



Sunday January 17, 2010
The Fear of the Lord

Opening Text:

Proverbs 22:4 By humility and the fear of the LORD Are riches and honor and life.

WHAT IS THE FEAR OF THE LORD?

The Hebrew word used in the context of the fear of the Lord is "yare".
"yare" simply means to "stand in awe".

"yare" not only includes the psychological reaction of "fear" and "dread", but in the context of our relating to God, it expresses "standing in awe".

Vine's Dictionary states "Used of a person in an exalted position, yare' connotes "standing in awe." This is not simple fear, but reverence, whereby an individual recognizes the power and position of the individual revered and renders him proper respect. In this sense, the word may imply submission to a proper ethical relationship to God;..."

Examples, Abraham in Genesis 22:12:

And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear ("yare") God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."

Jacob at Bethel Genesis 28:17:

And he was afraid ("yare") and said, "How awesome ("yare") is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!"

The Israelites after the Red Sea crossing Exodus 14:31:

Thus Israel saw the great work which the LORD had done in Egypt; so the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD and His servant Moses.

"There is more involved here than mere psychological fear. The people also showed proper "honor" ("reverence") for God and "stood in awe of" Him and of His servant." (Vines Dictionary)

In the New Testament the Greek word used in the context of the fear of the Lord is "eulabeia". This signifies "reverence", "godly fear" or "holy fear". It is fear and love mingled together that constitutes our relationship toward God.

Fear and love must be mingled together in our relationship toward God. Fear without love, can keep us enslaved. Love without fear can make us reckless and unrestrained. Fear and love keeps us in a wonderful relationship with God, that liberates us into godly living.

Hebrews 5:7

who, 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 12:28,29

28 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.

KEY STATEMENT: *The true expression of the fear of the Lord is to so love, honor and reverence God, that you show by your thought, word and deed that you love what He loves and hate what He hates.*

Proverbs 8:13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate.

Proverbs 16:6 In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity; And by the fear of the LORD one departs from evil.

Proverbs 23:17 Do not let your heart envy sinners, But be zealous for the fear of the LORD all the day;

PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF WALKING IN THE FEAR OF THE LORD?

Shunning evil - Joseph

Genesis 39:7-10

7 And it came to pass after these things that his master's wife cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me."

8 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.

9 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?"

10 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.

Unity birthed out of the fear of the Lord

1 Samuel 11:7

So he took a yoke of oxen and cut them in pieces, and sent them throughout all the territory of Israel by the hands of messengers, saying, "Whoever does not go out with Saul and Samuel to battle, so it shall be done to his oxen." And the fear of the LORD fell on the people, and they came out with one consent.

Saul acted under the anointing of the Spirit and in the face of a common enemy. The fear of God swept the nation and people came united to fight their enemy.

Acts 9:31 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.

Righteous Leaders

2 Samuel 23:3

The God of Israel said, The Rock of Israel spoke to me: 'He who rules over men must be just, Ruling in the fear of God.

2 Chronicles 19:5-9

5 Then he set judges in the land throughout all the fortified cities of Judah, city by city,

6 and said to the judges, "Take heed to what you are doing, for you do not judge for man but for the LORD, who is with you in the judgment.



7 Now therefore, let the fear of the LORD be upon you; take care and do it, for there is no iniquity with the LORD our God, no partiality, nor taking of bribes."

8 Moreover in Jerusalem, for the judgment of the LORD and for controversies, Jehoshaphat appointed some of the Levites and priests, and some of the chief fathers of Israel, when they returned to Jerusalem.

9 And he commanded them, saying, "Thus you shall act in the fear of the LORD, faithfully and with a loyal heart:

Nehemiah 5:14,15

14 Moreover, from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year until the thirty-second year of King Artaxerxes, twelve years, neither I nor my brothers ate the governor's provisions.

15 But the former governors who were before me laid burdens on the people, and took from them bread and wine, besides forty shekels of silver. Yes, even their servants bore rule over the people, but I did not do so, because of the fear of God.

Standing strong in persecution

Daniel 6

Daniel's uncompromising stand to fear and honor God, saw the heart of a King changed and a Kingdom influenced.

Daniel 6:26,27

26 I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God, And steadfast forever; His kingdom is the one which shall not be destroyed, And His dominion shall endure to the end.

27 He delivers and rescues, And He works signs and wonders In heaven and on earth, Who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

The walk in the Spirit is a walk in the fear of the Lord

Isaiah 11:2,3

2 The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

3 His delight is in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears;

The Holy Spirit is called the "Spirit of the fear of the LORD". If one is truly anointed by the Spirit of the Lord, He will be manifesting the fear of the Lord. Jesus was so anointed by the Spirit, that the Bible said "His delight is in the fear of the LORD". Jesus lived and walked out of the fear of the Lord – so much so that He was not moved by the things He saw and heard.

CONCLUSION

Proverbs 22:4 By humility and the fear of the LORD Are riches and honor and life.

To fear God is to stand in awe of Him. It is to have a holy reverence, a godly fear of Him.

The true expression of the fear of the Lord is to so love, honor and reverence God, that you show by your thought, word and deed that you love what He loves and hate what He hates.

SALVATION CALL





USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>