

Fear not to fear the Lord



The Fear of the Lord

- ...is pure, enduring forever. (Ps 19:9)
- ...is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. (Prov 9:10)
- ...is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death. (Prov 14:27)
- ...teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor. (Prov 15:33)
- Humility and the fear of the LORD bring wealth and honor and life. (Prov 22:4)

Ananias and Sapphira

Acts 5:11-15

11 Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events.

12 The apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade. 13 No one else dared join them, even though they were highly regarded by the people. 14 Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number.

Growth with the fear of the Lord

Acts 9:31 Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord.



What does Fear of the Lord look like?

Prov 8:13a To fear the LORD is to hate evil

Ps 33:8 Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him. 9 For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

Jesus delighted in the Fear of the Lord

Isa 11:1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.
2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD-- 3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

Fear of the Lord is the key

Isa 33:6 He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the LORD is the key to this treasure.



The Fear of the Lord is foundational

- The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death. (Prov 14:27)
- The fear of the Lord teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor. (Prov 15:33)
- Humility and the fear of the LORD bring wealth and honor and life. (Prov 22:4)

The beginning of wisdom

- **Reaping and sowing**

Gal 6:7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. 9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

The beginning of wisdom

- **Fear of the Lord motivates our evangelism**

2 Cor 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. 11 Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men.

The beginning of wisdom

- **Fear of the Lord gives us perspective**

1 Peter 1:17 Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear.

The beginning of wisdom

- **Fear of the Lord trumps fear of man**

Luke 12:4 "I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. 5 But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him. 6 Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. 7 Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.