

Pastor's Pen

Whom Shall I Fear?

...for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. 2 Timothy 1:7

Merriam-Webster defines fear as "an unpleasant, often strong emotion caused by anticipation or awareness of danger." The Bible talks about two types of fear, the fear of man and the fear of God. One is a sin, the other a command to be obeyed. What is the fear of man?

Regarding the Biblical understanding of fear, we are not to fear what man can do to us emotionally or physically. At this current time in the United States, we don't have to worry about physical harm for our faith in Christ. However, we have reached a point in our nation's history when Christians are under tremendous pressure to remain silent and practice their faith in private. For a Christian, to speak out against what the Bible calls sin is to become "canceled" by our enlightened culture. Therefore many Christians, fearing what might happen to them, remain silent out of fear. The fear of man can immobilize us when we should take action and keep us silent when we should speak.

John the Baptist was not afraid of the King when he spoke out against King Herod's adulterous relationship even though it cost him his life. There is no need to fear man when we belong to Jesus Christ. Jesus said this about fearing man:

"What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."
Matthew 10:27-31

What is the fear of the Lord?

Fear of the Lord does not mean that we are to be scared of God. As believers in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, we have no reason to be scared of Him. God loves you and will let nothing happen to you outside His will. God has made us promises, so we need not fear. We have His promise that nothing can separate us from His love (Romans 8:38-39). We have His promise that He will never leave us or forsake us (Hebrews 13:5).

Fearing God means having such a reverence for Him that it has a great impact on the way we live our lives. The fear of God is respecting Him, obeying Him, submitting to His discipline, and worshiping Him in awe. The following are just a few of the verses that explain the fear of the Lord:

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction. Proverbs 1:7

The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, that one may turn away from the snares of death. Proverbs 14:27

The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant. Psalm 25:14

Christian, we have nothing to fear in this life if we put our faith and trust in Jesus. We have been saved from the wrath of God (Romans 5:7) and have been made co-heirs with Christ (Romans 8:17). Because God loves us, we need not fear anything.

"There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love." 1 John 4:18

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

Quote of the Week

"Fill your affections with the cross of Christ that there may be no room for sin."
John Owen

Grace Gems

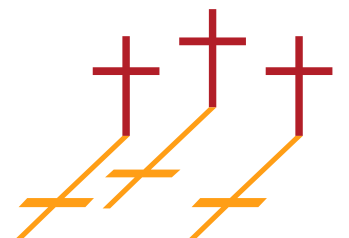
A base heathenish invention!

- Charles Spurgeon

The word "chance" should be forever banished from the Christian's conversation. Luck or chance is a base heathenish invention! God rules and overrules all things, and he does nothing without a motive. The falling of a sparrow to the earth is in the divine purpose, and answers an end.

Every grain of dust that is whirled from the threshing-floor is steered by God with as unerring a wisdom as the stars in their courses. There is not a leaf that trembles in the autumn from the tree but is piloted by the plan and purpose of the Lord.

The insatiable archer of death is not permitted to shoot his bolts at random. Every arrow that flies bears this inscription, "I have a message from God for you." A purpose, consistent with the love and justice of God, lies hidden in the harvest of death.



Weekly Gatherings



Bible Classes

New Testament
Sunday School
Sunday Morning @ 9AM



Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM
Men's Bible Study



Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM @ Royall's
Every other Thursday @7PM
@ Patrick's & Cox's



Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and forgot to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address.



Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study
AWANA @6:30 starting 9/15/21



Service Times

Sunday Service 10:30AM
Children's Church @10:30AM

Giving from service on 08/22/2021

General Offering	5,999.34
Building Fund	376.35
Uganda	100.00
Total	\$6,475.69

Attendance	209
Sunday School	130
Online	13

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org
Security-security@ghbcva.org



ghbcva.org | 804.561.3742
9821 South Redfield Drive, Amelia, VA 23002

Grace Harvest Baptist Church

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