

# **The Spirit of Fear**

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**Scripture References: Is. 55, 2 Cor. 4:18, 2 Tim. 1:7, I Jn. 4:18**

Praise the Lord! It's another new year! Another year to do something for the Kingdom of God and to help people! We pray that this will be your focus for this year because it will be a year filled with fear. You must not allow the spirit of fear to stop that which the Spirit of the Lord has put in your heart to do. It is our hope at CCI that you will make a quality decision to wake up every day with the foremost thought being to fulfill the will of the Lord for your life – to “preach the gospel to the poor” with finances, food and clothing – to free the captives with the Word of the Lord – to fulfill the call of God for your life.

I've dealt with many spirits in my lifetime of ministry and I must say that the spirit of fear is probably the most powerful – not in dealing with – actually the spirit of fear is a weak spirit that can be sent packing in a few minutes of anointed prayer. The Spirit of fear is one of the servient spirits and as such it does not possess much power on its own; however, it is reinforced by the Principalities and Powers and it works with almost all other spirits. As such this spirit is more often than not able to influence people to do the opposite of what the Holy Spirit wants them to do.

I believe its power to influence people, especially Christians, is one of the reasons we see the words “Fear not” so many times in the

Scriptures. But the spirit of fear must be defeated once and for all in your life if you expect to do anything for the Lord and that is why the Lord is having me write about it – He wants you to lead a productive, spiritual life and not be intimidated or bound by the spirit of fear because it will certainly be used against you to stop the prophecies the Lord has spoken about that He wants to use you to accomplish in these closing days of human history.

## **Gideon**

Judges is an interesting book; it deals with a repetitive cycle that shows how God deals with the human race and in particular His covenant people. It is a cycle that takes years to complete because the human race, even God's own people who should know Him better, doesn't seem to learn how God operates. That is one reason our nation is in the shape it's in – you can't blame the sinners even though there are more of them and they've gotten worse. No, God blames His covenant people because He has placed us here "for such a time as this" and expects us to stand with Him and the Holy Angels in spiritual warfare. But instead of this most ministries today are simply "fund raisers"; they use every opportunity and email to raise money. But unless we can break the cycle then all the money in the world will not make a difference.

It is important for you to give; it's a commandment from the Lord but you should do so through prayer and not the spirit of Balaam manipulating you. Brother Littlefield, who I've quoted often in my messages and writing, has gone on to be with the Lord but he had a ministry to the poor in Cleveland, Tennessee for many years. One thing Brother Littlefield told me that I've never forgotten (because he was 79 at the time in 1985 and thus was speaking from a long life of ministry), he said, "Brother Philip, the biggest problem I see with Christians is that they're selfish. Always try to find somebody to help each day."

The “cycle” of human behavior pictured in Judges which must be broken for us to truly lead productive lives is: (1) **rebellion** – we break covenant with God by rebelling against His commands; (2) **retribution** – God waits for a specific period of time in His mercy but He must judge rebellion just as the Book of Hebrews reminds us that only an illegitimate father never disciplines his sons and daughter; (3) **repentance** – when His people called by His Name finally realize that they are under judgment and they cannot blame the government, etc., then they repent. We see Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah and many others praying and repenting for the sins of the people even though they themselves were not guilty of the sins; (4) **restoration** – the Lord restores us and forgives our sin and the sins of our land.

Gideon is a wonderful example that the Lord wants you to consider this New Year so that you can be encouraged yourself that He is able to use you because Gideon was a humble man – his words when the Angel of the Lord appeared to him with a message from the Lord reveal as much because of the way he answered. Gideon is a clear Scriptural example of James 5:17 – “Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.”

You see, the Lord wants you to realize that *you* can do it! You can do what He’s called you to do! The only thing that can stop you is the spirit of fear telling you that you can’t; you’re too insignificant; too poor; too this and too that. But God says that you’re no different than Elijah was. We all know how mightily God used Elijah and yet when we read this verse in James we understand that Elijah was no different than you or I – in the *flesh* he was weak! But in the Spirit and by the Spirit he was strong!

In our ministry we encounter the spirit of fear operating in Christians every single week, especially if they contact us for help in

deliverance ministry because the spirit of fear *always* manifests to stop people from being delivered from demon power operating in their lives.

And you can rest assured that if you don't conquer the spirit of fear in your own life then it will dominate you and destroy the life and ministry God has planned for you. The Lord showed me back in the late '70s when I began praying for a lot of people with cancer that one of the reasons *why* cancer is such a killer, even among God's covenant people, is because the main demon that works with cancer is the spirit of fear.

Now I want to help you conquer the spirit of fear once and for all in your life. The way you do it is just like you do any other spirit – you do it by being an overcomer through “the Blood of the Lamb and the word of your testimony.” You do it just like you overcome any demonic force that attacks you or your family! You respond not according to the circumstance or disease but according to the Word – your testimony must always be in faith aligned with the Word! Otherwise you will never be an overcomer. This revelation has set many people I've known free.

Another way you defeat the spirit of fear is by becoming “perfect” or mature in love (cf. I John 4:18). The Bible plainly says that “perfect love casteth out fear” and that “he that feareth is not made perfect in love.” Most Christians have *heart* issues that keep them from becoming perfect in the area of love. Jesus is such a wonderful example to us of this principle during His time with His disciples upon the earth which we can observe in the Gospels.

Many Full-gospel ministers I've known over the years have forgotten this simple verse of the Scriptures:

“For God hath not give us a spirit of fear; but of power

And of love and of a sound mind.” ♥ II Timothy 1:7

I have a tendency to respond to Christians and ministers after they've mentioned some problem they're having, "Well, what does the Word say?" It's only the Word and our meditation in God's Word that causes us to have the "sound mind" that God desires for us in this verse of Scripture. And make no mistake the mind and soul (emotions) are the battleground for the devil and his demons.

"Brother Timmons, the doctors say I've got colon cancer." What does the Word say? I dealt with the spirit of cancer quite a bit in the Second Edition of *Mysterious Secrets of the Dark Kingdom* because of the many times we've fought this spirit and defeated it and because the Lord told me in 1980 that the devil was going to put cancer on more and more Christians.

I pointed out how the spirit of cancer and fear working together cause a person to do the opposite of the Scriptures, specifically 2 Corinthians 4:18 as an example. The Apostle Paul by the Spirit of God wrote:

"While we look not at the things which are seen, but at  
The things are not seen: for the things which are not  
Seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen  
Are eternal." ♥ 2 Corinthians 4:18

The devil attacks us in our minds and emotions through his spirits of fear, suicide, etc. and he can only win the battle if we allow ourselves to not respond with "What does the Word say?"

I've actually known a number of Christians who died prematurely with cancer because they just could not obey 2 Cor. 4:18 – they did the opposite of what this verse recommends – they continued to “look” at the things that are seen, i.e., the cancer tumors, even when they knew in their bodies and spirits that they were healed and that the *spirit of cancer* was gone. By continuing to focus on the “things seen” – the tumors – they allowed the spirit of fear to bring cancer back upon their bodies and they died.

Any attack against you by the enemy is temporary! He brings it to get you to give in to the spirit of fear and not be an overcomer by the word of your testimony. Just remember, the Lord said, “My word will not return unto me void” (Is. 55:11). When we confess the Word over our lives and God causes us to prosper because it's the Word working in our lives with the Spirit of God that brings about the purpose of God. By being both doers and hearers of the Word and responding to every attack of the enemy with “What does the Word say?” we can defeat the spirit of fear in our lives once and for all. I'd encourage you to spend some time not only meditating in the Word on this principle but also praying about it for revelation from God. The stronger your faith is in the Word, the weaker the spirit of fear will be in your life.