



GOD PROMISES US HIS GOODNESS IF WE FEAR HIM

By Bill Subritzky

Some people may say, Bill you are not going to talk about the fear of God are you? Surely you know that God is a loving God and we don't need to fear Him!

Nothing could be further from the truth. Of course God is a loving God. However from the beginning to the end of the Bible we are told to fear God.

Why should we fear God?

The answer is so that we can be blessed, be prosperous, be healthy and have certainty of eternity with Him.

God promises that it will go well with us if we fear Him.

God said, "Oh, that their hearts would be inclined to fear me and keep all my commandments always, so that it might go well with them and their children forever." (Deuteronomy 5:29.)

The first commandment is to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, then to love our neighbour. Jesus gave us a new and additional commandment; that is to love one another as He loves us.

Combine those commandments with the fear of God and you are on the right path.

Do you want things to go well with you? Then fear God.

God promises us His goodness if we fear Him.

Another promise of God is, "How great is your goodness which you have stored up for those who fear you, which you bestow in the sight of men on those who take refuge in you." (Psalm 31:19.)

The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear Him.

"The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear Him,

On those whose hope is His unfailing love,
To deliver them from death,
And keep them alive in famine." (Psalm 33:18-19).

God's love is on those who fear Him.

I am sure we all want to know the love of God. Then let us obey Scripture which says,
"For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
So great is His love for those who fear Him." (Psalm 103:11).

Do you want to know the compassion of God?

"As a father has compassion on his children,
So the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him." (Psalm 103:13).

Do you need wisdom? Then fear God.

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." (Psalm 111:10).

Do you want God to bless you?

The Bible says;

"Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in His ways.
You will eat the fruit of your labour, blessings and prosperity will be yours.
Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house,
Your sons will be like olive shoots around your table.
Thus is the man blessed who fears the Lord." (Psalm 128:1-4.)

What is the fear of the Lord?

To fear the Lord is to hate evil. (Proverbs 8:13).

The spirit of the fear of God was upon Jesus. If Jesus feared God surely we need to do so.

Jesus delighted in the fear of the Lord because He knew that God would hear Him.

"The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him,
The Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The Spirit of counsel and might,
The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord....
And His delight is in the fear of the Lord." (Isaiah 11:2-3).

God speaks of His greatness and why we must fear Him.

"'Should you not fear me?' declares 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.'" (Jeremiah 5:22).

To receive the mercy of God we need to fear Him.

"His mercy extends those who fear Him, from generation to generation. (Luke 1:50).

Jesus told us to fear God.

"I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no

more. But I will show you Whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after killing the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear Him.” (Luke 12:4).

God listened to Jesus when He was facing death because Jesus feared God.

“Who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, though He was a Son, yet he learned obedience by the things which He suffered.” (Hebrews 5:7-8).

Summary.

When I was a young child I knew my father loved me and I loved him. Yet I feared him because I knew he would discipline me for my own good if I was disobedient. He could not bless my disobedience.

The same principle applies in our relationship with God. **We know that He loves us and that Jesus died for us but unless we fear God and the consequences of disobedience to Him then we will not be blessed. Just as a wise earthly father will not bless a disobedient child so God is the same.**

God is delighted to give His sons and daughters long life, blessings, health and strength if we are obedient. He wants us to be with Him forever in eternity.