

## **Overcoming Ungodly Fear**

### **I. TYPES OF FEAR**

A.) Good fear

B.) Ungodly fear

Mt. 10:28 - Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

### **II. THE EFFECTS OF UNGODLY FEAR**

A.) Ungodly Fear causes you to turn to Higher Power!

Ps. 37:1-3

1 Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong;

2 for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.

3 Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

A fallible human, narcotics, false gods or idols, money, or other sources of human power.

B.) Ungodly Fear causes you to turn Sin & Isolation!

Ps. 37:7-8

7 Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

8 Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil.

C.) Ungodly Fear causes you to turn Doubt!

Ps. 37:9 - For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land.

D.) Ungodly Fear causes Paralysis!

Mt. 25:24-25

24 "Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed.

25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

E.) Ungodly Fear causes you to experience Failure!

Pr. 29:25 - Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.

F.) Ungodly Fear causes Ruins Relationships!

Gen. 3:9-10

9 But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?"

10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

1 Sam. 18:6-8

6 When the men were returning home after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with joyful songs and with timbrels and lyres.

7 As they danced, they sang: "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands."

8 Saul was very angry; this refrain displeased him greatly. "They have credited David with tens of thousands," he thought, "but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?"

G.) Ungodly Fear can Silence your Witness!

Jn. 7:13 - But no one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the leaders.

Fear = Misery

2 Timothy 1:7-8

7 For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

8 So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God.

### **III. OVERCOMING UNGODLY FEAR**

A.) Seeking the Lord helps you overcome ungodly fear!

Ps. 34:4 - I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.

Mt. 6:33-34

33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

B.) Confession to God helps you overcome ungodly fear!

Ps. 32:3-5

3 When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

4 For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

C.) Faith in God and His Word helps you overcome ungodly fear!

Heb. 11:1 - Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

D.) Truth helps you overcome ungodly fear!

1. God has given us a PLACE of refuge!

Ps. 46:1-2

1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

Ps. 31:19-20

19 How abundant are the good things that you have stored up for those who fear you, that you bestow in the sight of all, on those who take refuge in you. 20 In the shelter of your presence you hide them from all human intrigues; you keep them safe in your dwelling from accusing tongues.

2. God has given us PROTECTION!

Ps. 32:6-7

6 Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them.

7 You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

Illus: Sometimes we're like the little boy who was afraid of dark, told by father to go out onto the unlit back porch and get the broom. Told dad he couldn't, too dark. Dad encouraged: "Son, don't be afraid, Jesus is out there." So the little boy said, "Well since Jesus is already out there, just ask Him to hand it to you!"

Ps. 55:22 - Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

3. God has given us POWER!

Ps. 27:1-2

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid?

2 When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall.

E.) Love helps you overcome ungodly fear!

Hudson Taylor - "It does not matter how great the pressure is, or how powerful the fear. What really matters is where the pressure and fear lies – whether it comes between you and God, or whether it presses you nearer His heart."

1 John 4:18a - There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear...

F.) Praise helps you overcome ungodly fear!

Psalm 34:2-4 (KJV)

2 My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

3 O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

4 I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Magnify = to focus on and make something bigger in your sight.

Phil. 4:6-8

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

John Wesley - "I have never known more than fifteen minutes of anxiety or fear. Whenever I feel fearful emotions overtaking me I just close my eyes and thank God that he is still on the throne reigning over everything and I take comfort in His control over all the affairs of my life."

H.) The Fear the LORD helps you overcome ungodly fear!

Ps. 115:11 - You who fear him, trust in the Lord— he is their help and shield.

Deut. 10:12-14

12 And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul,

13 and to observe the Lord's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

14 To the Lord your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it.