

Fear Vs. Faith

Fear brings a snare, but whoever puts their trust in the Lord will be safe. Pro 29:25

Intro: Fear is a terrible Master. Traps us, anxiety, can't sleep.

It kills hope and destroys love.

Abraham: his fear caused him deny Sarai as his wife (Genesis 12:12)

King Saul: in fear compromised God's commands (1 Sam 15:19-21)

Fear caused Peter to deny Jesus (Mt. 27) and be racist (Gal. 2:11-12).

I. Fear's Fruit

A. It creates distrust in God and others

1. When deprived we change (toilet paper)

Moral cowards, no joy, weak, not at rest

2. It distorts and makes things worse: It blinds us

A1. But Faith

1. Understands you've done enough to please God

2. Peace of God, 1 John 4:18 ***Fear ends where faith begins***

There is no fear in love, but perfect love cast out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.

B. Fear distorts the future

Both fear and Faith look to a future that hasn't happened yet.

Fear sees the negative Faith sees the positive

B1. Example of Israel. Numbers 13

Ten spies saw the giants of the land. Were afraid even though they had seen the plagues

Joshua and Caleb saw God's power and promises

Fear led to forty years of futility. Faith led to accomplishment

II. Application

A. Fear, worry, anxiety, and stress keep us from being us. Phil 4:4-6

Have not seen God, but have seen his promises

Fear keeps us from life

B. Self awareness: Fear keeps me from action, what I should do

C. Parenting Eph. 6:4

Afraid for children: what if they fail? Get hurt?

Faith lets them succeed, learn, grow

D. Fear snares today

Sickness, financial markets, climate change, violence

Get your eyes off of the world and back on God

Conclusion: Both fear and faith have risks.

Fear comes from dread of what could happen

Faith relies on promises to see God's work

God's track record is perfect.