

THE SPIRIT OF THE FEAR OF THE LORD

By Apostle J.P. Timmons

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Last year I wrote an article about the spirit of fear—it's one of the most pervasive and damaging spirits Satan has in his arsenal of evil spirits to send to the human race. That's one of the reasons we see the words, "Fear not," given by God to His people throughout the Scriptures. And the Bible plainly tells us that "God has not given us the spirit of fear" so we know it comes from the Dark Kingdom.

Now because the Evil Government of Satan is a counterfeit of God's kingdom we know that there is a godly form of the *spirit of fear* and the Lord's been teaching me about this for many years. Frankly, learning this aspect about God makes it *far* easier to see the operation of *religious* spirits, one of the most numerous groups of terrestrial demons found on our planet—they are everywhere, even in your church!

As I've written and preached many times, the most shocking thing the Lord Jesus ever said to me was in October, 1991, during a time of worship. He said, "You say when ministering in churches that the number one problem in the Church is that they don't believe the Bible and that's true but another problem equally as bad is that the Church is not being led by the Holy Spirit—it's being led by religious spirits."

At CCI over the years we have dealt with every kind of demon including Satan himself on many occasions and we have a saying in Africa, "You are always on the battle field." Now when you're on the battle field just like a physical army it's important for you to be able to recognize the enemy, right? That's why the war against terror has been especially difficult for America and other nations—most of the insurgents aren't wearing uniforms so it's difficult to ascertain who the enemy is until perhaps it's too late and they put a bullet in you.

This same analogy can be said about religious spirits. Unless you have dealt with them a lot (and if you have more often than not the anointing on your life will cause them to manifest) or you have a very good gift of Discerning of Spirits (I Cor. 12), which is one of the three revelation gifts given by the Holy Spirit, then you will not be able to *see* a religious spirit operating in a Christian.

The great Apostle Paul obviously experienced and wrote about Satan's ability to transform himself into an "angel of light." What does that mean? It's obvious isn't it? He is able to camouflage himself to look like the real thing. This is precisely what religious spirits do. They operate under the authority of a Principality, Apollyon, who is both a celestial and terrestrial demon that ranks just below Satan in spiritual authority in the Dark Kingdom.

Now, the reason it's important for you to understand these basic facts about religious spirits is to better understand and recognize the Holy Spirit from a religious spirit because the religious spirit operating in a person does not fear God! This is quite plain from the Gospels. The Pharisees, Sadducees and Lawyers were standing there talking to God in the Person of Jesus Christ yet they not only did not "fear" Him but they reviled Him!

Now I want you to open your Bibles to two places: Revelation 4 in the New Testament and Isaiah 11 in the Old Testament. These are the two key texts for understanding the Spirit of Fear of the Lord.

"And from the throne proceed flashes of lightning and Sounds and peals of thunder. And there were seven lamps Of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God;" ■ Revelation 4:5

**“Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse,
And a branch from his roots will bear fruit. And the Spirit of
the LORD will rest on Him, the Spirit of wisdom and
Understanding , the Spirit of counsel and strength, the
Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.” ■ Isaiah 11:1-
2**

**So here in Isaiah we have a clearer description of the Seven-
fold Spirit of God mentioned in Revelation 4 and we also
learn that these Seven Spirits of God “will rest on Him,” i.e.,
this descendant of Jesse, David’s father, called here and by
other prophets of the Old Covenant, “The Branch.” Clearly,
this is a reference to the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed
One, Jesus.**

**And while it’s important to recognize that the number seven
in Scripture is symbolic of completion, we must understand
that these seven distinct characteristics of the Holy Spirit
are dominant—they demonstrate His genuine presence in
the life of a believer. So I want you to notice specifically
that Jesus Himself was anointed with the Spirit of Fear of
the LORD. Isn’t that interesting? And if you continue on
reading in Isaiah you will find in 11:3 an even more curious
and emphatic statement:**

“And He will delight in the fear of the LORD”

Jesus Himself will be so full of the Spirit of Fear of the LORD that He will delight in it! And if you continue on reading you will understand some of what it means to “delight in the fear of the LORD.” IF we are truly possessed with the Spirit of Fear of the LORD and fear God, like Jesus we will “judge with righteousness,” i.e., by the Spirit and not by “what the eyes see” or “the ears hear.” We will establish God’s justice in the land. We will save the oppressed and the poor. We will hate sin and we will be faithful to the Lord.

Now let’s look at some examples of this Holy Fear that manifests through the Spirit of Fear of the LORD. Turn to Acts 5.

“But a certain man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, and kept back some of The price for himself, with his wife’s full knowledge ...”

We are all familiar with this testimony; it is an example that the Lord gave me and even though this Scripture attributes their sin as “lying to the Holy Spirit” it is a manifestation of both pride and a religious spirit because they did not fear God.

I’ve said for over 30 years that you can learn something by prophesying. In Luke 1:46 *ff.* Mary begins to prophesy because the Spirit of the Lord comes upon her. This is often called “The Magnificat”; however, most Christians don’t

understand what is going on here—Mary is prophesying by the Spirit of the Lord. Notice v. 50: “And His mercy is upon generation after generation toward those who fear Him.”

There are scores of other scriptures that you should study in both the Old and New Testaments, including what Jesus Himself said about the Spirit of Fear of the Lord and I want to encourage you to do just that because you need to understand this because one of the “signs” in most churches today which amplifies the presence of religious spirits is there is no fear of God.

We especially see this on what is called Christian television. I’ve told Christians over the years and even ministers: “You must be serving a different God than I know; I’d be afraid to do what you just did.” This is especially manifested on all these Balaam networks with the manipulations, lies, etc. that they use to separate Christians from their money. Sad to say, many of these big name “ministers” will wake up to find that they’ve been left behind when Jesus comes for His Bride. What a sobering Day that will be! Hopefully, at that time they will repent but I doubt it. Most people who become possessed by a religious spirit cannot repent unless that spirit is cast out.

In the mid ‘90s during our time of being shut up with the Lord while He poured out much revelation about the false church Satan controls and religious spirits, the Lord began

to reveal to us that the Queen over the religious spirits that operate in the Church is Athaliah. “She” is not only a religious spirit but also a spirit of control and although she works with deceiving spirits through false teaching, doctrine, etc., to deceive her main purpose is to destroy the kingly anointing in a church! My brothers and sisters, if your church has no kingly anointing then it has no authority and no power! This is why most of Satan’s false churches have departed from the Word, the Bible, where our authority comes from.

Remember, even Jesus Himself—our example if we have the Eye of the Eagle—did not argue with Satan about anything. He exercised His Kingly anointing by quoting the Word! “It is written ...” Praise God! And if the Church could ever get a hold of this and begin to believe Psalm 119:89, “Forever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven” their days of sickness and defeat would be over! Remember, the centurion Jesus commended for having greater faith than anyone in Israel recognized this spiritual fact—Jesus exercised His kingly anointing by the spoken word.

One big difference between the original churches depicted as our pattern in the Book of Acts and most churches today is simply this—they feared the Lord! And as a result, they grew.

“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.” ■ Acts 9:31

Are you “living in the fear of the Lord?” Most Christians are not; that’s why I wrote in *Revelations from God* that the *Doctrine of Eternal Security* has been responsible for sending more people to hell than any other—people who thought they were covered by the Blood of the Lamb. I still stand by that statement.

Evelyn remembers well one night in Elliston, Montana, in 1998 when the Spirit of the Lord came on me very strongly as we were praying at 7 P.M. that night and He said: “Many thought they were safe and secure but they were cast into outer darkness.”

I trust that you will reexamine your own life and that of your pastor and other Christians that you know who may not be living a life that demonstrates that they are possessed with the true Holy Spirit because the real Holy Spirit contains as part of His makeup the Spirit of Fear of the Lord.