
Scriptures For When We Are Afraid

collected by Chaplain Joy L. Smith

[New King James translation is used, here, unless otherwise indicated.]

Psalms 23:4 – “Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.”

2 Timothy 1:7 - “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”

Romans 8:15 - “For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father.’”

1 John 4:18 - “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.”

Isaiah 26:3-4 - “You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You. Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH, the LORD, is everlasting strength.”

Psalms 56:3-4 - “Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You. In God (I will praise His word), In God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?”

Isaiah 44:8 - “Do not fear, nor be afraid Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other Rock; I know not one.”

Job 5:21 - “You will be protected from the lash of the tongue, and need not fear when destruction comes.”

Psalms 27:1 - “The LORD is my light and my salvation--whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life--of whom shall I be afraid?”

Psalms 27:3 - “Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident.”

Psalms 34:7 - “The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, and He delivers them.”

Psalms 115:11, 13 - “You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield. . . . He will bless those who fear the LORD, Both small and great.”

Psalms 118:6 - “The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

Proverbs 1:33 - “But whoever listens to me will dwell safely, And will be secure, without fear of evil.”

Proverbs 29:25 - “The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.”

Romans 13:7 - “Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.”

Hebrews 13:6 - "So we may boldly say: "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

Hebrews 5:6-8 - "As He also says in another place: 'You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek'; who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered."

What Jesus said about fear:

Mathew 6:31-34 - "Matthew 6:31-34 - Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

Matthew 10:28 - "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

Matthew 10:31 - "Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."

Luke 12:5 - "But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!"

Luke 12:7 - "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows."

Luke 12:32 - "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

John 14:1-2 - "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you."

What Scripture says about the "fear of the Lord"

Many Scripture passages instruct us to fear God. Yet, through the ages people who learn to be obedient to Divine Guidance are not afraid of God in a negative sense. Rather, God's people have the courage and strength to do what pleases God. This results in a life that has many blessings built into it. Mostly "fearing God" is about maintaining a reverent awe for God who loves us. An awesome respect for God is the basis for our desire to please the Creator. God loves and treasures us, yet expects obedience to the divine guidance that is provided within Scripture and within our very hearts.

Scriptures are provided below that make clear what is the "fear of the Lord." Listed separately under the "Quick Aids" button on this website are passages portraying specific blessings that come to those who cherish an ongoing reverent awe of God.

Proverbs 9:10 - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

Proverbs 8:13 - “The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate.”

Proverbs 1:7 - “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

Psalms 19:9 - “The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of the LORD are sure and altogether righteous.”

Job 28:28 - “And He said to man, 'The fear of the Lord--that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding . . .”

What results in our lives when we have a reverent awe of God

Job 31:23 - “For I dreaded destruction from God, and for fear of his splendor I could not do such things.”
[NIV translation]

2 Corinthians 7:1 - “Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”

2 Samuel 23:3-4 - “The God of Israel spoke, the Rock of Israel said to me: ‘When one rules over men in righteousness, when rules in the fear of God, he is like the light of morning at sunrise on a cloudless morning, like the brightness after rain that brings the grass from the earth . . .”

Exodus 20:20 - . . . “Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning.”

Deuteronomy 5:29 - “Oh, that their hearts would be inclined to fear me and keep all my commands always, so that it might go well with them and their children forever!”

Hebrews 11:7 - “By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.”

Hebrews 12:28 - “Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.”

Directives regarding “fear God”

2 Chronicles 19:7 - “Now let the fear of the LORD be upon you. Judge carefully, for with the LORD our God there is no injustice or partiality or bribery.”

2 Chronicles 19:9 - “And he commanded them, saying, "Thus you shall act in the fear of the LORD, faithfully and with a loyal heart . . .”

Proverbs 3:7-8 - “Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil.”

Ecclesiastes 12:13 - “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this are the whole duty of man.”

Psalms 135:20- “Bless the LORD . . . You who fear the LORD, bless the LORD! It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones.”

Psalms 33:8 - “Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world stand in awe of Him.”

Deuteronomy 10:12-13 - “And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?”

Proverbs 15:16 - “Better is a little with the fear of the LORD, Than great treasure with trouble.”

Deuteronomy 10:20 - “Fear the LORD your God and serve. Hold fast to and take your oaths in his name.”

Deuteronomy 31:13 - “Their children, who do not know this law, must hear it and learn to fear the LORD your God as long as you live in the land . . .”

Joshua 4:24 “. . . that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the LORD is mighty, that you may fear the LORD your God.”

1 Samuel 12:24 - “Only fear the LORD, and serve in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you.”

1 Peter 2:17 - “Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.”

Revelations 15:4 - “Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before You, for Your judgments have been manifested.”

Psalms 22:23 - “You who fear the LORD, praise ! All you descendants of Jacob, honor ! Revere , all you descendants of Israel!”

Revelations 19:5 - “Then a voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!"

Joel 2:13 - “So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm.”

[For an uplift of Spirit: See Quick Aid titled “Benefits that come to those who have a reverent awe of God” It is awesome to ponder these benefits and to realize they are in our lives!](#)