

## Eliminating the Bondage of Fear

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### Scripture References

Romans 8:15

2 Timothy 1:7

Hebrews 2:15

1 John 4:18

Isaiah 54:14

Job 3:25

Proverbs 18:21

2 Corinthians 4:4, 13

Proverbs 4:23

2 Corinthians 10:5

John 10:10

Psalms 103:1-7

Psalms 37:23

Psalms 91:1-16, *NLT*

### Summary

*In these end times, fear is prevalent everywhere we look. The way to combat this negative emotion is by standing on the promises found in God's Word, and choosing to believe them. Terror is not God's will for us; therefore, we must not tolerate it. As believers, we live in the world but we are not part of it. This means that while others are fearful, we are faithful; and while others are in bondage, we are at liberty. We can stay at peace while going about our daily routines, because we trust God to keep us safe. When fear spreads like an epidemic, His Word is the perfect antidote against it.*

#### **A. It is our decision whether or not to be afraid. It is not God's will that we live in fear.**

1. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father (Romans 8:15).
  - a. Fear is something that must be received externally; it is not a characteristic of our born-again spirits.
  - b. We must not tolerate fear; it contaminates faith. Submitting to fear gives the devil an opportunity to operate in the earth and in our lives.
2. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7).
  - a. Fear does not come from God; however, the world is inundated with it. Fear comes straight from Satan, and it brings bondage. It is *not* okay to walk in fear.
  - b. We should let love—not fear—govern our lives.
3. And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage (Hebrews 2:15).
  - a. We have the opportunity to be enslaved to any number of things that stem from fear. Any kind of fear, no matter how small, will put us in bondage.

#### **B. As believers, it is entirely possible to go about our daily routines, but without fear.**

1. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love (1 John 4:18).
  - a. When fear is present, the devil uses it as a platform to torment us; we must not accept it.

- b. We can do what we need to do on a daily basis to stay safe, but without fear. Our motivation is everything.
- 2. In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee (Isaiah 54:14).
  - a. The enemy uses fear to control us; the battle takes place in our minds.
  - b. Our righteousness comes not from what we do, but from what Jesus did.
- 3. For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me (Job 3:25).
  - a. Fear may be present, but we do not have to be subject to it; the choice is entirely up to us.
  - b. Whatever we give our attention to becomes large in our minds. Fear is the faith of the devil.

**C. We have authority over every negative emotion. We fight fear by declaring the Word.**

- 1. Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof (Proverbs 18:21).
  - a. Our words are important; before we even attempt to speak the right confessions, we must be sure that we believe what Jesus has already done.
  - b. ...According as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak (2 Corinthians 4:13).
  - c. We must not agree with fear; there are consequences for that.
- 2. Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life (Proverbs 4:23).
  - a. If we are to guard our hearts, we must guard our eye gates, our ear gates, and our mouth gates. It is vital to be aware of what we see, hear, and say, because these things affect our hearts.
- 3. Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ (2 Corinthians 10:5).
  - a. We can capture every fearful thought and make it obey what the Word says. However, we do not capture thoughts with other thoughts, but with words. When a negative thought pops into our head, we must verbally declare God's Word to contradict it.

**D. The enemy uses fear against us. He does not want us to be aware of what he is doing.**

- 1. In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them (2 Corinthians 4:4).
  - a. Satan wants to keep everyone spiritually blind, so that they cannot see what he is doing on the earth. Believers are a threat to him because they have spiritual vision.
- 2. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly (John 10:10).
  - a. We cannot blame God for the bad things that happen in life; He wants only the best for us.
  - b. When things happen, we must trust God to take care of us. We can strengthen our trust by remembering all the times in the past when He delivered us from trouble.

**E. We have God, Himself, as our refuge and protection. When we believe this, we are safe.**

1. Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed. He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel (Psalm 103:1-7).
  - a. There are benefits to walking by faith and not by sight, such as forgiveness, healing, and redemption.
  - b. The righteous trust in God.
  - c. The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way (Psalm 37:23).
2. Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty. This I declare about the LORD: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him. For he will rescue you from every trap and protect you from deadly disease. He will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings. His faithful promises are your armor and protection. Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night, nor the arrow that flies in the day. Do not dread the disease that stalks in darkness, nor the disaster that strikes at midday. Though a thousand fall at your side, though ten thousand are dying around you, these evils will not touch you. Just open your eyes, and see how the wicked are punished. If you make the LORD your refuge, if you make the Most High your shelter, no evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your home. For he will order his angels to protect you wherever you go. They will hold you up with their hands so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone. You will trample upon lions and cobras; you will crush fierce lions and serpents under your feet! The LORD says, "I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name. When they call on me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue and honor them. I will reward them with a long life and give them my salvation" (Psalm 91:1-16, *NLT*).
  - a. Shelter protects us from external threats.
  - b. God's Word is our armor and protection.
  - c. God promises us safety; we simply have to decide who to believe—Him, or the world.
  - d. We have supernatural protection; this gives us an edge over evil.

For more on how believing in God's Word frees us from the grip of fear, click on the link below for the DVD, *Eliminating the Bondage of Fear*.

<http://bit.ly/EliminatingtheBondageofFearDVD>

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