

# “Should We Fear God?”

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**My Message is Essentially About:** Fearing God is foundational to knowing God in spirit and in His Truth, as He is, according to His whole story.

**Take-Home Truth:** When we own God’s whole story, it becomes the foundation for a powerful, spirit-filled life with Him. We rest in His strength and His amazing love and are given resolve to obey God.

## 1. Why Fear God?

*As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one; <sup>11</sup>there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. <sup>12</sup>All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.” <sup>13</sup>“Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit.” “The poison of vipers is on their lips.” <sup>14</sup>“Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.” <sup>15</sup>“Their feet are swift to shed blood; <sup>16</sup>ruin and misery mark their ways, <sup>17</sup>and the way of peace they do not know.” <sup>18</sup>“There is no fear of God before their eyes.”*  
Romans 3:10-18 (New International Version)

*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. <sup>11</sup>Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience.* 2 Corinthians 5:10-11 (NIV)

*Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed--not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence--continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup>for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.*  
Philippians 2:12-13 (NIV)

*Submit yourselves for the Lord’s sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, <sup>14</sup>or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. <sup>15</sup>For it is God’s will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. <sup>16</sup>Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God’s slaves. <sup>17</sup>Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.* 1 Peter 2:13-17 (NIV)

## 2. What Does it Mean to Fear God?

- yare (yaw-ray')

*Fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing.* Psalm 34:9 (NIV)

- **yirah (yir-aw')**

*"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." Proverbs 9:10 (NIV)*

- **pachad (paw-kkad')**

*"But he stands alone, and who can oppose him? He does whatever he pleases. <sup>14</sup>He carries out his decree against me, and many such plans he still has in store. <sup>15</sup>That is why I am terrified before him; when I think of all this, I fear him." Job 23:13-15 (NIV)*

- **arats (aw-rats')**

*The LORD Almighty is the one you are to regard as holy, he is the one you are to fear, he is the one you are to dread. Isaiah 8:13 (NIV)*

- **phobeo (fob-eh'-o)**

*"I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. <sup>5</sup>But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him." Luke 12:4-5 (NIV)*

- **tromos (trom'-os)**

*Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence--continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup>for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. Philippians 2:12-13 (NIV)*

- **timao (tim-ah'-o)**

*Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king. 1 Peter 2:17 (NIV)*

*Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, <sup>14</sup>or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. <sup>15</sup>For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. <sup>16</sup>Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. <sup>17</sup>Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor. 1 Peter 2:13-17 (NIV)*

### **3. The “Buddy Jesus” Dilemma**

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and that life was the light of men.*

John 1:1-4 (NIV)

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.* Genesis 1:1 (NIV)

### **4. Developing a God-Sized Worldview**

### **5. The Journey Back to the Fear of God**

*Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.* Romans 10:17 (NIV)