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Sermon Notes

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The Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Knowledge

Proverbs 1:1-7

There are many different types of fear in our lives:

- I felt tremendous fear one time when I was standing on the roof of an ancient castle in the Hunza Valley, peering over the edge at the sheer drop of a thousand feet; I knew that one slip and I would be dead.
- I have also felt fear at public speaking... one time, I had to give a sermon in India to a group of several thousand Indians; I was so out of my element, and I could so feel the intimidation of Satan's darkness that I was gripped with an irrational fear... like I was going to my own execution
- I felt fear before asking Christi... to marry me; what if she said No!
- I felt fear in Japan when I saw my two-year-old daughter start to cross a street toward me when a car was coming... I was certain I was about to witness the death of my daughter
- I felt fear in the middle of the night after a particularly vivid nightmare; I awoke sweating, with my heart racing
- But the Book of Proverbs introduces us to another kind of fear from any we have known in life: *the fear of the Lord*

As we come to the Book of Proverbs, we come to a book of wisdom, and this first section, Proverbs 1:1-7 teaches the purpose of the whole book:

Proverbs 1:1-6 The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel: ² To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight, ³ to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity; ⁴ to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth-- ⁵ Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance, ⁶ to understand a proverb and a saying, the words of the wise and their riddles

This is a list of BENEFITS that come from studying Proverbs... a list of PURPOSES why the Book was given to us; Solomon, the wisest king that ever lived before Jesus, spoke 3000 Proverbs... many of them are recorded in this marvelous book

And here he says that this book gives you the ability to ***“know wisdom and instruction”*** resulting in amazing character traits, ***“righteousness, justice and equity”***

It is for everyone, no matter how advanced they may be... for the ***simple and youth***, that they may gain ***prudence and discretion***, and it is for those experts in wisdom, to gain even more

But clearly the center to everything is this one statement

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

I. What is the Fear of the Lord?

A. Fear: A Natural Emotion; The Fear of the Lord: A Supernatural Grace

1. The Natural Side of Fear

- a. Fear is an emotion: it responds to perceived dangers
- b. It results in certain physical effects: increased heart rate, adrenaline, rapid breathing,
- c. Scholars arrange human emotions into main categories
 - i) Love... joy... surprise... anger... sadness... fear
- d. Different types of natural fear

Alarm, shock, fear, fright, terror, panic, hysteria, mortification

Anxiety, tenseness, uneasiness, apprehension, worry, distress, dread

Some fears are irrational...like fear of the dark or fear of crowded places, or childish like fears of monsters; Some fears are reasonable... like fear of precarious high places where there is a real danger of a fatal fall, or fear of crossing a busy four-lane interstate

2. The Supernatural Grace of the Fear of the Lord

- a. It is NOT natural to fear the Lord

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

- b. The fool—the unregenerate man has NO fear of the Lord
- c. When God begins to convert someone, the first thing He does it to work a genuine fear of the Lord's wrath, of His righteousness

John Newton, "Amazing Grace," "Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved"... he was a slave trader and a wicked man, but had no fear of the Lord; but by reading a book about Christ on board a ship, he began to have fear for his soul; during one violent storm, he was convinced that he would die that very night and go to hell

Eventually his fears were relieved by the gospel...

But the fear of the Lord was a supernatural grace to begin Newton's salvation

B. The Positive and Negative Aspect of the Fear of the Lord

1. Negatively: Emotional Reaction to Danger

a. What is the "danger"?

Luke 12:4-5 "I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. ⁵ 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.

- b. The unregenerate man does not consider this a genuine threat; but by the grace of God some begin to see their danger
- c. This kind of fear comes from concern over our sinfulness, God's holiness, and the judgment we truly deserve
- d. This is a supernatural grace from God... and it is the beginning of a lifetime of seeking God
- e. I believe this fear of condemnation and hell SHOULD END when we become Christians

1 John 4:15-18 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. ¹⁶ And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. ¹⁷ In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

Romans 8:15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

- f. BUT I also believe that a healthy fear of sin and of God's response to sin is essential to a healthy Christian life
- g. After God struck Ananias and Sapphira dead for lying to the Holy Spirit, this was the right response:

Acts 5:11 Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events.

So, the fear of the Lord is partly a fear of His holy response to sin... either His wrath in hell expressed toward His enemies or His sharp discipline expressed toward His sinning children

This fear of the Lord is TEMPORARY... we will not need it in heaven, for we will be "made perfect in love"

2. Positively: Emotional Reaction to Majesty

a. I believe an aspect of the fear of the Lord will be with us eternally

Psalm 19:9 The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever.

That means the fear of the Lord is a PURE THING, like a holy fire... it is PURE, free from all evil; it is the RIGHT REACTION TO THE INFINITUDE of God, to His perfect holiness... and Psalm 19:9 says it is eternal, ***“enduring forever”***

b. In heaven,

i) The angels hide their faces from the awesome majesty and glory of Christ

ii) the redeemed still have a healthy fear of the Lord, despite the fact that all fear of judgment and wrath is gone forever... there they stand in heaven before the sea of glass mingled with fire

Revelation 15:4 Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

To these saints in heaven, who have fought the good fight of faith, who have won a great victory over the world's persecutions, who were then in the presence of the Lord and worshipping Him in His heavenly glory, it seems UNTHINKABLE that anyone would not FEAR THE LORD AND BRING GLORY TO HIS NAME!

UNTHINKABLE... like it is a source of wonder and amazement that any created being would not fear the Lord

c. God is INFINITE in His majesty!!

A.W. Pink: Happy the soul that has been awed by a view of God's majesty, that has had a vision of God's awful greatness, His ineffable holiness, His perfect righteousness, His irresistible power, His sovereign grace.

A.W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*: Forever **God** stands apart, in light unapproachable. He is as high above an **archangel** as above a caterpillar, for the gulf that separates the **archangel** from the caterpillar is but finite, while the gulf between **God** and the **archangel** is **infinite**.

d. The infinite gap between us and God creates a sense of wonder at His immensity

e. God's very attributes themselves will create a holy fear in us for all eternity

Exodus 24:17 To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain.

1 Kings 8:27 The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you.

1 Timothy 6:16 who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light

Isaiah 40:22 He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in.

3. God desires that we fear Him based on His infinite display of power

Jeremiah 5:22 Should you not fear me?" declares the LORD. "Should you not tremble in my presence? I made the sand a boundary for the sea, an everlasting barrier it cannot cross. The waves may roll, but they cannot prevail; they may roar, but they cannot cross it.

C. The Fear of the Lord is the Hatred of Evil

1. The essence of the fear of the Lord is hatred of evil...

2. God's terrifying display of Himself at Sinai

Exodus 19:16-19 On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, with a thick cloud over the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast. Everyone in the camp trembled. ¹⁷ Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. ¹⁸ Mount Sinai was covered with smoke, because the LORD descended on it in fire. The smoke billowed up from it like smoke from a furnace, the whole mountain trembled violently, ¹⁹ and the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder. Then Moses spoke and the voice of God answered him.

At this time God said these amazing words:

Exodus 20:20 Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning."

3. Solomon's Wisdom

a. Parallel verse

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

A.W. Tozer named his Christian classic, *The Knowledge of the Holy* from this one verse...

He began that work with these words:

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."

The beginning of wisdom and understanding is the fear of the Lord... to understand how infinitely high God is, how perfectly holy, how able to bring vengeance on all who oppose Him

To understand also how evil is sin, how worthy of contempt, how deserving of wrath... that in fearing the Lord, we should also fear sin which separates us from Him and makes us subject to His punishments

b. Thus Solomon taught the link between fear of the Lord and hatred of evil

Proverbs 3:7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil.

Proverbs 8:13 To fear the LORD is to hate evil

Proverbs 16:6 Through love and faithfulness sin is atoned for; through the fear of the LORD a man avoids evil.

4. Scripture agrees

Joseph, tempted by Potiphar's wife

Genesis 39:9 How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?

Thus the fear of the Lord results in a holy life, free from besetting sin

A man trapped in besetting sin doesn't really fear the Lord

D. Summary

The fear of the Lord is made up negatively of a terror of His awesome wrath and power against sin, and positively of an overpowering sense of the infinite majesty of the person of God... the clearest, most tangible expressions of the fear of the Lord are a hatred and shunning of evil, and a lifestyle of worship and sacrificial obedience

II. How Is It the Beginning of Knowledge?

A. Fools Don't Naturally Possess this Grace

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

1. The word "despise"

To hold in contempt, to consider insignificant

2. David's Psalm

Psalm 36:1-2 An oracle is within my heart concerning the sinfulness of the wicked: There is no fear of God before his eyes. ² For in his own eyes he flatters himself too much to detect or hate his sin.

3. Paul asserts this plainly

Romans 3:14-18 "Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness." ¹⁵ "Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁶ ruin and misery mark their ways, ¹⁷ and the way of peace they do not know." ¹⁸ "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

4. The natural man has no concern about the judgment of God

A.W. Pink: Why is it that, today, the masses are so utterly unconcerned about spiritual and eternal things, and that they are lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God? Why is it that even on the battlefields multitudes were so indifferent to their soul's welfare? Why is it that defiance of heaven is becoming more open, more blatant, more daring? The answer is, Because "There is no fear of God before their eyes" (Rom 3:18).

1. On Judgment Day, the greatest learning will mean nothing... but all knowledge based on the fear of the Lord will be profitable

a. Some of the most brilliant people in history have been aggressively opposed to God

The famous team of Watson and Crick discovered the double-helix of the DNA molecule... both were aggressive atheists

Francis Crick:

On the matter of religion, Crick once said, "Christianity may be okay between consenting adults in private, but should not be taught to young children."

James Watson:

When asked by a student if he believed in God, Watson answered, "*Oh, no. Absolutely not... The biggest advantage to believing in God is you don't have to understand anything, no physics, no biology. I wanted to understand.*"

Mark Zuckerberg, while a brilliant young undergraduate at Harvard, developed Facebook, the social networking site now used by more than 200 million people regularly, and 100 million daily... his net worth is over \$1 billion... he is an avowed atheist

So is Bill Gates, so is Warren Buffett... so many brilliant, educated, worldly wise, successful people oozing with brainpower, completely devoid of FEAR OF THE LORD

This verse says they know nothing at all

b. Their great learning, their overwhelming attainments in earthly knowledge help them not at all when they stand before God on Judgment Day

B. Knowledge (Wisdom) Begin with Fear of the Lord... Because We Begin as Sinners

1. When God moves to convert a person, He begins here... with the fear of the Lord
2. If the gospel is preached rightly, the conversion journey starts with the fear of God's wrath
3. Examples from Scripture

a. Pentecost

Acts 2:37-38 *When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" ³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

b. The Philippian jailer

Acts 16:29-31 *The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved--you and your household."*

4. Examples from History

a. Martin Luther

It was from terror of God's wrath displayed in a fierce electrical storm that Luther vowed to become a monk

It was from terror of God's wrath during his first mass as a priest that Luther trembled and spilled the cup of the wine of what he believed was Christ's blood

It was from terror of God's wrath that Luther made a pilgrimage to Rome and climbed the steps of a holy staircase on his knees

It was from terror of God's wrath that Luther fasted and prayed for hours and hours every day, trying earn forgiveness with God

It was from terror of God's wrath that Luther spent hours daily in confessing minor sins to his Father Confessor, Staupitz

Finally, it was from terror of God's wrath that Luther confessed to Staupitz that he HATED God who could send them all to hell

All of this merely cleared the ground for Luther to discover true freedom: Justification by faith alone

b. George Whitefield

Having read Henry Scougal's classic, "The Life of God in the Soul of Man," George Whitefield, a teenager at Oxford, began to seek the new birth with all his might... he fasted and prayed for days and weeks on end

He gave up eating fruits and vegetables; gave away all his money to the poor; decided to stop speaking to anyone, even to his friends, for whole evenings; he continued in silent prayer under a particular tree, kneeling for two hours straight

His striving for holiness left his health so broken that he could barely walk... he crawled up the stairs of his dorm at Oxford, one of his hands had turned black

All of this was motivated by sheer terror of the punishments of God for sin

At last, God revealed Christ and the freedom of the Gospel to Whitefield... he realized none of these extreme deprivations could pay for his sins... only Christ's blood shed on the cross

c. John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*

I saw a man clothed with rags, standing in a certain place, with his face from his own house, a book in his hand, and a great burden upon his back. I looked and saw him open the book, and read therein; and as he read, he wept and trembled; and not being able longer to contain, he brake out with a lamentable cry, saying, "What shall I do?"

In this plight, therefore, he went home, and restrained himself as long as he could, that his wife and children should not perceive his distress; but he could not be silent long, because that his trouble increased. Wherefore at length he brake his mind to his wife and children; and thus he began to talk to them: "O, my dear wife," said he, "and you my beloved children, I, your dear friend, am in myself undone by reason of a burden that lieth hard upon me; moreover, I am certainly informed that this our city will be burnt with fire from heaven; in which fearful overthrow, both myself, with thee my wife, and you my sweet babes, shall miserably come to ruin, except (the which yet I see not) some way of escape can be found whereby we may be delivered."

It was from the TERROR of the Lord's wrath that he began his pilgrimage

C. It is Fundamental to our Ongoing Life as Sinners in this World

1. Even after conversion, we are not done with sin
2. As we continue in the way of wisdom day by day, we begin every day with a plain acknowledgement of the power of sin and its danger
3. Though we have been rescued from sin and are no longer slaves to sin, still even now we must assert that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom every day for US CHRISTIANS as well

III. Where Does It Come From?

A. Solomon's Advice: Seek It Diligently!

Proverbs 2:1-6 My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, ² turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, ³ and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, ⁴ and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, ⁵ then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. ⁶ For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

B. God's Direct Work on the Human Heart

1. Proverbs 2:6 "for the Lord GIVES wisdom"... thus He also gives the beginning of wisdom

2. Psalmist's prayer

Psalm 86:11 Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

3. The Essence of the New Covenant

Jeremiah 32:38-40 They will be my people, and I will be their God. ³⁹ I will give them singleness of heart and action, so that they will always fear me for their own good and the good of their children after them. ⁴⁰ I will make an everlasting covenant with them: I will never stop doing good to them, and I will inspire them to fear me, so that they will never turn away from me.

C. God's Use of Means: The Word of God

1. The Bible's primary task

2 Timothy 3:15 the holy Scriptures, ... are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

The BEGINNING of this wisdom is the FEAR of the Lord

Thus one of the primary tasks of the Bible is to teach us the fear of the Lord essential to our salvation

2. Psalm 19

Psalm 19:7-11 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple. ⁸ The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes. ⁹ The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of the LORD are sure and altogether righteous. ¹⁰ They are more

precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb. ¹¹ By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

The fear of the Lord is PURE, and it is BASED on the Law of the Lord, which makes us wise and warns us of great danger

D. God's Work in Redemptive History: An Education in Fear

1. God has worked throughout redemptive history to teach His people to fear Him

- a. After Adam and Eve sinned, when God moved through the Garden of Eden in the sound of a rushing wind, terror came over them and they fled from the presence of God and hid
- b. When God destroyed the entire world with a flood, He was teaching the world to fear His punishment for sin
- c. When God made His promise to Abram in Genesis 15, and Abram asked Him how he could know God would keep His promise, God appeared to Abram and

Genesis 15:12 As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him.

Literally "The horror of great darkness"... God was teaching Abram to fear him greatly before He bestowed a great promise on him

- d. When Moses and Aaron dedicated the Tabernacle, the glory cloud filled it; fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed the sacrifice, and all the people saw it and shouted for joy and fell facedown... God was teaching the people the link between FEAR and JOY
- e. When Nadab and Abihu offered unauthorized fire on the altar and God struck them dead instantly, God was teaching the people to fear Him
- f. When Uzzah grabbed hold of the Ark of the Covenant, and God struck him dead instantly, God was teaching the people to fear Him
- g. When Elijah called down fire from heaven on Mt. Carmel, all the people saw this and fell prostrate, calling out "The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!" God was teaching the people to fear Him
- h. When God struck Ananias and Sapphira dead for lying about some money they gave to the church, he was teaching them to fear Him

God has been educating the church for centuries on the fear of the Lord... He relates this whole history most powerfully in the pages of Scripture

GOD'S WORK IN SCRIPTURE: He especially educates us in the fear of the Lord by describing hell itself, and the righteous judgment of sinners there:

Revelation 14:10-11 he, too, will drink of the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. He will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night

So the fear of the Lord comes from God Himself; He sends it by His power and His Spirit by means of the word of God

IV. Where Does It Lead?

A. Fear of the Lord is Merely the BEGINNING of Wisdom... God Has Much More to Teach Us

1. Once God establishes the healthy fear of the Lord, He can teach us the far greater lesson of His infinite love for us in Christ

Ephesians 3:17-19 And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge-- that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

To learn how to say, "I am free from condemnation! I am free from wrath!! Jesus died in my place!!! I need never fear the wrath of God again! God's love for me in Christ is deep and rich!!!

That is the END, or final destination of wisdom... the LOVE of the LORD

B. Progression

Ed Welch: the fear of the Lord is a continuum we advance along when we more accurately perceive God and the world He's made:

Terror >> dread >> trembling >> astonishment >> awe >> reverence >> devotion >> trust >> worship

So... where does the fear of the Lord lead to???

C. A Lifestyle of Holiness, Costly Obedience, and Worship

Philippians 2:12 ... continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling

1. Holiness

Proverbs 8:13 To fear the LORD is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech.

The fear of the Lord is a burning fire in our hearts, causing us to hate evil more and more and fight it with every fiber of our being

Proverbs 3:7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil.

Notice that the fear of the Lord crushes pride... so often Christians sin because of PRIDE... "God loves me, He'll forgive me, I'm in close with the Lord, it won't matter anyway; PLUS God needs me to do the things I do!"

That is DANGEROUS PRIDE

So, the fear of the Lord results in a holy life

2. Costly Obedience

God tested Abraham and commanded him to offer his only son, Isaac, as a burnt offering

Abraham by faith obeyed, right to the final step

The angel of the Lord stopped him, and said:

Genesis 22:12 Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

The fear of the Lord produces costly obedience

3. Worship

An angel flying in midair in Revelation 14 cried out:

Revelation 14:7 He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water."

The fear of the Lord results in profound and deep worship

D. Freedom from All Other Fears

1. God's Statement at Sinai

Exodus 20:20 Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning."

Oswald Chambers: "The remarkable thing about fearing God is that, when you fear God, you fear nothing else' whereas if you do not fear God, you fear everything else."

2. Perfect love drives out fear

- a. Once you fear God properly, all fear of judgment is driven out

1 John 4:18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

Romans 8:15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

3. Fear God and Fear NOTHING ELSE

E. Eternity in Heaven

1. The difference between Mt. Sinai and Mt. Zion

Hebrews 12:18-24 You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; ¹⁹ to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, ²⁰ because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned." ²¹ The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear." ²² But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, ²³ to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, ²⁴ to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

The first covenant came to Mount Sinai, and was all about TERROR and WRATH

The second covenant brings us to Mt. Zion, the heavenly Jerusalem, and it's all about

JOYFUL ASSEMBLY!!!! Saints redeemed forever, singing God's praises forever

THIS IS WHERE the fear of the Lord leads

2. Eternity in reverential awe... and NO FEAR of JUDGMENT

V. Applications

A. Fear God and Flee to Christ

B. Work Out Your Salvation with Fear and Trembling

C. Distinguish Between Fears

1. Understand the difference between fear based on sin, and fear based on God's majesty

2. Know that, for the Christian, one is temporary, and the other is eternal

D. Beware of the Sin of Nadab and Abihu: Presumption

E. Fear God More than Man