

**Spiritual How-to's**  
**The Fear of the Lord**  
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**Intro: Welcome ... where we share brief, bible basics and how-to's.**

I'm Debbie Chaney & happy that you've clicked in.

**Today's how to – The Fear of the Lord**

**Note: My inspiration for these how-to's came from reading 2 Ki. 17:28 –  
“ and taught them how they should fear the Lord”. People need to be taught...**

**I. So we start at the beginning. Pro. 1:7 – the fear of the Lord is the beginning...**

It is the beginning of your relationship with the Lord. The beginning of knowledge, wisdom, you name it. The FOL is the beginning.

**A. Imagine if everyone knew our secret thoughts,** words actions, if they were displayed for all to see. Wouldn't it have a profound affect on the way that we lived? WHY?

- Because we care about how people view us and how they judge us.

1. How much more then, should God's evaluation of us?

2. The FOL is the awareness of these truths.

3. God is watching. He sees all, nothing is hidden. Not a word, thought.

Ps. 139; Lk. 8; 12

4. Nothing done in darkness

5. THIS awareness coupled with the fact that we all will appear before His judgement seat should stir a fear in us. 2 Cor. 5

**B. FEAR- the Hebrew word “yaw-ray” (H3372) = to fear morally; to revere, awesome; Held in high esteem, stand in awe, timid, afraid.**

1. Picture driving your car and a police car is behind you. You fear. You check your speed, light. Etc. He has the power to site you if you're in violation.

2. That's the picture we have of God. We think He's out to site our violations.

3. So we try to stay away from Him & His judgment.

**C. God is not a cop.** With Him we have HOLY AWE, REVERENCE. He is the creator who holds all things in His POWER, including my life. He is HOLY, RIGHTEOUS, JUST, AWESOME, and AMAZING – to be feared, to be respected!

1. That is why we revere Him. That is why we honor Him. That is why we fear Him

2. We realize He is the omnipotent God and we are not.

**D. FEAR based on love is different** than the cop kind.

1. A love relationship motivates us to want to please someone we love & we fear displeasing them.
2. I love my husband & I choose to please him. Love motivates me to make choices that please him. I'm not his slave or manipulated by him. His love secures me.
3. God's love secures me to Him too and nothing can separate me from Him.  
Rom. 8
  - a. I don't live in fear of displeasing Him. It's not an abusive relationship.
  - b. I am his adopted child, that means he's chosen me
  - c. that drives me to Him and not away!

**E. We don't naturally seek to honor God, so we must to choose to walk in the fear of the Lord.**

1. In my younger life, my fear of the Lord either motivated me DO certain things or DETERRED me from doing things.
2. Because of that FOL, it kept me from some really serious trouble, situations and stupid and regretful decisions. And when I lacked the FOL, I really screwed up.
3. A healthy FOL will do both. It will:
  - a. motivate you to DO (what is right)
  - b. deter you from doing (what is wrong)
4. Abraham's FOL motivated him to obey God. Gen. 22
5. The Egyptian midwives refrained from killing the baby boys. Ex. 2
6. My Mom would have called it that little voice inside your hear
7. Maybe it is your conscience
8. Maybe it's your conscience activated by the fear of the Lord

**F. Deut. 10:12-13 – What does the Lord REQUIRE of you... TO FEAR the LORD. And walk in His ways.**

1. If it's a requirement, then we need to know HOW TO
2. 2 Tim. 6:3 – some would say the holy, awe of God is not important.
  - a. Most in this world would say that
  - b. maybe even you have thought it

**G. Scripture is full of the opposite. Ecc. 12:13 sums it up nicely –**

**“The last and final word is this – fear God, do what He tells you. And that's it.”  
The whole duty of man.**

1. Our whole life's goal is to love the Lord and be in reverent awe of Him.  
That's it!
2. When it dawns on you that the God of the universe has adopted you, accepted you, you have nothing but a driving desire to share with Him and please Him
3. I delight in Him and He delights in me.
4. I am overwhelmed & amazed that He bends toward me & find it my pleasure to honor Him with the choices of my life
5. I fear the Lord, it is my pleasure, my duty.
6. Without that, God seems like that cop behind me.

## II. So, How do you fear the Lord? Here's the how to....

1. Choose each day to walk in reverent respect for God
2. Grow daily in loving God and letting Him love you
3. Ask His help daily (in what you do, refuse to do and say and refuse to say)

**Closing – Caring about what He thinks is more important that caring about what others think & that is the fear of the Lord. That is your whole duty.**

## III. FOL is essential to live a holy life. It is essential for holiness. 2 Cor. 7:1

### A. FOL has benefits/rewards:

1. riches, honor, life Pro. 22:4
2. strength to refuse evil Pro. 16:6
3. knowledge Pro. 1:7
4. wisdom Pro. 9:10
5. long life Pro. 10:27
6. fountain of life Pro. 14:27
7. contentment Pro. 15:16
8. wise instruction Pro. 15:33
9. healing & refreshment Pro. 3:7-8
10. free to worship Ps. 5:7
11. provision Ps. 111:5; 34:9
12. salvation Ps. 85:9
13. confidence Pro. 14:26
14. satisfaction Pro. 19:23
15. secrets of the Lord Ps. 25:14
16. experiencing God's goodness Ps. 31:19
17. God's watchful care Ps. 33:18-19
18. help in trouble Ps. 34:7
19. mercy Ps. 103:11

20. a father's pity Ps. 103:13
21. pleasing the Lord Ps. 147:11
22. being His treasure Mal. 3:16-17
23. teachable Ps. 25:12
24. holiness 2 Cor. 7:1
25. submitting to one another Eph. 5:1
26. fulfilled desires Ps. 145:19

**B. Remember, we please God by believing that He rewards? These are some of those rewards.**

**C. How to FEAR GOD** – let's review so we can keep practicing the FOL.

1. Choose each day to walk in reverent respect for God
2. Grow daily in loving God and letting Him love you
3. Ask His help daily (in what you do, refuse to do and say and refuse to say)

? How'd you do last week? Were you more aware of the awesome God that holds your life in His hands and loves you unconditionally?

**Closing – Caring about what He thinks is more important than caring about what others think & that is the fear of the Lord. That is your whole duty.**