

FEAR

CAUSES OF:

Disobedience: Genesis 3:10

Fear was a result because Adam and Eve saw they had been deceived by Satan, and were exposed to that death and punishment from which he had promised them an exemption. Sin does bring fear. Obedience results in peace.

Impending judgment: Hebrews 11:7

By his faith (Noah), he passed judgment and sentence on the world's unbelief. These people were full of fear when judgment came.

Persecution: John 20:19

The disciples were sitting in a locked room because of their fear of the Jews (following Christ's death and resurrection). What happened when they feared? Jesus (the Prince of Peace) came into the room. He brings peace.

Events of nature: Acts 27:17; 29

Paul: shipwrecked following a storm. They prayed and depended on God for deliverance.

Suspicion: Acts 9:26

Saul's reputation caused fear and suspicion among Christians. One of the friends God brought to Saul was Barnabas (Son of Encouragement...Acts 4:36) and he proved to be that for Saul. God has His way of bringing encouragement to us when we need it.

Uncertainty: 2 Corinthians 11:3

The Corinthians sincere devotion to Christ was being threatened by false teaching. Paul's fear was that they would be deceived as Eve was.

Final events: Luke 21:26

The word rendered failing commonly denotes "to die" and here it means that the terror would be so great that men would faint and be ready to die in view of the approaching calamities.

Death: Hebrews 2:15

Jesus came to free us from being held in bondage.

EFFECTS OF FEAR:

Demoralization: 1 Samuel 3:5-8

The Israelites became terrified and hid when they saw the Philistine army. When we forget who is on our side or see only our own resources, we tend to panic at the sight of the opposition.

Paralysis: Matthew 28:4

Soldiers seeing the Angel of the Lord. The resurrection of Christ is a subject of terror to servants of sin and a subject of consolation to His servants.

Silent Testimony: John 9:22

Parents of man born blind: They had a fear of being excommunicated from the Temple which was one of the severest forms of discipline administered by the synagogue.

OTHER REFERENCES:

Psalm 27:1-6

Fear will ultimately imprison us. Perfect love (which is Jesus Christ), the Lord our Light and salvation can liberate us. In this Psalm, the secret of his confidence is his delight in His communion with God.

Psalm 34:4

The solution to fear.

Proverbs 1:33

The man/woman who listens to Wisdom will dwell in safety, shall be safe and secure and be free of the fear of dread or evil.

Isaiah 35:3, 4

The Hebrew word for strengthen refers to the strength in the hand for grasping. Do not be fearful of heart: God will come with diving retribution.

Isaiah 41:10

Do not look at one another in dismay. His promise is to help and strengthen.

Romans 8:15

In contrast with the control of sin (which enslaves to the point of fear), believers receive the Spirit of sonship. The word "sonship" means "placing as a son". We do not need to be enslaved to sin or fear.

2 Timothy 1:7

Spirit of fear is not from God.

1 John 4:18 (of the future)

Love is not an affection which produces fear. His love quiets fear and gives confidence.

HIS PROMISES TO YOU: (Hide them in your heart....Use them as a weapon to fear)

Deuteronomy 31:8

The Lord always prepares the way before us, and He will come back and go with us. He knows that we can do nothing without Him and His promise is to never leave or forsake us. (Psalm 23:6)

Psalm 112:7

One who trusts in the Lord knows God governs the world and therefore our heart is firmly fixed. A fear of God (which is not be scared of Him) leads us to a fearless life.

Psalm 121:7, 8

Isaiah 43:2

Isaiah 45:2, 3

Hebrews 13:6

1 Peter 3:12, 13