

## **Introduction:**

A Biblical Definition

Many people do not fear God and Refuse to Change Their Ways

Our Actions Represent What We Believe

If you don't fear God Now ...

Why Fear God

When We Walk Too Far the Wrong Way, Our Actions Prove We are Out of Sync

God Requires Us to Fear Him So He can Equip Us to Fear Him

**Our Text:** [Isa 2:17-22 KJV] 17 And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day. 18 And the idols he shall utterly abolish. 19 And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth. 20 In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made [each one] for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; 21 To go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of his majesty, when he ariseth to shake terribly the earth. 22 Cease ye from man, whose breath [is] in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?

[Isa 2:22 NLT] 22 Don't put your trust in mere humans. They are as frail as breath. What good are they? (Only Trust your gut when the Holy Spirit is your gut.)

## **A Biblical Definition of Fear towards God**

[Pro 8:13 KJV] 13 The fear of the LORD [is] to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

[Pro 8:13 NLT] 13 All who fear the LORD will hate evil. Therefore, I hate pride and arrogance, corruption and perverse speech.

## **Pastor's Thoughts on Godly Fear**

God is a God of Mercy, a God of Grace, and a God of Justice

I deserve everlasting punishment for my sins

God is going to give everlasting punishment to all sinners who do not repent

I know God can and will cast all sinners into eternal punishment

**Many Americans Do Not Fear God. They refuse to change their ways.**

[Jer 6:16, 19 KJV] 16 Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where [is] the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk [therein]. ... 19 Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, [even] the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it.

## **God has Never Not Been in Charge.**

[Psa 55:19 NLT] 19 God, who has ruled forever, will hear me and humble them.  
Interlude For my enemies refuse to change their ways; they do not fear God.

## **Many Christians Do Not Fear God. They refuse to change their ways.**

[2Co 7:1 KJV] 1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

[Deu 32:51 NLT] 51 For both of you betrayed me with the Israelites at the waters of Meribah at Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin. You failed to demonstrate my holiness to the people of Israel there.

[Rom 6:22 NLT] 22 But now you are free from the power of sin and have become slaves of God. Now you do those things that lead to holiness and result in eternal life.

[1Co 7:14 NLT] 14 For the Christian wife brings holiness to her marriage, and the Christian husband brings holiness to his marriage. Otherwise, your children would not be holy, but now they are holy.

[Heb 3:12 KJV] 12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

Cleanse your mind and your Spirit through God's Word

## **Slide 13. Proper Fear of God affects your actions.**

[Lev 25:17 KJV] 17 Ye shall not therefore oppress one another; but thou shalt fear thy God: for I [am] the LORD your God.

[Pro 16:6 KJV] 6 By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD [men] depart from evil.

## **Excuses**

God will Understand. God knows I cannot do it. God's Mercy will get me through.

I'm a good person.

## **Everyone will Meet God One Day. It will be worth it to Fear God. If you Don't Fear God Now ...**

[Isa 66:2, 5 KJV] 2 For all those [things] hath mine hand made, and all those [things] have been, saith the LORD: **but to this [man] will I look, [even] to [him that is] poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.** ... 5 Hear the word of the LORD, ye that **tremble** at his word; Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the LORD be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed.

## **We Learn to Fear God through the Holy Spirit's Teaching**

[Deu 4:10 KJV] 10 [Specially] the day that thou stoodest before the LORD thy God in Horeb, when the LORD said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and [that] they may teach their children.

## **Fear of God is a Requirement.**

[Deu 10:12 KJV] 12 And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,

## **Proper Fear of God Brings God's Mercy.**

[Psa 103:11 KJV] 11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, [so] great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

[Pro 16:6 KJV] 6 By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD [men] depart from evil.

## **God Plainly Shows Us Why We Should Fear Him. God has never Not Been In Total Control.**

[Ecc 3:14 KJV] 14 I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth [it], that [men] should fear before him.

[Ecc 3:14 NLT] 14 And I know that whatever God does is final. Nothing can be added to it or taken from it. God's purpose is that people should fear him.

## **Slide 19. With God, Punishment is Certain**

[Hos 5:9 NLT] 9 One thing is certain, Israel: On your day of punishment, you will become a heap of rubble.

## **If We Believe God's Judgment is Certain**

Our risk will measure up

## **Actions represent our Beliefs**

### **When We Walk too Far the Wrong Way**

[Isa 29:10-13 KJV] 10 For the LORD hath poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and hath closed your eyes: the prophets and your rulers, the seers hath he covered. 11 And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which [men] deliver to one that is learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I cannot; for it [is] sealed: 12 And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned. 13 Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near [me] with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:

[Isa 29:13 NLT] 13 And so the Lord says, "These people say they are mine. They honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. And their worship of me is nothing but man-made rules learned by rote.

[Rom 1:18-19, 21, 24 KJV] 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; 19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed [it] unto them. ... 21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified [him] not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. ... 24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

[Rom 1:18-19, 21, 24 NLT] 18 But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness. 19 They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. ... 21 Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. ... 24 So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other's bodies.

### **The Foundation of True Godly Wisdom is ...**

[Pro 1:7 KJV] 7 The fear of the LORD [is] the beginning of knowledge: [but] fools despise wisdom and instruction.