



No. 1

FEAR: THE ENEMY'S WEAPON

The origin of fear

Genesis 3:8-10

"They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. Then the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself."

This was the first time mankind experienced fear and shame. With sin, fear entered the world. Mankind was indwelt by the sinful nature. The moment Adam was spiritually separated from God, fear entered his soul.

At the cross, Jesus paid for our sins to set us free from fear. He sent His Holy Spirit to indwell us in order to nullify the sinful nature. As believers, we are no longer spiritually separated from God.

This is why God expects us to reject fear, worry and anxiety - even the fear of death has been removed from us. Jesus has reversed what Adam did at the fall. For Christians to permit fear in their lives, is to deny the sacrifice of Jesus at the Cross and the new identity in Christ we have been given.

2 Timothy 1:7

"for God did not give to us a spirit of fearfulness but of power and of a divine and self-sacrificial love and of a sound mind."

This Scripture gives us extensive insight: 1. it points to the power and authority of the Holy Spirit in us to overcome the spirit of fear; 2. it points to the divine self-sacrificial love of God bestowed on us to love others as Jesus loves us; and 3. it also points to our having a sound mind, the mind of Christ.

1 Corinthians 2:16

For who has come to know experientially the Lord's mind, he who will instruct Him? But as for us, Christ's mind we have.

This covers all we need in order to live without fear, worry or anxiety. Knowing fear is from the devil and that God has given us everything we need in order to conquer it, there are only a few reasons why a Christian suffers the torment of fear:

- 1) Ignorance
- 2) Wrong doctrine
- 3) Lack of faith (fear will attack your faith)
- 4) Being the victim, apathy, i.e. no willingness to fight the devil's attack

John 8:31-32

"Then Jesus was saying to the Jews who, having believed Him, were at the moment maintaining that attitude of faith, As for you, if you remain in the word which is mine, truly, my disciples you are. And you shall know the truth in an experiential way, and the truth shall make you free."

This is not a slogan, the truth is mighty when we receive it by faith and apply it to have the experiential knowledge of our victory over the enemy by the power of the Holy Spirit and God's Word.

We need indignation. We need to get aggressive with the devil who wants to steal our peace and faith and keep us in bondage through fear, worry and anxiety. WE JUST NEED TO DECLARE **"IT IS WRITTEN"** with authority and conviction. It is God's power, not ours.

The repercussions of fear:

Fear steals your peace and joy
Fear leads you to make wrong decisions
Fear brings defeat
Fear is a spirit of darkness that will oppress you
Fear brings unbelief and doubt
Fear will affect relationships
Fear will affect your relationship with God, it takes away clarity
Fear will open the door to other bondages such as rejection, shame, guilt, etc
Fear will ignite pride, the flesh, because fear comes from the sinful nature
Fear is the opposite of faith and hope
Fear is torment
Fear will affect your conscience
Fear brings confusion
Fear will affect your health, i.e. first your soul and then in time, your body
Fear takes away courage and boldness
Fear takes away God's wisdom
Fear makes you rely on self for protection
Fear is meditating on the devil's works
Fear is negative and will cause our brains to produce toxic chemicals that are destructive and unhealthy

TO ENTERTAIN FEAR MEANS DISOBEYING GOD'S WORD

Fear is the opposite of Faith. Faith is listening to God; fear is listening to the devil.

This awareness should bring us to the point of resolve where we totally refuse to embrace fear, worry or anxiety. Fear will lead you in the wrong direction, and ultimately, to the wrong destination.

Fear and worries take away God's wisdom! It is interesting how many Christians meditate on the message of Satan, that is: "YOU NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THIS SITUATION!" As if worrying would "fix the problem". Worrying has never fixed a problem, rather, it makes it worse, even impossible, to solve without God's wisdom. Once we start worrying, we disconnect ourselves from God's wisdom. We can't find God's wisdom in the devil's message.

1 John 4:18

"Fear does not exist in the sphere of the aforementioned love (God's divine unconditional love). Certainly, this aforementioned love which exists in its completed state throws fear outside, because this fear has a penalty, and the one who fears has not been brought to completion in the sphere of this love, and is not in that state at present."

This Scripture shows us God's love has the power to **eliminate** fear. Our part is to receive, embrace and experience the divine, sacrificial, unconditional love of God which brings faith, hope, security and boldness. This is the power of the Holy Spirit in us.

Romans 5:5

"And this hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts and still floods them through the agency of the Holy Spirit who was given to us".

Living with fear is a display of lack of faith in God's Word and gives credit to the devil's lies. Jesus has made us conquerors. It is the Holy Spirit's power, not ours. God delights in seeing His children experience the abundant life in Christ.