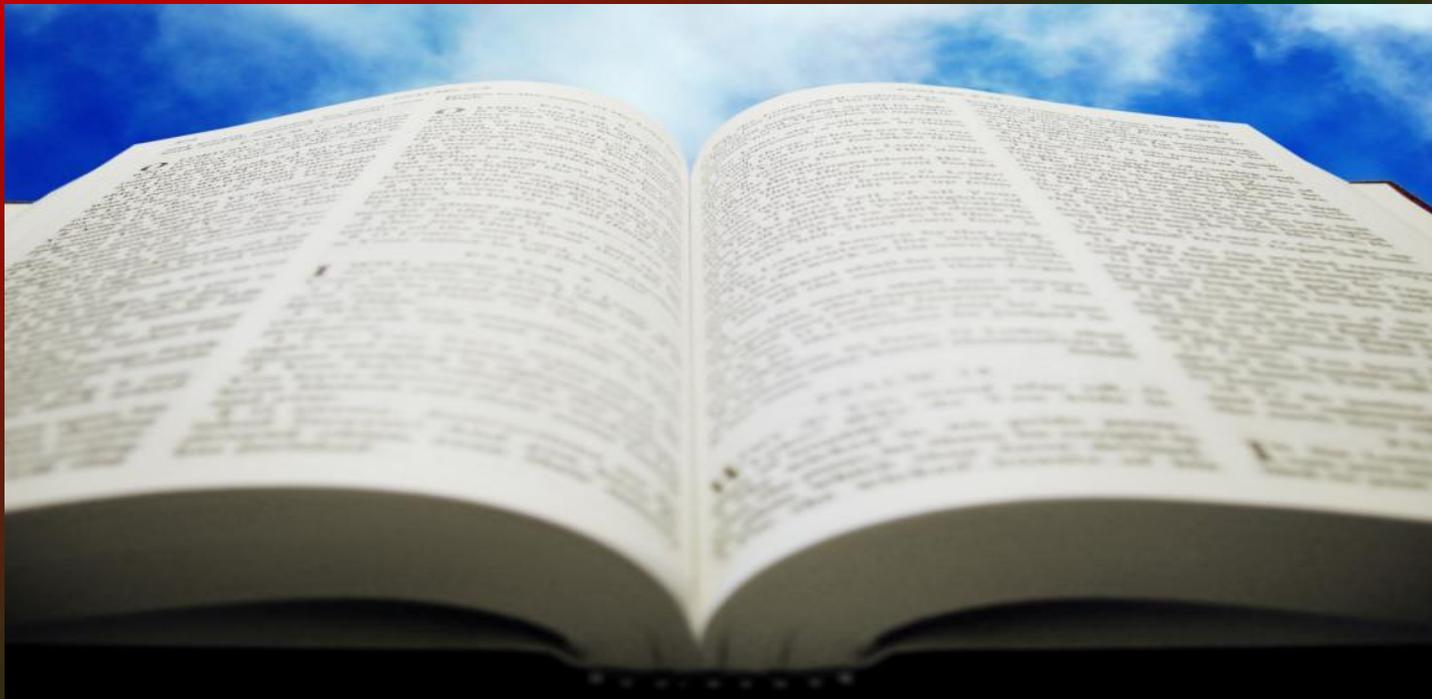
Galatians 2:21 –

"I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly."

NASU

Galatians 3:21-22 - *Is the Law then contrary to the promises of God? May it never be! For if a law had been given which was able to impart life, then righteousness would indeed have been based on law. 22 But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. NASU*

• John 12:48 - *48 He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day. NASU*



For others this story moves them toward a deep sense of AWE and REVERENCE for God.

"Taking God Seriously."

THE FEAR OF GOD

- Psalms 34:7 – *"the Angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them."*
- Psalms 111:10 – *"fear of the Lord is the foundation of true wisdom."*
- Isaiah 33:6 – *"He will be the sure foundation of your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure."*
 - The Bible explains that it is this fear of God that unlocks all of his treasures of stability, and confidence, and courage, and peace, and joy.

- Psalms 25:14 – *“The Lord is a friend of those who fear him. He teaches them his covenant.”*
- *“Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord.”* Acts 9:31

**The person who walks in the
fear of God is a person who
doesn't have to be afraid.**

Oswald chamber writes "the remarkable thing about fearing God is that when you fear God you fear no one, nothing else. Whereas, if you do not fear God, you fear everything else."