



+ **YOU**

Sermon Series: Putting Fear in its Place
To be used with Session 1: The Fear of God
Sermon Title Possibilities: Trust and Obey
Scripture: Psalms 33:6-25, 18-22

Connection with Unit Theme: To complement the small group study "Putting Fear in Its Place," this sermon challenges Christians to hold steadfast to their reverence and obedience to God. Oswald Chambers said: "The remarkable thing about God is that when you fear God, you fear nothing else, whereas if you do not fear God, you fear everything else."¹

The Point: The fear of God gives us the foundation to face all other fears.

Introduction: The *Baptist Faith and Message* states: "There is one and only one living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is all-powerful and all-knowing, and His perfect knowledge extends to all things, past, present, and future, including the future decisions of His free creatures. To Him, we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience."²

Psalms 33 is a psalm of praise reminding us that we owe our highest love, reverence, and obedience to our God. This is because the God that we put our trust in is sovereign and can always be counted on. We can depend on God.

1. The Awe of Our God (vv. 6-9)

Our God is not the created God. He is God the Creator. In these verses, the psalmist reminds us about God's creational purpose. God's Word affects God's work. We stand in awe of the creative works of God. God is behind it all. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were created through him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created" (John 1:1-3). Again, God is behind it all.

2. The Authority of Our God (vv. 10-15)

Because God is sovereign, there is nothing that He does not see or know. We live in a day of political unrest, social injustice, and racial inequality. We live in a world where man seemingly is pushing forth his own agenda. Governments and countries are putting forth their own policies and laws. Is there any hope?

Isaiah and others in the Isaiah tradition declared in specific crises of Israel's history that the Lord's counsel and plans would prevail (Isa. 8:10; 46:10). The good news is that God always has the last word. The last word is the removal of unjust laws and the ending of

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political upheavals (Rev. 21:1). Regardless of the condition of our world, God has the last word.

3. The Assurance in Our God (vv.18-22)

We have something to sing and shout about, which is God will take care of us. We cannot be worried about the ways of our world and trust God simultaneously.

People, possessions, and positions are not our source; God is. The psalmist tells us, "We wait for the Lord; he is our help and shield. For our hearts rejoice in him because we trust in his holy name" (vv. 20-21).

Conclusion: In 1887, a young man gave his life to the Lord Jesus Christ at one of Dwight L. Moody's revival meetings. Later, he was heard saying, "I am not quite sure – I am going to trust and obey." The music director of the Moody Bible Institute, Professor Towner, was present at the meeting when these words were uttered. Based on these words, Professor Towner, with the help of John Sammis, who developed the lyrics, composed the music to this hymn "Trust and Obey."³ We can live a life of submission and obedience when we trust in the supreme authority of our God.

Author Bio

Breonus Mitchell is the Senior Pastor of Mount Gilead Missionary Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee. He is the husband of Jacquita and the father of B.J. and Brennon. He is a graduate of American Baptist College, Lipscomb University, and currently a candidate for the DMin at Memphis Theological Seminary. Breonus is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Omicron Sigma Lambda Chapter (Murfreesboro, TN) and The 100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee. He is currently the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc.

¹ Chambers, Oswald, *The Complete Works of Oswald Chambers*, (Grand Rapids, MI, Discovery House, 200), 537.26.

² *The Baptist Faith and Message* 2000, <https://bfm.sbc.net/bfm2000/#ii>.

³ Albert, S. (2022, August 7). "When We Walk with the Lord (Trust and Obey)" - *history of hymn*. Lyrics, Videos And Stories Behind Hymns. Retrieved September 20, 2022, from <https://christianmusicandhymns.com/2015/06/when-we-walk-with-lord-hymn-trust-and.html#:~:text=When%20We%20Walk%20with%20the%20Lord%20History%20This,%20I%20am%20going%20to%20trust%20and%20obey.>