

Doctrinal Studies

FEAR

I. FEAR DEFINED: Two types

- 1) As Beneficial, and to be encouraged – Legitimate Fear: Awe, Respect, Reverence
- 2) As a Detriment, and to be overcome – Illegitimate Fear: anxiety, distress, alarm, trepidation, dread, fright.

Ten Hebrew words for Fear - 8 verbs. In the NT there is a noun φόβος (PHOBOS) and the verb φοβέω (PHOBEO)

II. LEGITIMATE FEAR is used for occupation with Christ, construction of the spiritual house of the soul (2 Sam. 23:3; Neh. 5:9; Job 28:28; Ps. 19:9; Ps. 34:11; Prov. 1:7; Prov. 10:27; Prov. 15:16)

III. COURAGE OR LACK OF FEAR is a sign of Maturity (Ps. 3:6; Ps. 56:3,11; Heb. 11:27 *"By faith [Moses] forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king."*, Heb. 13:5,6).

IV. LOVE IS THE ABSENCE OF FEAR (I John 4:18 – Literal translation: *"Fear is not in love, but perfect love casts out the fear, because fear has punishment, and the one fearing has not been perfected in love."*).

Doctrinal Studies (Continued)

FEAR

- If we are characterized by fear, we will be cut off from the triumphant and victorious life.
- If we are properly related to God, there is the continuation of the casting out of fear.
- Fear brings about punishment, and the one fearing (perfect passive participle means the fearful one has become the *passive recipient* of fear) has not been perfected in love.
- The verb *perfected* in I John 4:18 is the perfect active infinitive of τελειωω (TELEIOO).

GREAT SCRIPTURES ON FEAR

Ps. 34:11 *“Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.”*

Ps. 19: 9 *“The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true; they are righteous altogether.”*

Gen. 42:18 *“Now Joseph said to them on the third day, “Do this and live, for I fear God:”*

Ps. 23:4b *“... I fear no evil for thou art with me...”*

I John 4:18 *“Fear is not in love, but perfect love casts out the fear, because fear has punishment, and the one fearing has not been perfected in love.”*

2 Cor. 11:3 *“But I fear, that as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be corrupted from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.”*

Gen. 15:1 *“... Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; your reward shall be very great.”*

The Lord does not want us to be frustrated and confused, fearful... *Fear Isn't Necessary.*