

Fear 8 Deadly Sins

We are faced with decisions each day in which we must decide what action is best. The decisions many times are based on the influence of fear. Is there “good” fear? Is there “bad” fear? Is some fear sinful against God? We will take a look at the scriptures and ourselves to see if there is any fear that should be in our lives.

Key Verse: Ecclesiastes 2:14, “I know that everything God does will remain forever; there is nothing to add to it, there is nothing to take from it, for God has so worked that men should fear Him.

Old Testament Definitions

Yir'ah: Fear, terror, awesome or terrifying thing causing fear, fear (of God), respect, reverence, piety, revered; usually used in reference to the fear of the Lord.

Yare': To be fearful, be dreadful, be feared; to cause astonishment and awe, be held in awe; to inspire reverence or godly fear or awe

Proverbs 9:10, “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.”

New Testament Definitions

Deilos: Adjective: timid, fearful, faithless, cowardliness

Phobeō: To put to flight by terrifying (to scare away); to flee; be afraid; to be struck with amazement; to reverence, venerate, to treat with deference or reverential obedience

Christ calms the sea in Mark 4:35-41

- Text uses Deilos
- Disciples look at what they saw and reacted.
- Fear vs. Faith
- If Christ had never been awakened, would the ship have made it to the other side in the raging storm?

Steph Curry 3-Pointer!

Judgment

- Revelation 21:7-8, lists those who will not share in inheriting eternal life
- Text uses Deilos.
- Barnes' Commentary Notes: “The ‘fearful’ denote those who had not firmness boldly to maintain their professed principles, or who were afraid to avow themselves as the friends of God in a wicked world.”

Proverbs References

- Proverbs 9:10, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”
- Proverbs 29:25 “The fear of man brings a snare, but he who trusts in the LORD will be exalted.”
- Deuteronomy 10:21, “ You shall fear the Lord your God; and shall serve Him and cling to Him....”

Mis-Directed Fear

Too often we place fear where it does not belong.

- Fear of man/ people
 - Isaiah 51:12

Fear Cause Us to Make Decisions That Are Against God’s Plan

- Israelite spies viewing the Promised Land, Numbers 13:27-28, 33

Fear Because of Sin

- Adam’s fear caused him to hide from God’s presence
 - Gen 3:10, “And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.”
 - Godly fear, even resulting from our sins and failures, must move us back to God asking forgiveness versus allowing it to drive us away from Him.

Fear of Persecution

- Christ tells his disciples not to fear people and persecution and to place their fear in the right place: Matthew 10:26-30
 - His eye is on the sparrow....
 - Standing in awe/ fearing God and showing reverence to Him because of who He is, what He has done and what He can do!

Fear and Anxiety of Daily Needs

- Don’t be anxious about your life: What you are going to eat, drink and wear. “But seek first his kingdom and His righteousness and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore, do not be anxious for tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” Matthew 6:33-34
- Baloo

Common themes among each “Deadly Sin”

1. Focus is on the self (“I”)

- *Pride, Lust, Greed, Gluttony, Envy, Anger, Sloth, Fear*

Strategies for Battling Fear in our Lives

1. You have to have Faith.
 - “Without faith it is impossible to please God.” Hebrews 11:6

- Faith is placing your hope in things unseen. Hebrews 11:1
 - “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”
- Build on your faith as a foundation:

2 Peter 1:5-8, “Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

2. Keep your fear “right-directed”.
 - Psalm 56:3 “When I am afraid, I will put my trust in You.” – David

Prayer: Psalm 139:23-24, “Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; And see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way.”

Conclusion

Today we live in a world of constant uncertainty and chaos. Each day seems to bring a new crisis. When we are faced with the unknown, it is our prime time to focus on Christ who controls everything and who still speaks to this world saying, “Peace Be Still.”