

Everything You Wanted to Know About Fear but Were Afraid to Ask
02/07/2021

- Proper and Improper Fear

Proverbs 1:1-7 (NIV) The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: 2 for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; 3 for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair; 4 for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young - 5 let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance - 6 for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise. 7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Having a Proper Fear of the Lord:

1st) Brings **KNOWLEDGE**.

Prov.1:7 (NIV) The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

- Fear is necessary
- Vital fear

CS Lewis - "Aslan is a lion- the Lion, the great Lion." "Ooh" said Susan. "I'd thought he was a man. Is he-quite safe? I shall feel rather nervous about meeting a lion"... "Safe?" said Mr. Beaver ... "Who said anything about safe? 'Course he isn't safe. But he's good. He's the King, I tell you."

- The fear of God is the glue that holds a society together
- Respect

Romans 8:31b (NIV) If God is for us, who can be against us?

- Reverence
- Reverence is a gesture indicative of deep respect - it's Holy Fear!
- It does not mean to be afraid of the Lord, but to be in awe of the Lord.
- Awe
- Wow

2nd) Brings **GUIDANCE**.

Prov. 1:5-6 (NIV) let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance.

- Listen
- Learn
- Discern
- Guidance

1 Kings 19:3 (NIV) Elijah was afraid and ran for his life

- Butt-erflies

1 Kings 19:12 (NIV) And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

1 Kings 19:15a (NIV) The Lord said to him, "Go back the way you came,

- You might not be listening
- You're listening to the wrong stuff
- God sent His Son but he left His Book
- Direction comes from focus on Jesus - it's a byproduct of our prayer life

3 Voices that Distract:

The **WORLD**.

1 Kings 19:1 (NIV) Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.

The **FLESH**.

1 Kings 19:4b (NIV) He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors."

- He's living by fear not faith
- He's following his feelings (the flesh) not the Lord
- You're often your *own* worst enemy.

The **DEVIL**.

1 Kings 19:2 (NIV) So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, "May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them."

- The "All At Once God" Shows up

1 Kings 19:5b (NIV) All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat."

- Elijah had to make a decision to do what he'd been told
- The will of God is an attitude not a place
- God's will not help us do anything that he hasn't called us to do
- God will supernaturally help us do what he's called us to do

3rd) Brings **INSIGHT**.

Prov. 1:2-3 (NIV) 2 for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; 3 for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair;

- Our ignorance is the most effective weapon Satan possesses
- The #1 Tactic of the enemy today is Division
- It's to create Disunity
- It's to Divide and Destroy
- Churches
- Grace has no borders
- Families
- Friendships

3 People the Enemy Uses in Your Life to Divide

A) Anyone who feeds your rebellion to **AUTHORITY**.

B) Anyone who dishonors the **DIVINE** focus God has given you for your life.

- An uncommon dream requires uncommon focus
- An uncommon assignment attracts an uncommon adversary

C) Anyone who feeds your **DOUBTS**.

Hebrews 12:15 (ERV) Be careful that no one fails to get God's grace. Be careful that no one loses their faith and becomes like a bitter weed growing among you. Someone like that can ruin your whole group.

- Bitterness is more deadly than betrayal

How to Counter Fear with Fear:

ACCEPT God's Love for me.

1 John 4:18 "Where God's love is, there is no fear because God's perfect love drives out fear."

- Surface Fears
- Subconscious Fears
- Soul Fear
- Until this issue is resolved, you're going to be tormented by other fears.

TAKE My Fears to Jesus.

1 Peter 3:14-15 (GNT) "Don't be afraid of anyone and don't worry, but have reverence for Christ in your heart and honor him as Lord."

MEDITATE on God's Promises.

Is. 41:10 (NIV) So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Phil. 4:6-7 (NIV) Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Oswald Chambers - The remarkable thing about God is that when you fear God, you fear nothing else, whereas if you do not fear God, you fear everything else.