

THE FEAR OF GOD

JANUARY 13, 2019

EPHESIANS 5:21

Last week we discussed God's priorities: God, spouse, children, work, church and country. Today, our subject is the fear of the Lord. Why? Because it's what motivates us to follow biblical priorities. Servanthood is motivated by love and the fear of God.

WHY FEAR GOD?

1. For our own good. **DEUTERONOMY 10:12-13**
2. To serve God acceptably. **HEBREWS 12:28-29**
3. Jesus' warning. **LUKE 12:4-5**
4. Solomon's conclusion and man's duty. **ECCLESIASTES 12:13-14**
 - A. Solomon used his looks, wisdom, money and power to find purpose and pleasure in life. He tried wine, women, song, folly, building projects and entertainment before making his conclusion.
5. The benefits: No wants, **PSALMS 34:9**; deliverance, **PSALMS 34:7**; a blessed life, **PSALMS 128:1-4**; confidence, refuge, life, **PROVERBS 14:26-27**; longevity, **PROVERBS 10:27**; the most outstanding quality of a virtuous woman, **PROVERBS 31:30-31**; health, **PROVERBS 3:7-8**.
6. To avoid being labeled a fool. **PROVERBS 1:7**

WHAT IS THE FEAR OF GOD?

1. Vines: A controlling motive of the life in matters spiritual and moral; a wholesome dread of displeasing Him.
 - A. **PROVERBS 16:6** – By it, men depart from evil.
 - B. **PSALMS 36:1** – Without it, transgression abounds.

WHAT INSPIRES GODLY FEAR?

1. His presence. **EXODUS 20:18-20**
2. His holy nature. **ISAIAH 6:1-5**
3. His power. **PSALMS 33:6-9, JEREMIAH 5:20-25**
4. His name. **DEUTERONOMY 28:58-61, MALACHI 4:2**
5. His judgments. **PSALMS 119:120, HEBREWS 10:30-31**

WHAT DOES IT INSPIRE?

1. To hate sin. **PROVERBS 8:13**
2. To depart from evil. **PSALMS 34:11-15**
3. Obedience. **EXODUS 1:17**
4. An upright walk. **PROVERBS 14:2**
5. Reverence for God. **PSALMS 89:7**
6. Submission to God and one another. **EPHESIANS 5:21**

CONCLUSION: Our lives on earth are to be lived in Godly fear. **1 PETER 1:13-20** – Our salvation is to be worked out with godly fear. **PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13** – Our goal is to sing with those who lived their lives and worked out their salvation with godly fear. **REVELATION 19:5-6**