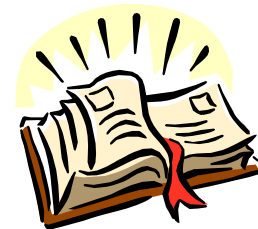




## Fear of the Lord – Part 2

- Tonight's Lesson
- 1. Review from previous Fear of the Lord session
  - Who had it (in God's Word)
  - The FotL as a watershed
  - What the Fear of the Lord is not
  - What it is
- 2. Proverbs 1:7 "The Chief Part"
- 3. Benefits of the Fear of the Lord from David (Psalms)
- 4. Fear of the Lord in the NT
- 5. Fear of the Lord and Love
- 6. "How do you get the Fear of the Lord"?

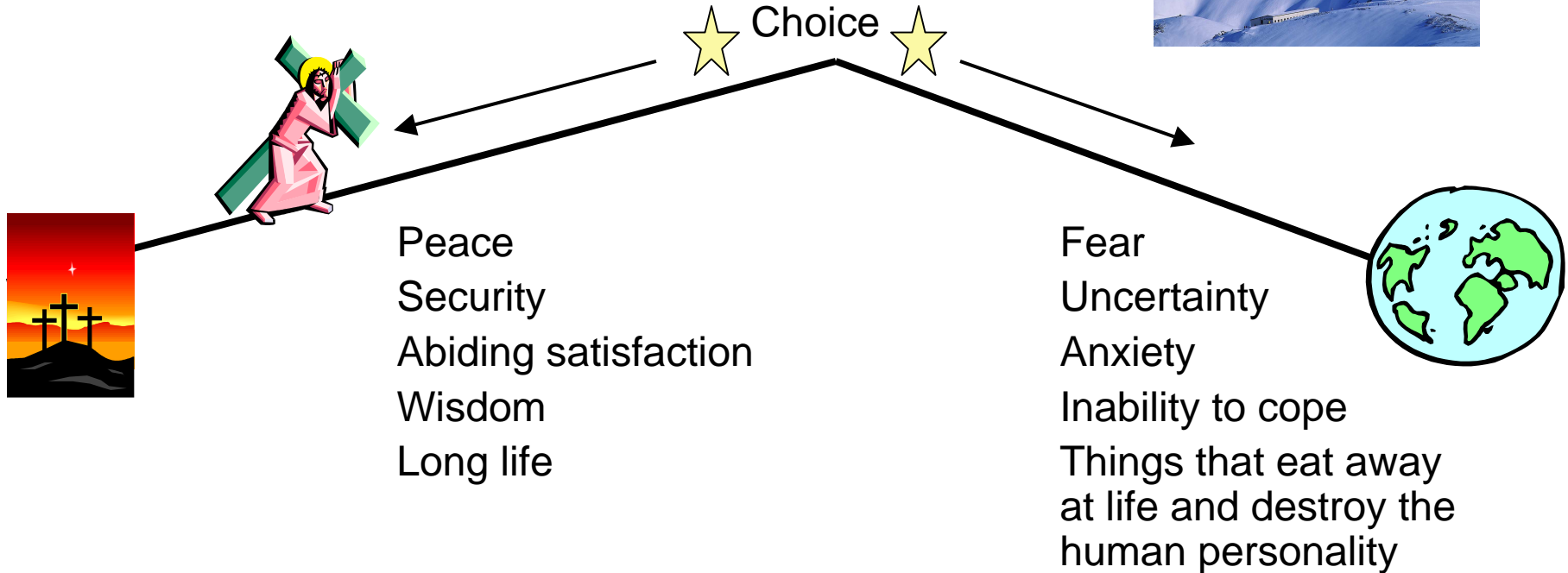


## Fear of the Lord – Part 2

- Who had the fear of the Lord?
  1. Abraham Gen. 20:12
  2. Isaac Gen. 31:42
  3. Jacob Gen. 28:17
  4. Midwives Ex. 1:17
  5. Joseph Gen. 42:18
  6. Levi Mal. 2:4-5
  7. David Ps 34:11
  8. Isaiah Isa. 6:5
  9. Cornelius Acts 10:2
  10. Solomon Prov. 1:7
  11. Paul II Cor. 5:11
  12. Jesus Isa. 11:1-3

# Fear of the Lord

- The Fear of the Lord is a watershed of life.  
(flows in opposite directions with opposite destinations)



# Fear of the Lord

- What the fear of the Lord is not:

1. Natural fear:

- o thunder and lightning
- o taking a final exam
- o my experience as an ice cream salesman
- o phobias – the dark, heights, spiders, snakes, etc.
- o child – fear of punishment for wrongdoing



2. Fear taught by men Isa. 29:13

Cults – “If you’re not a member of our church...”

3. Fear of man –

- o fear of what man thinks –being a man-pleaser
- o fearing the look of rejection (looking for man’s acceptance)



Is it possible to please God and not man? e.g. Noah, Jeremiah  
Prophets of the OT were generally not accepted by man.

## Fear of the Lord

- a profound sense of **awe**, **reverence** and **respect** towards God coupled with a **great appreciation and acknowledgement** of who He is and what He does which leads to worship.
- Awe: an emotion in which dread, veneration and wonder are mingled in various ways. (e.g. women at the tomb)
- Awe: submissive and admiring fear inspired by authority
- Awe: a fearful reverence inspired by deity. (e.g. Jacob, Peter)

### Examples:

1. Gen. 28:16-17 Jacob at Bethel (“afraid”)
2. Matt. 28:8 the women were afraid yet filled with joy.
3. Luke 5:1-11 Peter and the catch of fish



## Fear of the Lord



- Prov. 1:7 The chief part, the soul of Godliness

From the amplified Bible: “The reverent and worshipful fear of the Lord is the beginning and the principal and choice part of knowledge (its starting point and its essence)

(Note: Ps 111:10 says the same thing about wisdom.) and adds “the prerequisite and the alphabet”

Theological dictionary includes “necessary condition”

**It is that substance or quality from which all things are constructed.**

### Illustration of the alphabet



From earlier scriptures – our life, our worship, our service must be infused with godly fear.

Just as every word we form is constructed from letters of the alphabet, so every choice, every word and every action coming from us should be influenced, suffused, permeated, constructed with the fear of the Lord.

**It is not by accident that the fear of the Lord is called the beginning of wisdom.**

# Fear of the Lord in David (Psalms)

- Benefits of the Fear of the Lord

1. Ps 25:12 "...is the man who fears the Lord? He will **instruct him** in the way chosen for him."
2. 25:14 "The Lord **confides in** those who fear him. He **makes his covenant known** to them."
3. 31:19 "How great is your **goodness**, which you have stored up for those who fear you."
4. 34:9 "Those who fear him **lack nothing**."
5. 85:9 "His **salvation is near** those who fear Him,..."
6. 103:11 "As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is **His love** for those who fear Him."
7. 103:13 "As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord **has compassion** on those who fear Him."
8. 103:17 "...the Lord's **love is with** those who fear Him."
9. 111:5 "He **provides food** for those who fear Him."
10. 115:11 "...He is **their help and shield** (protection)."
11. 147:11 "The Lord **delights in** those who fear Him."



## Fear of The Lord in the New Testament

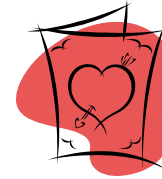
1. Heb. 12:25-28 "...let us have grace by which we may serve God acceptably with **reverence and godly fear.**" (~ 60 AD)
2. Acts 10:35 "But in every nation, whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him." (*spoken after the birth of the church*)
3. Acts 13:16 "Men of Israel and you who fear God..." (Peter speaking to Cornelious and his household) (*after Pentecost*)
4. II Cor 7:1 "...cleanse ourselves...perfecting holiness in the fear of God" (*Paul writing to the Corinthians about 56 AD*)
5. Eph. 5:21 "...submitting to one another in the fear of God." (~ 60AD)
6. Col. 3:22 "Bondservants, obey in all things..., but in sincerity of heart, fearing God." (~ 60AD)
7. I Pet 1:17 "...conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear..." (~ 60-62AD)
8. I Pet 2:17 "...Love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.
9. Revelation: ~ 95 AD
  - 11:18 "those who fear your name"
  - 14:7 "Fear God and give glory to Him."
  - 15:4 "Who shall not fear you...for you alone are holy."
  - 19:5 "...and those who fear Him both great and small
10. Isa. 11: Jesus had and delighted in the fear of the Lord. (prophetic passage)



## Fear of the Lord

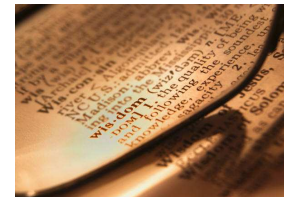
- Conclusions Regard the Fear of the Lord in the NT:
  1. Jesus had it and demonstrated it in His relationship with the father
  2. The FotL occurs in passages throughout both the OT and the NT.
  3. NT Christians, after Pentecost, were encouraged to fear the Lord.  
(see scriptures from previous slide)
  4. The OT is the shadow and types of the realities presented in the NT.  
What we see in the NT is a further revealing/unveiling of what has been shown in the OT, not a changing or altering of the OT revelation.
  5. God is unchanging.  
Truth revealed about God in the OT is not discarded or changed in the NT.  
He is the same today as He was then.
  6. Many promises and much hope are offered to the “people of faith” in the OT who had the Fear of the Lord. Believers of today are the seed of Abraham who inherit the promises. (Gal. 3:29)

## Fear of the Lord and Love




1. Ps 145:19-20 Fear and love side by side – both taught throughout the OT as distinct and separate.
2. God **is** love. (character quality) God **is to be** feared. (active response)  
Love is a quality of God while fear is to be a disposition towards God in those who know Him.
3. Love is the **active** response of a being towards the object of affection.  
(Love responds with action towards the beloved.)  
-Initiator reaches towards the beloved- “God so loved the world that He gave...”  
Fear is the active response towards God because of who He is.  
-response back towards the initiator
4. Love generates love and devotion.  
Fear generates awe, wonder, respect, honor, worship
5. I John 4:18 “Perfect love casts out fear.” This is a reference to the natural or worldly fear of man which Solomon calls a snare.

Note: The Fear of the Lord is vastly different than worldly fear.



# Fear of the Lord

## How do you get the Fear of the Lord?

1. A **grace** from God – Jer. 32:39-41 “I will put my fear in their hearts... **for the good of them...**” (restoration of the people to the land of promise)
2. When receiving God’s **forgiveness** – Ps 130:2 “There is forgiveness with you, therefore **(as a result)** you are feared.”
3. By **answered prayer**  our response to God’s love and kindness (when we see His awe-inspiring deeds)
4. By **true repentance** II Cor. 7:11
5. By **asking** for it. Ask – seek – knock (present, continuous action)
6. By **observing God’s judgments** on the earth – e.g. Ananias and Saphira Acts 5:1ff v.11 “So great fear came upon the church...”  
see also: sons of Eli and the “strange fire”, sons of Sceva
7. By having **right views of who He is and what he does**. See Psalm 145
8. By having a **pervading sense of His presence**. Ps 139
9. By having a **constraining awareness of our obligation** to this great God  
The awareness of who God is and what He has done constrains me to do what is right and pleasing in His eyes. (Heb. 12 after the faith “Hall of Fame”)