

Psalm 34 - Choose the Fear of the Lord

January 16, 2020

Psalm 34:1-6 ESV

(Of David, when he changed his behavior before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away.)

1 I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

2 My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

3 Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

5 Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.

6 This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.

THE BLESSINGS OF FEARING GOD

Psalm 34:7-10 ESV

7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

8 Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

9 Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!

10 The young lions suffer want and hunger; but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

WHAT IS THE FEAR OF THE LORD?

- ***The fear of the Lord is choosing to live in the reality that God is omnipresent and omniscient; always present, always watching and always inspecting every motive, thought, word, action and reaction.***

“Every man must choose his world.” — [A.W. Tozer, The Pursuit of God](#)

Proverbs 15:3 ESV

3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.

- ***We all need accountability. No man nor woman is above or superior to accountability. Any soul without accountability is a soul being slowly corrupted and eventually destroyed by carnality, both within and without.***

1 Timothy 1:18-19

18 This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,

19 holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith.

- ***The fear of the Lord is our internal mechanism of accountability, setting the boundaries of our conscience.***

Acts 24:16 ESV

16 So I [Paul] always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man.

- **Church is another discipline and environment of accountability ordained by God.**

Hebrews 10:24-27 ESV

24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,

25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

26 For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

27 but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

Psalm 34:11-14 ESV

11 Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

12 What man is there who desires life and loves many days, that he may see good?

13 Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.

14 Turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Micah 6:8 ESV

8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Proverbs 16:6 NASB

16 By lovingkindness and truth iniquity is atoned for, And by the fear of the LORD one keeps away from evil.

2 Chronicles 16:9 NASB

9 For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.

Hebrews 4:12-13 NASB

12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

2 Corinthians 5:9-11 NASB

9 Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men...

Why am I being judged when all my sins were borne away by Jesus on the cross, as far as the east is from the west? Will the sins that I've confessed and repented of be brought up again?

The Judgement Seat of Christ (of the believer) does not determine nor alter the believer's eternal salvation. One's eternal salvation has already been sealed by the blood of Jesus in the believer's justification.

- *The righteous and good that I have done will be rewarded.*
- *The residual carnality and sins that remain will be judged and purged by fire, forever destroyed.*

1 Corinthians 11:31-32 NASB

31 But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not be judged.

32 But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord so that we will not be condemned along with the world.

1 Corinthians 3:12-15 ESV

12 Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw--

13 each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done.

14 If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward.

15 If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

Colossians 3:22-24 NASB

22 Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who merely please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,

24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

"Let us practice the fine art of making every work a priestly ministraton. Let us believe that God is in all our simple deeds and learn to find Him there."

— A.W. Tozer, *The Pursuit of God*