

Greater works Christian Church

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Psalm 139:23-24

Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if *there is any* wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 26:2

Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; Try my mind and my heart.

The Fear of the Lord, Pt 1

Introduction: As we have stated many times, God is in the process of building up a people that He can move mightily through. There is a move of God here right now. Many have not noticed it because it is a movement of restoration, training and purifying: preparing a people who will do great and mighty exploits for Him.

Things being restored (not an exhaustive list):

1. The proper order and function of the "Fivefold" ministry (Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers).
2. Proper and Sound doctrine.
3. Compassion for the lost.
4. Passion for the things of God.
5. The "Fear of the Lord."

Things we are receiving training on (not an exhaustive list):

1. All of the above
2. Biblical/Kingdom Finances.
3. How to build the home.
 - A. How to be a good husband
 - B. How to be a good wife.
 - C. How to raise/train up our children.
4. The proper use of the Gifts of the Spirit, in and outside of the church.

Things we are being purified of (again, not an exhaustive list):

1. Improper attitudes and understanding of-
 - A. God
 - B. The Church
 - C. Each other (those in the body)
 - D. The gifts and power of God.
2. Worldliness (Carnality).
3. Wrong Doctrine.
4. Wrong motives.
5. Pride, arrogance and haughtiness.
6. Lack of concern and passion for the lost.

Note: These three areas of dealings are for everyone in the body of Christ. The leaders in the body will come under a heavier judgment than others, but everyone in the body of Christ will face this judgment.

Judgment= A ruling. This is not to be taken as an automatic negative. It becomes a negative when we fight and rebel against God's ruling. God's judgment can be a positive when we take what He says, and use it to correct the problem, weakness or failure that He brings to light. It is these areas of weakness we must strengthen in order for God to be able to change His ruling.

What will happen with those who refuse to take His judgments (rulings), and who refuse to correct those areas He points out as needing correction? They will most likely fall away and be replaced by those who are open to correction.

Proverbs 3:11-12

¹¹ My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD,
Nor detest His correction;
¹² For whom the LORD loves He corrects,
Just as a father the son *in whom* he delights.

Proverbs 10:17

¹⁷ He who keeps instruction *is in* the way of life,
But he who refuses correction goes astray.

Proverbs 12:1

Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge,
But he who hates correction *is* stupid.

Proverbs 13:18

Poverty and shame *will come* to him who disdains correction,
But he who regards a rebuke will be honored.

Note: In order to have a proper "Fear of the Lord" we need to be open correction. The correction I am speaking of is the correction that comes from God. God's correction may come from Him directly, as He speaks to us; or it may come from God through the established leadership on our lives. Another way that God brings His correction to us is through trusted friends.

Godly Correction is key to having the Fear of the Lord. Being open to hearing where we need to make adjustments in our life is so very important to our spiritual well being. This move of God will take us into the uncharted waters of God's Glory. We are all bound to make mistakes, and "Miss It" at times. So that these times of "Missing It" don't hinder us, or others, from receiving all that God has for us, we need to be open to correction from God, to keep us in the place of blessing. Being able to receive correction not only develops and keeps the proper Fear of the Lord, but will help to keep the movement alive from one generation to the next.

What is the “Fear of the Lord?”

Proverbs 8:13

The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil;
Pride and arrogance and the evil way
And the perverse mouth I hate.

Note: This is simple enough. In reality, the fear of the Lord is to hate the things that God hates.

Fear= a great respect for, reverence, great honor shown for, fear

Take notice of the things that God hates.

God hates:

1. Evil (a force that opposes God and His work in the world).
2. Pride (excessive self esteem; a disdainful attitude towards others)
3. Arrogance (showing too high an opinion of one’s own position)
4. Evil Way (participating in evil practices)
5. Perverse Mouth (perverse- obstinate; stubborn, intractable)

God is looking to develop within His people a proper Fear of the Lord. This verse makes it clear what the fear of the Lord truly is. Unfortunately, in the body of Christ, we have few who truly have a proper fear of the Lord. Far too many are engaged in activities that show that they have little, if any fear of God within them.

What is the “Fear of the Lord” (continued)

Proverbs 1:7

The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge,
But fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Note: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.

Psalms 111:10

The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom;
A good understanding have all those who do *His commandments*.
His praise endures forever.

Proverbs 9:10

“The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom,
And the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding.

Note: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

Proverbs 15:33

The fear of the LORD *is* the instruction of wisdom,
And before honor *is* humility.

Note: The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom.

Job 28:28

And to man He said,
'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that *is* wisdom,
And to depart from evil *is* understanding.'

Note: The fear of the Lord is wisdom.

Proverbs 14:26,27

²⁶ In the fear of the LORD *there is* strong confidence,
And His children will have a place of refuge.

²⁷ The fear of the LORD *is* a fountain of life,
To turn *one* away from the snares of death.

Note: Here we see that strong confidence is in the fear of the Lord. Also, there is a fountain of life in the fear of the Lord.

In these six passages we see that the fear of the Lord is:

1. The beginning of knowledge.
2. The beginning of wisdom.
3. The instruction of wisdom.
4. Wisdom itself.
5. A fountain of life, that comes with great confidence.

Conclusion:

What are the benefits of the Fear of the Lord?

Psalms 34:7

The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him,
And delivers them.

Psalms 34:9

Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints!
There is no want to those who fear Him.

Psalms 85:9

Surely His salvation *is* near to those who fear Him,
That glory may dwell in our land.

Psalms 103:11

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him

Psalms 103:13

As a father pities *his* children,
So the LORD pities those who fear Him.

Psalms 103:17

But the mercy of the LORD *is* from everlasting to everlasting
On those who fear Him

Psalms 145:19

He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him;
He also will hear their cry and save them.

Psalms 147:11

The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear Him,
In those who hope in His mercy.

The benefits of having a proper Fear of the Lord

1. Protection (the angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him).
2. Provision (there is no want to those who fear Him).
3. Salvation and Glory.
4. Mercy and Compassion (pity).
5. Fulfilled desires and answered prayers.

Note: When God puts a demand (command) upon us, such as this, it always promises great things when fulfilled. God wants to pour out His presence and blessings on all of us in unprecedented ways. He is merely waiting for His people to be mature enough to handle the things He desires us to have. God doesn't ask things of this nature without great blessing attached to it. We must know that as we allow the Holy Spirit to develop a proper Fear of the Lord within us, it will produce great power, authority and blessing in our life. When we honor God in this way, He promised that His glory would dwell in our land (Ps 85:9). This is what we seek as a church. We want God's glory to ascend upon us and fill this entire region. This will come as the Fear of the Lord is established once again within His people.