

Study QUESTIONS

Ep. 1443: What Is the 'Fear of the Lord'?

<https://christianquestions.com/doctrine/1443-fear-of-the-lord>

See:  CQ Rewind
SHOW NOTES

1. What does the 'fear of the Lord' (reverence) provide in each of these examples?
 - a. Deuteronomy 6:1-2: What foundational purpose did reverence serve for Israel?
 - b. Psalms 86:11-13: How does reverence open the heart to God's truth, lovingkindness and deliverance?
 - c. Proverbs 14:26-27: How does reverence produce confidence and become a "fountain of life"?
 - d. Psalms 25:12-15: What instruction, prosperity and protection come from reverencing God?
2. Psalms 19:7-10 lists several aspects of God's guidance—His law, testimony, precepts, commandment, reverence and judgments. What does each of these provide, and how do they together reveal God's overruling providence for Israel and for Christians today?
3. Why do you think the fear of the Lord is "clean" and "enduring"? How does reverencing God bring purity, stability and peace in your own life? (Psalms 19:7-10)
4. In Psalms 27:1-3, how does reverence remove dread and produce confidence? How will reverence transform the world under the future New Covenant? (Psalms 67:3-7)
5. Explain how these New Testament uses of the Greek *phobeo* and *phobos* show either positive or negative connotations: Acts 13:15-16, 2 Corinthians 7:1, 1 Peter 2:16-17
6. What kind of fear ought we NOT to have? Use 2 Timothy 1:7-8 and Mark 4:39-41 to show how both appear in the same narrative.
7. If we are following Christ, how should the fear of the Lord inform our decisions, our sense of responsibility and our awareness of God working in us? (1 Peter 1:17-19, Philippians 2:12-13)
8. Where in your life do you struggle with the negative kind of fear (cowardice, dread, avoidance)? How can confidence in God's greatness and goodness reshape your response?
9. Philippians 2:12-13 tells us to "work out your salvation with fear and trembling." What current responsibility or spiritual challenge causes you to "not trust your own ability"? How can you lean more fully into allowing God to work with you over this?