

Defining Fear

- fear - an unpleasant often strong emotion caused by anticipation or awareness of danger
- The Bible makes very broad usage of the word.
- Fear is both commended and condemned.

The Fear of the Lord

- Fear is foundational to our relationship with God (Prov. 1:7; Ecc. 12:13; Deut. 5:29).
- It is a constant description of righteous men (Job 1:1; Acts 10:2).
- It is not only a starting point but something to pursue (Psa. 19:9; 2 Cor. 7:1).
- This is not merely awe at something impressive (Phil. 2:12; Matt. 10:28).
- It is a fear mingled with unlikely companions (Psa. 2:11; Matt. 28:8; Lk. 1:50; 7:16; Acts 9:31; Heb. 12:28-29).

Other Commended Fear

- Wives toward husbands (Eph. 5:33).
- Servants to masters (1 Pet. 2:18).
- Wholesome concern (2 Cor. 12:20; Gal. 4:11; Jd. 23).
- There is rational fear (Prov. 14:16).