

1 John 4 - No Fear in Love

July 2, 2015

1 John 4:16–18

16 And **WE HAVE KNOWN AND BELIEVED THE LOVE THAT GOD HATH TO US**. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

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.**

Your level of fear, anxiety, stress and worry mirrors your knowledge of and trust in the love of God.

FEAR OF REJECTION

1 Samuel 16:6–7

6 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD's anointed is before him.

7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: **FOR THE LORD SEETH NOT AS MAN SEETH; FOR MAN LOOKETH ON THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE, BUT THE LORD LOOKETH ON THE HEART.**

Isaiah 53:1–2

1 Who hath believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, And as a root out of a dry ground: **HE HATH NO FORM NOR COMELINESS; AND WHEN WE SHALL SEE HIM, THERE IS NO BEAUTY THAT WE SHOULD DESIRE HIM.**

ESV "...he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him."

Our earliest physical description of Paul comes from a late second-century Christian writing The Acts of Paul and Thecla.

"And he saw Paul coming, a man small of stature, with a bald head and crooked legs, in a good state of body, with eyebrows meeting and nose somewhat hooked, full of friendliness; for now he appeared like a man, and now he had the face of an angel."

2 Corinthians 10:10

"For his letters, say they, are weighty and powerful; **BUT HIS BODILY PRESENCE IS WEAK** (*unimpressive, feeble, without strength*), and **HIS SPEECH CONTEMPTIBLE.**"

1 Corinthians 1:26–31

26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that **NOT MANY WISE MEN** after the flesh, **NOT MANY MIGHTY, NOT MANY NOBLE**, are called:

27 But God hath chosen the **FOOLISH THINGS** of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the **WEAK THINGS** of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

28 And **BASE THINGS** of the world, and things **WHICH ARE DESPISED**, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

29 **THAT NO FLESH SHOULD GLORY IN HIS PRESENCE.**

30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

Psalm 8:3–4

3 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, The moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

4 **WHAT IS MAN, THAT THOU ART MINDFUL OF HIM?** And the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Psalm 139:1–3

1 **O LORD, THOU HAST SEARCHED ME**, and **KNOWN ME.**

2 Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, Thou understandest my thought afar off.

3 Thou compassest my path and my lying down, And art acquainted with all my ways.

Luke 15:20–24

20 And he arose, and came to his father. But **WHEN HE WAS YET A GREAT WAY OFF, HIS FATHER SAW HIM**, and **HAD COMPASSION**, and **RAN**, and **FELL ON HIS NECK**, and **KISSED HIM.**

21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

22 But the father said to his servants, **BRING FORTH THE BEST ROBE**, and **PUT IT ON HIM**; and **PUT A RING ON HIS HAND**, and **SHOES ON HIS FEET**:

23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:

24 For **THIS MY SON WAS DEAD, AND IS ALIVE AGAIN; HE WAS LOST, AND IS FOUND.** And they began to be merry.

Romans 5:7–8

7 For **SCARCELY FOR A RIGHTEOUS MAN WILL ONE DIE**: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

8 But **GOD COMMENDETH HIS LOVE TOWARD US**, in that, **WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US.**

God's command for us to be holy is not so we qualify for some spiritual status or rise to a certain level of godly performance.

God's command for us to be holy is His love for us. He wants to be with us, dwell in us, walk and talk with us, but two can't walk together unless they be agreed. God loves us so much, He wants to be one with us, but He cannot join Himself to sin.

FEAR OF CIRCUMSTANCES

Matthew 6:25–34

25 Therefore I say unto you, **TAKE NO THOUGHT** (*anxious, worry, troubled with cares*) for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

NAS – "*For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life...*"

26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

31 Therefore **TAKE NO THOUGHT**, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for **YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER KNOWETH THAT YE HAVE NEED OF ALL THESE THINGS.**

33 **But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU.**

34 **TAKE THEREFORE NO THOUGHT FOR THE MORROW:** for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Psalms 139:3

"**THOU COMPASSEST** (*to winnow out*) **MY PATH** and my lying down, And **ART** (*intimately*) **ACQUAINTED WITH ALL MY WAYS.**"

ESV "You search out my path..."

NAS "You scrutinize my path and my lying down, And are intimately acquainted with all my ways."

Psalm 139:5

"**THOU HAST BESET ME BEHIND AND BEFORE, AND LAID THINE HAND UPON ME.**"

NAS - "*You have enclosed me behind and before...*"

John 10:28–29

28 And I give unto them eternal life; and **THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH, NEITHER SHALL ANY MAN PLUCK THEM OUT OF MY HAND.**

29 My Father, which gave them me, **IS GREATER THAN ALL;** and **NO MAN IS ABLE TO PLUCK THEM OUT OF MY FATHER'S HAND.**

Romans 8:35–39

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

37 Nay, **IN ALL THESE THINGS WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS THROUGH HIM THAT LOVED US.**

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, **SHALL BE ABLE TO SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD,** which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Proverbs 3:5–6

5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; And lean not unto thine own understanding.

6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, And **HE SHALL DIRECT** *(to be smooth, straight, right)* **THY PATHS.**