

CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

“THE FEAR OF THE LORD” (PART 3)

INTRODUCTION:

- A. The Believer’s Fear of the Lord is to respect Him, obey Him, love Him, submit to His will and to worship Him in awe.**
- B. The Fear of the Lord is the awareness that we are in the presence of a holy, just and Almighty God.** He will hold us accountable for our motives, thoughts, words and actions. To Fear the Lord is to live in harmony with His righteous standards and to honor and please Him in all that we do.
- C. Quotes on the Fear of the Lord:**
1. “He that fears God fears nothing else.” – Edmund Burke
 2. “Christian, let God’s distinguishing love to you be a motive to you to fear Him greatly. Remember that this fear of the Lord is His treasure, a choice jewel.” – John Bunyan
 3. “The phrase “The Fear of the Lord” occurs over and over. I was really surprised to find more than three hundred references in the Old Testament that speak of the fear of the Lord. The fear of the Lord is reverential trust and hatred of evil, and there you have the whole thing.” – William Anderson
 4. To Fear the Lord means giving Him our reverence, trust and awe, acknowledging His sovereignty, submitting to His law. – Hess

I. THE FEAR OF THE LORD PROVIDES SECURITY (Prov 14:26)

“In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge” (Prov 14:26).

A. The Believer is protected by God – He has “strong confidence” (security, trust)

- He realizes that if God is for Him, no one will be successful against Him.
- “What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?” (Rom 8:31).

B. The Believer that fears the Lord will know Him to be a fortress – a shelter and refuge in the storms of life.

- The Believer who Fears the Lord will not be afraid of the storms of life because their trust is in the Lord.
- **A Mighty Fortress is Our God**
A mighty Fortress is our God, A Bulwark never failing
Our Helper He amid the flood, Of mortal ills prevailing
For still our ancient foe, Doth seek to work us woe
His craft and power are great, And armed with cruel and hate
On earth is not his equal
- “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Ps 46:1).

II. “THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS A FOUNTAIN OF LIFE” (Prov 14:27)

“The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death” (Prov 14:27).

- Trusting in the Lord as the source of spiritual strength, love and vitality enables Believers to avoid the snares of death.

A. Jesus Christ is the spring of eternal life welling up within Believers.

When Christ was crucified on the Cross – Blood and Water flowed out of his side.

- “But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water” (John 19:34).

B. Snares – to entangle, to bring into unexpected evil, perplexity or danger. Unexpectedly involved in difficulty, attractions and temptations that lead to deadly sins and habits that hold so many in captivity.

- The Believers who fear the Lord have the power of God within them to “depart from the snares of life” – to resist the temptation of drugs, alcohol, gambling, sexual immorality and hatred.

III. “BETTER IS LITTLE WITH THE FEAR OF THE LORD” (Prov 15:16)

“Better is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith” (Prov 15:16).

A. Fearing The Lord is of Greater Value than Massive Material Possessions

The Believer with little is better off than a wealthy person. Wealth has trouble attached to it – Loss or Theft of possessions.

B. In the Parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-21)

Jesus taught that our lives are not measured by our possessions. Life is not about money and possessions. The First and Second Commandments – loving God and loving one another – are the two most important aspects of our earthly life.

- “³⁶Master, which is the great commandment in the law? ³⁷Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. ³⁸This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself” (Matt 22:36-39).
- We are to value relationships: First, a relationship with God and Second, a relationship with one another.

IV. “THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS THE INSTRUCTION OF WISDOM” (Prov 15:33)

“The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility” (Prov 15:33).

A. The Fear of the Lord teaches and leads to wisdom

B. Humility is the way to Honor

- **Humility** – gentleness, meekness, help
- **Honor** – glorious, splendor, abundance

C. When Believers humble themselves before the Lord, there is a change in their lives –
They will exhibit the Fruit of the Spirit and it will stir others to honor them.

- “²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, ²³ Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law” (Gal 5:22-23).

V. FEAR THE LORD AND DEPART FROM EVIL (Prov 16:6)

“By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the Lord men depart from evil” (Prov 16:6).

A. It is by God’s mercy, grace and truth that our iniquity is purged – to be pardoned of our sins which Christ by His blood hath purchased for all Believers.

B. “Men Depart from Evil” means that by The Fear of the Lord, Believers are kept from abusing pardoning mercy and from returning to sin or wickedness.

Believers do not have a license to sin and should not take God’s forgiveness of sin for granted.

- “¹What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? ² God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? (Rom 6:1-2)

MEMORY VERSE:

“Teach me thy way, O Lord; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name” (Ps 86:11).

CONCLUSION:

A. The Fear of the Lord: (1) Is Security, (2) Is a Fountain of Life, (3) Is Better With Little, and (4) Is To Depart From Evil.

B. Our purpose is to Glorify God by making disciples of all people groups and multiplying churches so that Believers worship God, win unbelievers to Christ, and become more like Christ.

C. ABC’s of Salvation

- **A – Admit** that you’re a sinner and that you cannot save yourself (Rom 3:23, Eph 2:8-9).
- **B – Believe** that Jesus died on the Cross and rose again for your sins (Rom 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3-4).
- **C – Confess**/Call on Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior (Rom 10:9-13)

**From the Teaching Ministry of:
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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).