

WALKING IN THE FEAR OF THE LORD

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ACTS 9:31

W.E. Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament words defines fear as being a controlling motive of a life in matters spiritual and moral; to possess a wholesome dread of displeasing God.

PHIL. 2:12

When “trembling” is added it carries a much sterner import. The work of Christ is finished, now with fear and trembling we must do what no friend, Pastor, Apostle or anyone else can do for us - work out our salvation with fear and trembling or a strong motivation to obey God and do His will.

PHIL. 2:13

God wants His will and good pleasure accomplished in our lives. For these reasons, it is our individual duty to fear God, keep His commandments, and work out our own salvation.

ECCL. 12:13-14

Solomon was handsome, wealthy, healthy and wise. He used all he possessed to find purpose and pleasure in life on earth. After trying wine, women, riches, entertainment, building projects and much more, he concluded to fear and obey God was more important than anything this world has to offer. **1 KINGS 11:4-10**

ROM. 3:18

There was no regard or reverence for the character, honor and authority of God. Consequently, there was no restraint with regard to sin and disobedience. We live in a time when there is very little fear of God. **ROM. 1:21-32**

MT. 10:28

Jesus said to fear God who can destroy the soul and body in hell more than one who can only destroy the body. This confirms the resurrection and eternal destruction of the unsaved body.

- Fearing God includes reverence, awe, and being afraid to offend Him.

WHY WALK IN THE FEAR OF THE LORD?

1. It's required of all who serve Him. **DEUT. 10:12**
 - A. We're required to obtain a drivers license, be insured, pay taxes...
2. It's the way to serve God acceptably. **HEB. 12:28-29**
 - A. He compares Sinai with Zion. **HEB. 12:21**
3. Because of all the benefits.
 - A. **PS. 34:7** – Angelic protection; **PS. 34:9** no want, **PR. 10:27** long life.
4. He delights in those who fear Him. **PS. 147:10-11**
 - A. Man's wit, wealth, intellect, strength or speech don't impress God.
5. Assembled saints are told to do so. **PS. 89:7**

HOW DO WE LEARN THE FEAR OF GOD?

1. By the scriptures. **DEUT. 31:11-13**
 - A. **PS. 34:11-14** – David was an accomplished musician, a statesman and a mighty warrior. He didn't teach them to play, learn state policy or how to use a sword. He taught them something better than the arts, sciences or secrets of war: The fear of the Lord.
 - B. Control the tongue, depart from evil, do good and seek peace.
2. By considering:
 - A. His presence. **IS. 6:1,5**
 - B. His omnipotence. **JER. 5:22**
 - C. His omnipresence. **PS. 139:7-8**
 - D. His name. **PS. 111:9-10, ACTS 19:17**
 - E. His judgments. **HEB. 10:30-31**

CONCLUSION: The one who fears God will hate sin, depart from evil, delight in God's commandments (**PS. 112:1**) walk uprightly (**PR. 14:2**) practice submission (**EPH. 5:21**), be humble (**ROM. 11:20 ESV**) and consider Cornelius (**ACTS 10:1-2**) Our goal is to perfect holiness in the fear of God. **2 COR. 7:1, REV. 19:4-5** We want to be there!