

Walking In Wisdom

Walking In Wisdom - Week 1 (8-14-24)

Proverbs 9:10 & Job 28:28

I. What is the Fear of God?

- A. Fear - yira = exceedingly; fear; dreadful; reverence
- B. Fear - yr' = be feared; be honored; terrible; dreaded; awesome
- C. Tony Evans - It is to take God seriously as apposed to casually.
 - 1. "We enjoy electricity but we handle it carefully."
 - 2. 2 Corin. 5:9-11
 - a) Verse 9 (AMP)
 - b) In light of the power of Jesus' judgement we labor or (are ambitious) to be pleasing to Him.
 - (1) Not so much of obeying the rules perfectly but continuing in His Word.
 - (a) John 8:31-32
 - (2) And valuing and trusting in what He did to make you righteous.
 - (a) We value and honor His sacrifice by making our life's ambition to be pleasing to Him!
- D. Psalm 130
 - 1. Fear of God actually draws us to Him rather than repelling us.
 - a) Ex. 20:18-20
 - (1) Let it be before your eyes. Don't look away! Let His awesome power draw and demand your attention, that we sin not!
 - (2) If you have the fear of Him you will not be afraid of Him.
 - b) Isaiah 8:11-13 - Let God be your fear and your dread.
- E. A Filial Fear?
 - 1. Filial = relating to a son or daughter.
 - 2. The kind of fear that a child has toward their parent.
 - a) The fear is less about receiving a punishment, and more about the damage done to the relationship.
 - (1) Loss of trust, emotional distance, disappointment, the hard work of repairing that relationship.
 - (2) This displays a lot of value placed on the relationship.
 - 3. God's unconditional love and depth of commitment to us will develop a proper fear of God.
 - a) Jeremiah 33:8-9
 - (1) They fear Him because of all the good that He does for them in spite of their wickedness.
 - b) Again, the fear of God should draw us to Him rather than pushing us away.
 - (1) "...and they shall come in fear to the Lord and to His goodness in the latter days." Hosea 3:5 (ESV)

II. Why is the fear of the Lord the beginning of wisdom?

A. Romans 1:21-23

1. Any attempt to gain wisdom while not considering God and taking Him seriously, will lead you to vanity and darkness. It will ultimately be fruitless.
2. It leads to diminishing your value of God and magnifying your value of man.
3. Our world is full of examples of what happens when we take God casually rather than seriously. Or just completely omit Him altogether.

B. The wisdom of God is spiritual, not something that is obtained through academics.

1. 1 Corin. 2:4-7 and Eph. 1:15-17
2. It makes man's wisdom look like foolishness - 1 Corin. 1:20 and 25
 - a) The goal of all of this is Verse 31. The only One that is worthy of glory is God.
 - (1) So He exposes the vanity of the things that do not glorify Him.

C. Without positioning ourselves properly before God, we are not capable of gaining His wisdom.

1. Wisdom is simply seeing things from God's perspective.
 - a) This can only happen when we acknowledge His power and greatness and humbly position ourselves in reverence to Him.

D. Jesus is the wisdom of God - 1 Corin. 1:24

1. We receive Him (wisdom) when we humble ourselves and kneel before Him in worship.