

## **“Some Things to Be Afraid Of”**

### **Psalm 2:11**

**Introduction:** The psalmist instructs the believer how they should serve the Lord in this passage. It should be done with fear. This is not a worldly fear, but a godly fear. Noah Webster describes it as, “In good men, the fear of God is a holy awe or reverence of God and his laws, which springs from a just view and real love of the divine character, leading the subjects of it to hate and shun every thing that can offend such a holy being, and inclining them to aim at perfect obedience.” We should live our lives in fear of the Lord and His Word. However, we should not fear some things. A few of these are:

1. Do Not Fear Weaknesses II Corinthians 12:9- *“And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”*
2. Do Not Fear Welfare Psalm 37:25- *“I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.”*
3. Do Not Fear Wars Matthew 24:6- *“And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.”*
4. Do Not Fear Worlds John 16:33- *“These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”*
5. Do Not Fear Wrath I Thessalonians 5:9- *“For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,”*

**Body:** It is a blessing to know that we do not have to fear everything, because fear hath torment (I John 4:18- *“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.”*) However, believers should fear some things. When we survey the Bible, we see some fearful things. Notice how we should fear:

- I. Sin Romans 5:12- *“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:”*
  - A. The Deadliness of Sin Romans 6:23- *“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”*
  - B. The Deceptiveness of Sin Romans 7:11- *“For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me.”*
  - C. The Delivery of Sin James 1:15- *“Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”*
- A. Sin is Common Romans 3:23- *“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”*
- B. Sin is Contagious Psalm 51:5- *“Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.”*

- C. Sin is Corrupting Ecclesiastes 7:20- *“For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not.”*
- A. The Conclusion of Sin Galatians 3:22- *“But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.”*
- B. The Confession of Sin I John 1:8- *“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”*
- C. The Cautioning of Sin Psalm 19:13- *“Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.”*
- A. Sin is *poisonous*, like a viper Psalm 140:3, Matthew 23:33
- B. Sin is *stubborn*, like a mule Job 11:12
- C. Sin is *cruel*, like a bear Daniel 7:5
- D. Sin is *destructive*, like a canker worm Joel 2:25
- E. Sin is *unclean*, like a wild dog Proverbs 26:11
- F. Sin is *cunning*, like a fox Luke 13:32
- G. Sin is *fierce*, like a wolf John 10:12
- H. Sin *devours*, like a lion Psalm 22:13, Daniel 7:4
- I. Sin is *filthy*, like a swine II Peter 2:22 (H.L. Willmington)

Sin makes us lose: (H.L. Willmington)

- A. The loss of light I John 1:6
- B. The loss of joy Psalm 51:12
- C. The loss of peace I John 3:4-10
- D. The loss of love I John 2:5
- E. The loss of fellowship I John 1:3
- F. The loss of confidence I John 3:19-22
- G. The possible loss of health and even physical life I Corinthians 5:17, 11:30

- II. Self Philippians 3:3- *“For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.”*  
*“confidence”* (Strong’s)- “to be persuaded, to suffer one's self to be persuaded; to be induced to believe: to have faith: in a thing”  
*“confidence”* (Webster’s)- “A trusting, or reliance; an assurance of mind or firm belief in the integrity, stability or veracity of another, or in the truth and reality of a fact. Trust; reliance; applied to one's own abilities, or fortune; belief in one's own competency.”
- A. Our Flesh is Withering Isaiah 40:6- *“The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field:”*
- B. Our Flesh is Weak Matthew 26:41- *“Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”*
- C. Our Flesh is Wretched Romans 7:24- *“O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?”*

III. Shelf I Corinthians 9:27- *“But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.”*

A. There is a Need to Control- *“keep under my body”*

1. “keep under” (Strong’s)- “to beat black and blue, to smite so as to cause bruises and livid spots; like a boxer one buffets his body, handle it roughly, discipline by hardships”
2. “keep” (RWP)- “But it is like the horses in a chariot race, which must be kept well in hand by whip and rein if the prize is to be secured (Robertson and Plummer). The boxers often used boxing gloves (of ox-hide bands) which gave telling blows. Paul was not willing for his body to be his master. He found good as the outcome of this self-discipline.”

B. There is a Need to Conquer- *“bring it into subjection”*

1. “subjection” (Strong’s)- “to lead away into slavery, claim as one’s slave; to make a slave and to treat as a slave i.e. with severity, subject to stern and rigid discipline”
2. “subjection” (Webster’s)- “The state of being under the power, control and government of another.”
3. “subjection” (RWP)- “It is the metaphor of the victor leading the vanquished as captive and slave.”

C. There is a Nature of Castaways- *“I should be a castaway”*

1. “castaway” (Strong’s)- “not standing the test, not approved; properly used of metals and coins; that which does not prove itself such as it ought; unfit for, unproved, spurious, reprobate”
2. “castaway” (Webster’s)- “That which is thrown away. A person abandoned by God, as unworthy of his favor; a reprobate. 1 Cor. 9:27. Rejected; useless; of no value.”

IV. Seat II Corinthians 5:10- *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”*

A. It is a Personal Judgment- *“we”*

B. It is a Prearranged Judgment- *“we must”*

C. It is a Prescribed Judgment- *“all”*

D. It is a Public Judgment- *“all appear”*

E. It is a Platform Judgment- *“the judgment seat”*

F. It is a Pure Judgment- *“of Christ”*

G. It is a Presenting Judgment- *“that every one may receive the things done in his body”*

H. It is a Performance Judgment- *“according to that he hath done”*

I. It is a Pointed Judgment- *“whether it be good or bad”* I Corinthians 3:11-15

Conclusion: With this in mind, we need to serve the Lord with fear. We should have a reverential awe toward God and His Scriptures. Too many times people do not fear the

Lord, and they live their lives in rebellion to Him. The Bible teaches the affects of fear in a Christian's life. Some of these are:

1. Proverbs 1:7- *"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."*
2. Proverbs 2:5- *"Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God."*
3. Proverbs 3:7- *"Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil."*
4. Proverbs 8:13- *"The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate."*
5. Proverbs 10:27- *"The fear of the LORD prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened."*
6. Proverbs 14:26- *"In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge."*
7. Proverbs 14:27- *"The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death."*