

Psalm 25 - The Fear of God

September 26, 2019

Psalm 25:11-22 ESV Of David

11 For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.

12 Who is the man who fears the LORD? Him will He instruct in the way that he should choose.

Psalm 25:12 NLT "Who are those who fear the LORD? He will show them the path they should choose."

13 His soul shall abide in well-being, and his offspring shall inherit the land.

14 The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant.

15 My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

16 Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely (*yachiyd - solitary, desolate, forsaken, wretched*) and afflicted (*'aniy - poor, needy, weak, wretched, depressed in mind and circumstances*).

17 The troubles (*tsarah - vexer, trouble, distress, affliction, adversary, anguish*) of my heart are enlarged (*rachab - make large, grow large, grow wide, increase*); bring me out of my distresses.

18 Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

19 Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me.

20 Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me! Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

21 May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.

22 Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

The Range of David's Emotions

It is vital to make note of the personal battles of our Biblical heroes lest we despair and give up in a lifelong pursuit of God.

- **guilty** vs 11 "...pardon my guilt, for it is great..."
- **paranoid** vs 15 "...He will pluck my feet out of the net..."
- **lonely** vs 16 "...I am lonely..."
- **afflicted** vs 16 "...I am...afflicted..."
- **overwhelmed** vs 17 "...the troubles of my heart are enlarged..."
- **persecuted** vs 19 "...what violent hatred they hate me..."

Hebrews 12:1-2 ESV

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Fear of the Lord

Comes from an acute consciousness of God's coming judgement.

The only way such knowledge will impact our choices and behavior is when that knowledge becomes our reality, and the only way that knowledge becomes reality is by the Holy Spirit illuminating the Word of God in our hearts..

Proverbs 16:6 ESV

6 By steadfast love and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for, and by the fear of the LORD one turns away from evil.

Matthew 10:28 ESV

28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

1 Peter 1:14-19 ESV

14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance,

15 but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct,

16 since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

17 And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile,

18 knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold,

19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

2 Corinthians 5:9-11 ESV

9 So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience.

There are so many strange and wonderful tensions which exist for the child of God, such as:

- *fearing God and His judgment*
- *having peace and confidence in the Day of Judgment*

--AND--

- *obeying because we fear God and His judgment*
- *obeying God because we love Him*

1 John 4:16-18 ESV

16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

17 By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.

18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

John 15:14-15 ESV

14 You are my friends if you do what I command you.

15 No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.