

CONQUERING THE SPIRIT OF FEAR

Pastor's Bible Hour – November 16, 2008

Tabernacle of Praise – Pastor G. Richardson

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1Jn 4:18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

MANS SIX BASIC FEARS:

1. The fear of Poverty
2. The fear of Criticism
3. the fear of ill Health
4. The fear of the loss of a love from someone you love
5. The fear of old age
6. The fear of Death

FEAR HAS A WAY TO PARALIZE A PERSON

1Pe 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

1Pe 5:9 **Whom resist steadfast in the faith**, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

As a Roaring Lion: (A Lion Roars loud to paralyze his prey) His rage, malice, and cruelty, which he breathes out against the saints, who, though he cannot destroy them, will do all he can to terrify and affright them.

1Sa 17:11 When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

Luk 21:26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

Luk 21:27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

Psa 91:13 Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet

Psa 91:14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

Psa 91:15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I *will be* with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him.

Psa 91:16 With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.

1. **Word Tread means:** To stomp with an bad attitude

FEARS OF GREAT MEN

1. **Julius Caesar** was afraid of the sound of thunder. Always wanted to go underground to escape the dreadful noise.
2. **Peter the Great:** Could scarcely be persuaded to cross a bridge. Place his foot on one part of the bridge and would cry out for fear.
3. **Adolf Hitler said:** “Confusion, indecision and fear: These are my weapons.
4. **Franklin Roosevelt:** “There is nothing to be feared but fear itself.”
5. **Stalin** was constantly in fear of being poisoned or killed himself. He had 8 bedrooms which could be locked up like safes in a bank. Nobody ever knew in which of these 8 bedrooms where he slept in any given night.
6. **Jesus:** As a man he feared death

Heb 5:7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

7. **Gideon**: Told those that were fearful to go Home: “Whosoever is fearful and afraid let him return.”

Moses at the Red Sea: “Fear not, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord.

PSYCHOLOGISTS SAY:

1. **Psychologists**: Generally agree that four “demons” plague mankind: (1) Fear (2) Guilt (3) Inferiority Feelings (4) Hate.
2. **FEAR**: (1) Influences our Conduct (2) Fear influences our concepts which included (Our thinking, our mind, mental condition.)
3. **FEAR**: Affects (1) The Physical Man; The Emotional Man; and the Mental Man.
4. **Fear Manifests Itself**: In dread, anxiety, worry, apprehension, misgiving, distress, concern, tension, anguish, fretfulness.
5. **Fear Makes us Victims of our Problems**:
 - a. Peter walked on the water, until he began to think of his weakness rather than God’s Strength. Without hesitation, he stepped over the side of the boat and began to walk boldly toward Jesus. But somewhere between where he started and where he was going his attention shifted to the wind and the waves and he began to sink. Fear does this to us. When we begin to concentrate on our problems the larger they become.
6. **FEAR**: Can keep us from fulfilling God’s Will in our life and obeying the Word of God. And keep us from our best; (“Faith without works is dead” James 2:20).
 - a. Where there is not activity there is no faith. Because our faith is shown by our works. **Faith Produces an Action!**
 - b. The slothful servant said: “And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth” Matt. 25:25.

- c. How many beautiful songs have never been sung because the composer was afraid to share it with the world, perhaps afraid of rejection, criticism or afraid someone would laugh at his efforts?

FEAR IS A DAMAGING THING THAT KEEPS US FROM OUR VERY BEST, IT SHRINKS GOD TO THE SIZE OF OUR PROBLEMS AND UNDERMINES OUR FAITH AND CONFIDENCE.

GOD HATH NOT GIVEN US A SPIRIT OF FEAR

2Ti 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

2Ti 1:8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

2Ti 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear,.... A cowardly spirit, so as to be afraid of men or devils, of what they will say or do;

But of power - Power to encounter foes and dangers;
power to bear up under trials; power to triumph in persecutions. That is, it is the nature of the gospel to inspire the mind with holy courage; compare, however, Luk 24:49.

And of love - Love to God and to the souls of men. The tendency of This, also, is to “cast out fear” 1Jo 4:18, and to make the mind bold and constant.

IF YOU WANT THE SPIRITUAL GRAPES YOU HAVE TO KILL THE GIANTS

1. **Everyone has Giants in there lives to contend with and overcome.**

Num 13:27 And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.

Num 13:28 Nevertheless the people *be* strong that dwell in the land, and the cities *are* walled, *and* very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there.

Num 13:30 And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.

Num 13:31 But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they *are* stronger than we.

Num 13:32 And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it *are* men of a great stature.

Num 13:33 And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, *which come* of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

2. **They looked at their own abilities and there own strengths to fight the Giants instead of trusting in an all powerful God that had brought them through the Red Sea.**

OTHER EXAMPLES OF FEAR

1Sa 17:10 And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.

1Sa 17:11 When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, **they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.**

1. **A fear that lasted 40 days:**

1Sa 17:16 And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days.

2. **To overcome Fear we must feed our Faith and not our FEARS.** Fear is the big hindrance to faith and spiritual progress. Fear is paralyzing and a big hindrance to your victory

3. **Courage is not the absence of fear; it is the conquering of fear.**

Psa 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psa 46:2 Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

4. **Exchange your fears for faith:**

Heb 11:33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,
Heb 11:34 Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Heb 11:35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

GODLY FEARS

Means a Godly reverence and great respect for God and his commandments

Ecc 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man.

Ecc 12:14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil.

Psa 25:14 The secret of the LORD *is* with them that fear him; and he will show them his covenant.

Psa 27:1 *A Psalm* of David. 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?

Psa 27:2 When the wicked, *even* mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

Psa 27:3 Though a host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this *will I be* confident.