

Walking in the Fear of the Lord

Compiled by Paul R. Blake

Introduction:

- A. The fear of God is a reverential respect and deference of self to the Almighty, Sovereign God of this universe. When children of God lives 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
 - 1. Prov. 2:1-6
- B. Godly fear - Heb. 12:28-29
 - 1. "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.
 - 2. Unbelieving fear develops in the unregenerate or reprobate mind and usually develops scenarios or anxieties and is always linked to physical anxiety and bodily degeneration.
 - 3. The fear of God in a believer's life is a healthy fear.

I. WHAT DO THE SCRIPTURES SAY OF THE FEAR OF GOD?

- A. Psalm 103:13 - The fear of God brings the compassion of God
 - 1. "Pities" - "caress fondly; to love in a compassionate manner"
 - 2. Isa. 63:7-9 - God loves and protects those who live in His fear.
- B. Prov. 8:13 - The fear of God is to hate what He hates.
 - 1. Sins like this should raise our emotional ire
- C. Prov. 10:27 - The fear of God lengthens days
 - 1. Living in God's fear keeps us separate from the sins of dissipation and excesses of this world - 1Peter 4:1-4
- D. 2Cor. 7:1 - The fear of God provides a healthy environment for Christian growth - 2Cor. 6:17-18
 - 1. Fearing God is a maturing process - "perfecting" - to bring to completion
 - 2. As we strip off the old nature, the new nature begins to show through
 - a. James 4:8
- E. Eph. 5:21 - The fear of God is the means of constant reconciliation
 - 1. "Submitting" - "put in subjection to or to submit one's self"
 - 2. Phil. 2:4 - Be concerned with others
 - 3. Heb. 12:14 - Cultivate peace with all
 - 4. Because we reverence or fear God, we will love and treat with respect all who have been created in His image
- F. The fear of God is understanding who He is.
 - 1. Matt. 10:28 - He destroys body and soul in hell
 - 2. Heb. 10:31 - We fall under His judgment
 - 3. Heb. 12:29 - He is a consuming fire
 - 4. Ex. 19:16-20 - God in His limited manifestation at Sinai was overwhelming to Israel; imagine Him in His unlimited glory outside the confines of this material universe!

Conclusion: Ecc. 12:13-14