

# Walking in the Fear of the Lord

Proverbs 2:1-6

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- The fear of God is a reverential respect and deference of self to the Almighty, Sovereign God of this universe. When children of God live their lives in the fear of God, they have found the key to living instrumental lives for God, and accordingly increase in the knowledge of God.

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- Prov. 2:1-6 - “My son, if you receive my words, And treasure my commands within you, 2 So that you incline your ear to wisdom, And apply your heart to understanding; 3 Yes, if you cry out for discernment, And lift up your voice for understanding, 4 If you seek her as silver, And search for her as for hidden treasures; 5 Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, And find the knowledge of God. 6 For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.”

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- We seldom hear lessons on fearing the Lord; we tend to focus on faith, love, and obedience toward God.
- This is sad as well as unbiblical. Loving God is not enough according to the Bible. We must also fear Him.
- “Solomon says the fear of the Lord is the foundation. The fear of the Lord is the single most important essential. The fear of the Lord is where it all begins.” (Jon Courson)

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- The Bible speaks of fear of the Lord in 295 verses. Scripture speaks of fearing God, His name, His Law, or His Word.
- In the NT, there are 43 references to the fear of God; which, by the way, is the same number of references to love for God.
- “From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible proclaims that the fear of the Lord is a fountain of life; and, those who drink deeply of it, shall have the blessings of God in this life and in the life to come. However, those who reject the fear of the Lord will end up in the ways of death.” (Precept Austin)

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- Godly fear
  - Heb. 12:28-29 - “Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. 29 For our God is a consuming fire.”
- But what is the fear of the Lord? It is that affectionate reverence; by which the child of God bends himself humbly and carefully to his Father’s law.

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- Godly fear is not a paralyzing fear as in approaching danger; rather, it is a prudent fear which causes one to consistently exercise self-examination as a person stands in the reverent awe of God.
- Unbelieving fear develops in the reprobate mind, and usually develops scenarios or anxieties, and is often linked to physical anxiety and bodily degeneration.
- The fear of God in a believer's life is a healthy fear.

# What Do The Scriptures Say About The Fear Of The Lord?

- Psalm 103:13 - “As a father pities his children,  
So the LORD pities those who fear Him.”
  - “Pities - caress fondly; to love in a compassionate manner; to show mercy and affection for”  
(Strong's 07355)



# What Do The Scriptures Say About The Fear Of The Lord?

- Isa. 63:7-9 - “I will mention the loving kindnesses of the LORD And the praises of the LORD, According to all that the LORD has bestowed on us, And the great goodness toward the house of Israel, Which He has bestowed on them according to His mercies, According to the multitude of His loving kindnesses. 8 For He said, ‘Surely they are My people, Children who will not lie.’ So He became their Savior. 9 In all their affliction, He was afflicted, and the Angel of His Presence saved them; In His love and in His pity He redeemed them; And He bore them and carried them All the days of old.”

# What Do The Scriptures Say About The Fear Of The Lord?

- The fear of God is to hate what He hates.
  - Prov. 8:13 - “The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate.”

# What Do The Scriptures Say About The Fear Of The Lord?

- The fear of God lengthens days.
  - Prov. 10:27 - “The fear of the LORD prolongs days, But the years of the wicked will be shortened.”

# What Do The Scriptures Say About The Fear Of The Lord?

- Living in God's fear keeps us separate from the sins of dissipation and excesses of this world.
  - 1Peter 4:1-4 - “Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, 2 that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. 3 For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles--when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. 4 In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you.”

# What Do The Scriptures Say About The Fear Of The Lord?

- The fear of God provides a healthy environment for Christian growth.
  - 2Cor. 7:1 - “Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”
  - 2Cor. 6:17-18 - “Therefore, ‘Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you. 18 I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters,’ Says the LORD Almighty.”
  - James 4:8 - “Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.”

# What Do The Scriptures Say About The Fear Of The Lord?

- The fear of God is the means of constant reconciliation.
  - Eph. 5:21 - “Submitting to one another in the fear of God.”
  - Phil. 2:4 - “Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”
  - Heb. 12:14 - “Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord”

# What Do The Scriptures Say About The Fear Of The Lord?

- The fear of God is understanding who He is.
  - Matt. 10:28 - “And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”
  - Heb. 10:31 - “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”
  - Heb. 12:29 - “For our God is a consuming fire.”

# What Do The Scriptures Say About The Fear Of The Lord?

- Ex. 19:16-20 - “Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. 17 And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. 18 Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. 19 And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice. 20 Then the LORD came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.”



# What Do The Scriptures Say About The Fear Of The Lord?

- God in His limited manifestation at Sinai was overwhelming to Israel; imagine Him in His unlimited glory outside of the confines of this material universe!
- Ecc. 12:13-14 - “Let us hear the conclusion of the matter; all has been said: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all. 14 For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.”