



False
Evidence
Appearing
Real

There is a healthy kind of fear:

Ps 2:11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling

Ps 5:7 But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy; in fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple.

Ps 19:9 The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever;

Ps 25:14 The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant.

Ps 27:1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Prov 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge,

Mt 10:28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Phil 2:12 ... work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

There is an unhealthy kind of fear:

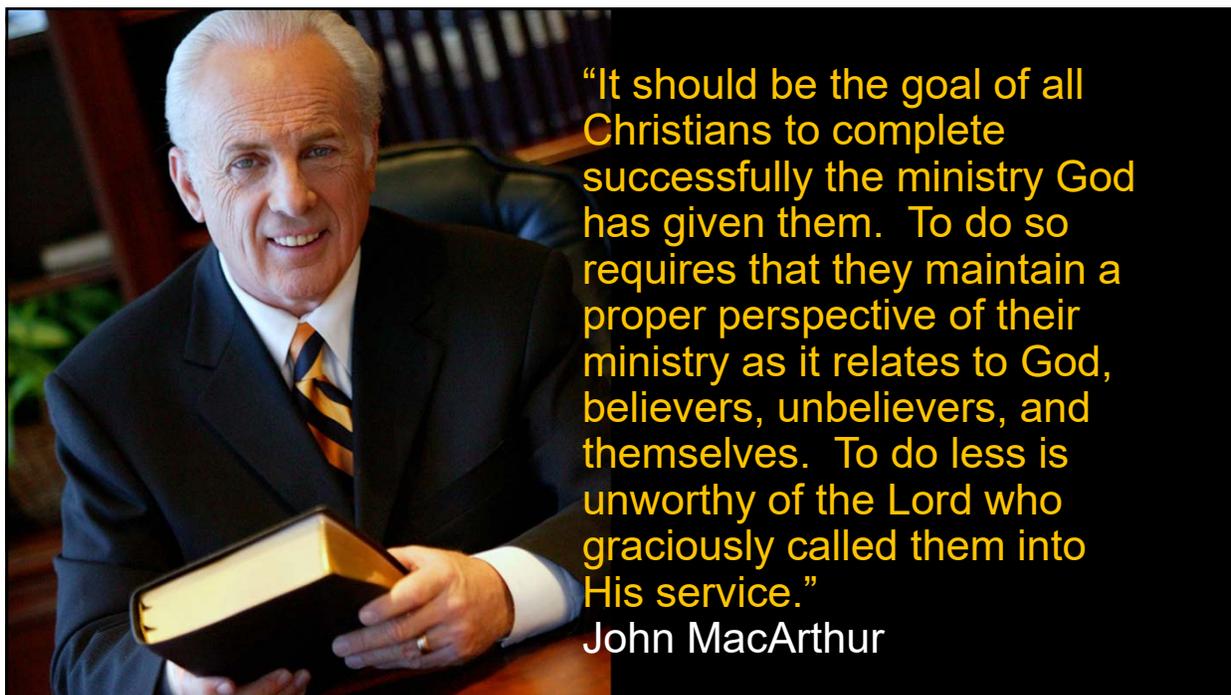
Mt 25:25 servant was afraid and hid his talent

Gen 15:1 After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."

Lk 12:32 "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Rev 1:17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last.

Acts 20:22-24 And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, ²³ except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. ²⁴ But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.



1. Paul’s uncertain future

Acts 20:22 And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there,

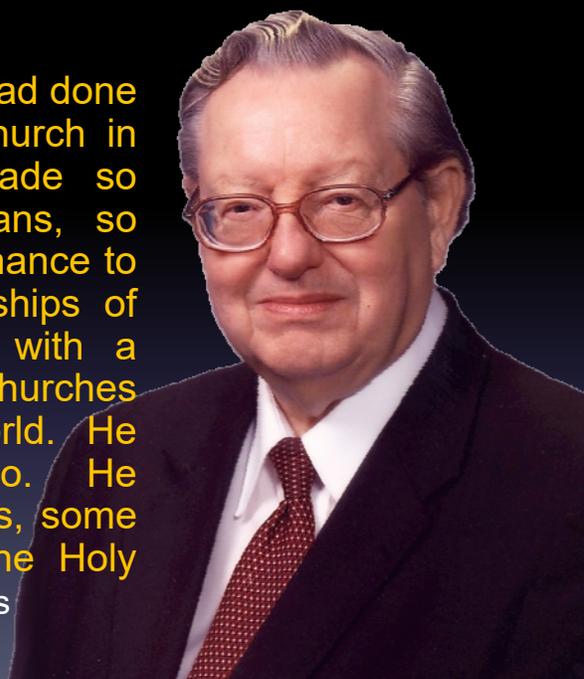
Js 4:14 whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

2. Paul's undeniable facts

Acts 20:23 except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me.

Jn 16:33 These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

“Paul was determined to go. He had done much harm to the Jerusalem church in his unconverted days, had made so many widows, so many orphans, so many beggars. Now he had a chance to relieve the sufferings and hardships of the poor saints in Jerusalem with a handsome gift collected from churches he had planted in the Gentile world. He felt he had an obligation to go. He longed to see, with his own eyes, some of the damage repaired, and the Holy Spirit respected that.” John Phillips



3. Paul's unavoidable fear

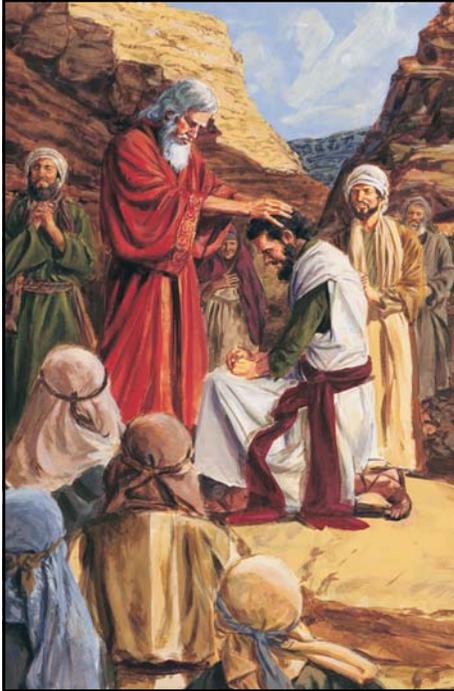
1 Cor 2:3 I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling.

2 Cor 7:5 For indeed, when we came to Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were troubled on every side. Outside were conflicts, inside were fears.

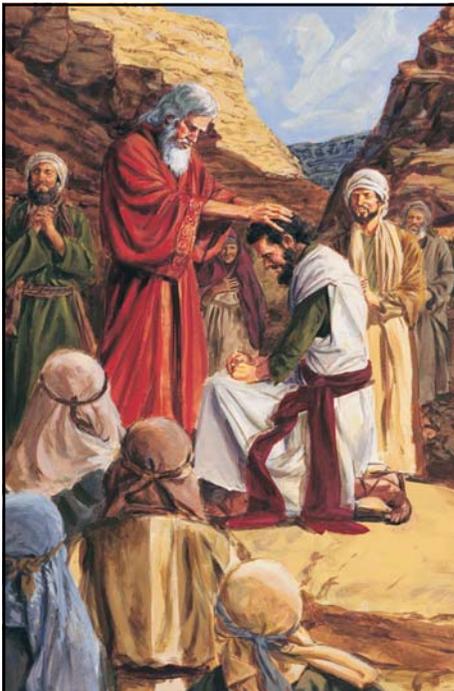
4. Paul's uncommon fervor

Acts 20:24 But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

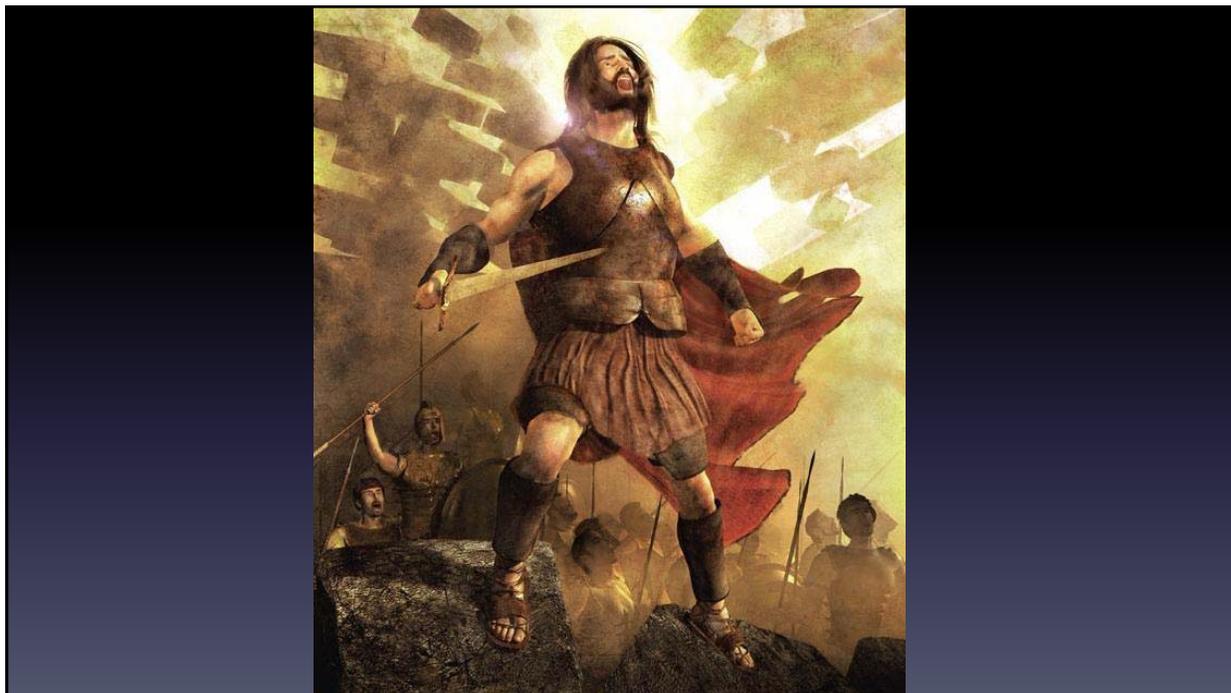
1 Pet 3:14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. "And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled."



Joshua 1:2,5-7,16-17 “Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel. ... ⁵ No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. ⁶ Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them.



⁷ Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. ... ¹⁶ So they answered Joshua, saying, “All that you command us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. ¹⁷ Just as we heeded Moses in all things, so we will heed you. Only the Lord your God be with you, as He was with Moses.



Rom 8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

2 Tim 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Heb 13:6 So we may boldly say: “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?” (Ps 118:6)

Cowardice can actually keep us from God's Kingdom

Rev 21:8 But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

Heb 10:27,31 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. ...
³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.