

# Fear God, or fear \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Saturday, October 13, 2007

11:25 AM

- Fear is more general than just about technology
- Fear God properly
  - Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him (Deut 6:13)
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  - And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, To keep the commandments of the LORD, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good? (Deut 10:12-13)
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  - Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. (Josh 24:14)
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  - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. Eccl. 12:13
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  - Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. Isa 8:13
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  - What man is he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose. His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth. The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will show them his covenant. (Ps 25:12)
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  - A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear? saith the LORD of hosts (Mal 1:6)
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  - There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil. (Job 1:1)
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  - Now it came to pass, when the wall was built, and I had set up the doors, and the porters and the singers and the Levites were appointed, That I gave my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the ruler of the palace, charge over Jerusalem: for he was a faithful man, and feared God above many. (Neh 7:1-2)
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  - There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band, A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway. (Acts 10:1-2)
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  - Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. (Philippians 2:12)
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  - Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king. (1 Pet 2:17)
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  - See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire. (Heb 12:25-29)
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  - And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldst give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name (Rev 11:18)

- Should not fear God improperly
  - And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.  
And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. (Gen 3:7-10)
  - Daniel 5: 1-6
- Should not fear man
  - Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment is God's: and the cause that is too hard for you, bring it unto me, and I will hear it. (Deut 1:17)
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  - And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes: 7And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land. 8If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. 9Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not. (Num 14:6-9)
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  - The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe. (Prov 29:25)
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  - I, even I, am he that comforteth you: who art thou, that thou shouldest be afraid of a man that shall die, and of the son of man which shall be made as grass; 13And forgettest the LORD thy maker, that hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth; and hast feared continually every day because of the fury of the oppressor, as if he were ready to destroy? and where is the fury of the oppressor? (Isa 51:12-13)
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  - But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed. 12For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision. (Gal 2:11-12)
  - Pilate interrogating Jesus (John 19:10-11)
    - Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?
    - Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above:

Application



# Consequences of Void of the fear of God

Saturday, October 13, 2007

12:11 PM

Wilhelmus A'Brakel (1635-1711)

Puritan minister, born in The Netherlands; Dutch Second Reformation

- Be assured that God will give you a fearful and trembling heart as long as you do not fear Him
  - You will not find rest or safety
  - Conscience tormented
  - Prov 1:24-28

Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;  
But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:  
I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;  
When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.

Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

- Be assured that if you continue on w/o fear for the Lord - even though you may peacefully approach your end - the terror of the Lord will at last come upon you.
  - Remember Balshazzar in Daniel
- And even if you have no terror in this life or at death, you will be overcome with fears on every side after your death
  - It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God (Heb 10:31)
  - Rich man and Lazarus (Luke 16:22-33)
  - The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites (Is 33:14)

# Fear of God in Believers - do you have this?

Saturday, October 13, 2007

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- Do you not desire the fear of God in your life?
  - God desires to put that fear in our hearts
  - Jer 32:40
    - And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me.
  - Only the people of God are ever called **God fearing** people (devout)
  - Only the people of God have **reverence for God**
- Do you not perceive heartfelt intentions and initiatives to walk in the fear of God?
  - Subduing a sin because of fear of God?
  - Doing good because of the fear of God?
- Are there not profound evidences of the fear of God in a life?
  - Do you find your prayers fruitless, or do you see some principles of godly fear in actions of your life?
  - Does not your heart say that the Lord is indeed worthy to be served?
  - Do you not at times bow in complete reverence before Him?
  - Would you not have committed many more sins, or neglected more good things, had not the fear of the Lord been present?

When these are present, the truth of the fear of God is present, even if in small measure.

- What does a mature fear of God look like?
  - Story of Abraham and Isaac
  - Gen 22: 10-12

Fear of God - seen and known by us withholding nothing from God

# Believers rebuked

Saturday, October 13, 2007

1:08 PM

1. We are to be severely reprimanded, if, knowing God is majestic, having experienced His goodness in our walk with Him, knowing how invigorating it is to walk in the way of uprightness, we neglect to focus upon the Lord and fear him continually.
  - a. When the doorkeeper sleeps, the door is wide open to lust, temptation, etc.
  
2. Then, if we satisfy this lust, even with our conscience says not to, and makes us think upon God and His majesty, then we are in great danger.
  - a. We have set aside the fear of God
  - b. We have grieved the Holy Spirit
  - c. We have inflicted a deadly wound upon our soul because we seek to hide from the presence of God
  - d. "I am here, and I certainly see what you are doing. Cease, or else I shall cause you to feel my displeasure."
  
3. Then we can fall prey to the **fear of man**.
  - a. Sickness
  - b. Legal cases
  - c. Business transactions
  - d. Plying of our trade
  - e. Pursuing things which can only be attained by the instrumentality of men
  - f. We look to men - as if we had come from them, not God
  - g. So we may fear a man's wisdom
    - i. His status
    - ii. His imposing personality
    - iii. Wickedness
    - iv. Benevolence, or being on his good side
  - h. This evil is great
    - i. God has forbidden it
    - ii. Shows contempt for God, because He must yield to man before you
    - iii. Denies the providence of God (that He does not reign over the affairs of men)
    - iv. Continually afflict and trouble you
    - v. Causes you to fall from one sin to the next

# Incentives to fear God

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1. Do not the perfections of God cause us to reverence Him?
  - a. Who else is even close to God?
  - b. His goodness begets reverence in order that He may thus be feared in love
  - c. Therefore, is it not
    - i. Proper
    - ii. Becoming
    - iii. Requisite
  - d. That we fear a majestic God and tremble before Him?

Ps 130:4



But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.

2. The root of the matter is inside us
  - a. We have a God-given desire to fear Him
  - b. Should we subdue this desire??
  - c. Has He not given us the spirit of adoption?
  - d. We should be stirred up to fear our Lord and our Father
3. The fear of God is the fountain of all the holiness which delights you
  - a. Sinful lusts lose their potency
  - b. Corruptions which surface will readily be subdued
  - c. You will be stopped in the middle of sinning
  - d. You will be inclined to practice all manner of virtues
  - e. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Prov 9:10)
4. The Lord has pleasure in them that fear Him
  - a. It ought to be a very precious matter to us that God is pleased with us.
  - b. It ought to be our greatest desire to be pleasing to Him
  - c. Ps 147:11 "The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear Him"

How lovely it is when man delights himself in God and when God finds pleasure in man!

# Closing

Friday, March 06, 2009  
1:26 PM

How does God work to mature us?

Deut 7:17-22 Note v 22

Or Exodus 23:27-30 Note v 30

--> **Slides 1, 2**

The territory of unbelief - a place where fear is prevalent

--> **Slide 3**

(358) I'm Pressing on the Upward Way

My heart has no desire to stay  
Where doubts arise and fears dismay  
Tho some may dwell where these abound  
My prayer, my aim, is higher ground

Two stories:

Health insurance, Diane's birthing bills

Calling of senior pastor at Parma Baptist Church

Isaiah 40: 18 - 26

Is 40:21 Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning?  
have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth?