

# THE FEAR OF THE LORD

DR. JOHN GOETSCH | JANUARY 28, 2024

**Text:** Proverbs 14:26-27

"In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge. 27 The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death."  
(Proverbs 14:26-27)

## INTRODUCTION

- Is 6:3 seraphim speak truths of God - HOLY
- Is 6:5 Isaiah sees his sin
- Is 6:7 Isaiah's sin/iniquity purged (forgiven)
- fear (other meaning): reverence, wonder, respect, <sup>trust</sup>

"Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all."  
(1 Chronicles 29:12) God rules in heaven & over earth

"God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God."  
(Psalm 62:11) all power owned by God

"Yea, before the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall let it?" (Isaiah 43:13) God is all powerful

## 1. A Courageous FAITH (confident)

"In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence." (Proverbs 14:26a)

### A. A Fear of friends

"The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe." (Proverbs 29:25)

### B. A Fear of family

"When my father and mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up."  
(Psalm 27:10)

"For the son dishonoureth the father, the daughter riseth up against the mother, the daughter in law against the mother in law; a man's enemies are the men of his own house." (Micah 7:6)

### C. A Fear of foes (enemies)

"The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?"  
(Psalm 118:6)

"I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that have set themselves against me round about." (Psalm 3:6)

#### D. A Fear of finances (money)

"I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." (Psalm 37:25)

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)

#### E. A Fear of failure

"Brethren, I count not myself to have <sup>to understand</sup> apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:13-14)

## 2. A Confident **FORTRESS** (refuge-stronghold)

"..and his children shall have a place of refuge." (Proverbs 14:26b)

#### A. A Secured Place of truth (scriptures)

God's Word "Thy word is true from the beginning; and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever." (Psalm 119:160)

"For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven." (Psalm 119:89)

"The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever." (Isaiah 40:8)

#### B. A Secured Purpose of task (work) - purpose

God's Will "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations." (Jeremiah 1:5)

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." (Romans 12:2) transform means change

#### C. A Secured Promise of tomorrow (after death)

God's World "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:1-6)

### 3. A Chosen FUTURE - your choice

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

"I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed shall live." (Deuteronomy 30:19)

#### A. An earthly Choice

no 2 masters "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." (Matthew 6:24)

"Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and the table of devils." (1 Corinthians 10:21)

#### B. An eternal Choice

"He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." (1 John 5:12)

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." (John 3:36)

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

#### CONCLUSION

- 2 Chron 19:7 fear of the Lord
  - \* no iniquity with the Lord
  - \* no respect of persons (no favoritism)
  - \* no taking of gifts (no bribery)
- Job 28:28
  - \* Fear of the Lord is wisdom
  - \* Departing from evil is understanding
- Ps 111:10 fear of the Lord is beginning of wisdom (also Prov 9:10)
- Prov 1:7 fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge



Lancaster Baptist Church

4020 E. Lancaster Blvd.  
Lancaster, CA 93535  
661.946.4663  
lancasterbaptist.org  
Paul Chappell, Pastor