

Walking In the Fear Of The Lord

Preamble

- It was back in January that I felt the Lord speak to me about this Sunday and what I ought to speak to us as a Church family.
- That's rare to have something so far in advance.
- I am speaking the same message at Authentic as for those watching across our different locations today

Story about treasure and the key to the treasure

First couple of years of marriage we had two experiences

- First one was MacDonald's running a promotion using scratch cards when you bought a meal. You needed two matching scratch cards to win.
 - we had one for £50,000 and didn't pay much attention to it. But a week later we had another matching scratch card for £50,000
 - But we couldn't find the first ticket anywhere
- The other was Hula Hoops - if you had a square solid hula you win £100,000
- Esther ate it and then we realised what was on the packet.

Treasure available but there was a key to unlocking the treasure

Treasure Key - The Fear Of The Lord

He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure. **Isaiah 33:6**

In that day he will be your sure foundation, providing a rich store of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge. The fear of the LORD will be your treasure. **Isaiah 33:6 NLT**

- He will be the sure foundation
- A rich store of salvation
- Wisdom, knowledge
- The Fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure
- The Fear of the Lord is the treasure

Praise the Lord. Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands. [2] Their children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. [3] Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever. [4] Even in darkness light dawns for the upright, for those who are gracious and compassionate and righteous. [5] Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice. [6] Surely the righteous will never be shaken; they will be remembered forever. [7] They will have no fear of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord. [8] Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. **Psalms 112:1-8**

Fear of The Lord - *Reverence* in response to revelation. The only appropriate response to him. It's *submission*. A submissive attitude towards God is an expression of the Fear of The Lord. It's *Awe*

- It's a result of seeing, experiencing the Glory of God
- it's not a natural fear
- It's not a demonic fear
- It's not a fear of people

Story of a disagreement on social media that we are know in the New Testament, New Covenant and we don't need the Fear of the Lord

If only we knew the power of your anger! Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due. [12] Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. [13] Relent, Lord! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants. [14] Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. **Psalm 90:11-14**

- We live with the Fear of the Lord and we live satisfied in his love

The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous. **Psalm 19.9**

- It's pure, clean and it endures for ever

But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, **Psalm 33.18**

Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice with trembling. **Psalm 2:11**

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**

Some of the Rewards

1. Wisdom Begins

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction. **Proverbs 1.7**

And he said to man, 'The fear of the Lord---that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding.' " **Job 28:28**

2. Taught by the Lord

Who, then, are those who fear the Lord? He will instruct them in the ways they should choose. **Psalm 25:12**

- God doesn't teach everybody
- He teaches on the basis of Character, humility
- Those who choose the fear of the Lord

3. God reveals secrets

The Lord confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them. **Psalm 25:14**

- In other words I consider you my friend
- You only share secrets with close friends

4. Long Life

The fear of the Lord adds length to life, but the years of the wicked are cut short. **Proverbs 10:27**

5. Confidence, Safety for Children, Spring of living water

The Fear-of-God builds up confidence, and makes a world safe for your children. [27] The Fear-of-God is a spring of living water so you won't go off drinking from poisoned wells.

Proverbs 14:26-27 MSG

6. A Satisfying Life

The fear of the LORD leads to life, And he who has it will abide in satisfaction; He will not be visited with evil. **Proverbs 19:23 NKJV**

Fear-of-God is life itself, a full life, and serene---no nasty surprises. **Proverbs 19:23 MSG**

7. Wealth, Honour & a satisfying life

Humility and the fear of the Lord bring wealth and honour and life. **Proverbs 22:4**

How to get the fear of The Lord

1. Choose - Ask God to impart it

..since they hated knowledge and did not choose to fear the Lord. **Proverbs 1:29**

My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, [2] turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, [3] and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, [4] and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, [5] then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. **Proverbs 2:1-5**

Four Conditions

1. Receive God's Word and treasure His commands
2. Incline your ear: Be teachable
3. Cry out / passionate prayer
4. Seek diligently / motivated search

Two rewards

1. You will understand the fear of the Lord
2. Find the knowledge of God

But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; [16] for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." [17] Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. **1 Peter 1:15-17**