

Fear The Lord Deuteronomy 31:10-13

Defining The "Fear Of The Lord"

Acts 9:31

Hebrew **yirah**; a fear: fear, terror; awesome or terrifying thing (object causing fear); fear (of God), respect, reverence, piety

yare; to fear:

Greek **phobos**; panic flight, fear, the causing of fear, dread, terror; that which strikes terror

Phobia is a familiar English word from this

Philippians 2:12-13

tromos; a trembling or quaking with fear

Matthew 10:28

phobeo; to put to flight, to terrify, frighten

Scared, afraid; Jason, Freddy Krueger, Godzilla

People prefer to hear about God's love, longsuffering and mercy

Pointing out God's righteous indignation, holiness, and justice, brings reply "My God is not like that!"

"Fear of the Lord" includes ...

"being afraid to offend God in any way" - Hendricksen

Trembling & quaking knowing one has offended God & not obtained forgiveness!

Hebrews 10:26-31; 12:28-29

The Importance Of The "Fear Of The Lord"

Proverbs 1:7; 8:13; 10:27; 14:26-27; 16:6; 19:23; 22:4

Fear of the Lord motivates to repent and turn to God; truly "work out our own salvation"

2Corinthians 7:1

Without the "fear of the Lord", we cannot please God - Isaiah 66:1-2; Psalms 103:17-18

Developing The "Fear Of The Lord"

Like faith, it comes through hearing the Word - Romans 10:17; Deuteronomy 31:10-13

Purpose? "...they may learn to fear the Lord"!

yare; to fear; morally, to revere; caus. to frighten:

Yareyaw-ray; to fear; to revere; cause to frighten: affright, be afraid, dread, fear, reverence

Reading the Word should develop the "fear of the Lord" - Romans 2:4-11; 2Peter 3:7-14

The Word Of God, Properly Used, Will Maintain A Proper Balance

To avoid extremes, we must read all of God's Word

Some read only of God's love & mercy, & have no "fear of the Lord"

Others emphasize "fire, hell and brimstone" passages, & know nothing of God's everlasting loving-kindness

One develops permissive attitude belittles God's holiness & justice

Other a psychosis of terror that forgets God's grace & compassion

Even in the passages noted above, the context of each speaks much of God's grace and forgiveness for those who will repent!

We must be careful how we use Word of God but use it we must!

Fear The Lord!

Psalms 89:7

arats; to cause to tremble, tremble

aras; to awe or (intransitive) to dread; hence, to harass: — be affrighted (afraid, dread, feared, terrified), break, dread, fear, oppress, prevail, shake terribly.

The warning is necessary, for as it is written in Hebrews: Hebrews 4:1-2,11

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