

LIVING IN HOLY FEAR

Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord. Acts 9:31

	Heathen Fear	Unholy Fear	"Religious" Fear	Holy Fear
Biblical Examples	Canaanites, Perizzites, Rahab	Goliath, Religious Leaders	Rich Young Ruler, Hearers of the Word	Apostles
Scriptures	Genesis 34:30 - 35:5, Joshua 2:11	I Samuel 17:8-11, Matthew 22:15	Matthew 19:16-22, James 1:22-25	Acts 4:18-20, Acts 4:27-31
Relationship with God	none	enemy	lukewarm	disciple
Resulting Attitude	terror	arrogance	anxiety/worry	wisdom
Leads to	flight	disobedience	disobedience	obedience
Lifestyle	of ignorance	of persecution	of self-preservation	of trust
Decision Base	whatever	preserve falsehood	my happiness	glorify God
Evil	lives it	preaches it	plays with it	hates it

1. Heathen Fear:

- A. God knows when to terrorize *Deut 2:25 This very day...*
- B. God knows how to terrorize *Deut. 2:25 ...They will hear reports of you and tremble*

2. Unholy Fear: Exists in those who oppose the God of the Bible

- A. Live under the constant threat of Christianity
- B. Anything outside of truth produces bondage *John 8:32 ...truth makes us free*
- C. Only recourse is persecution

3. "Religious" Fear:

- A. Only the outside form *1 Timothy 3:1-5 ...having a form of godliness but denying its power.*
- B. Living in fear of messing up & paying for it *1 John 4:18 ...fear has to do with punishment*
- C. Being consumed with worry
- D. Living out doubts

4. Holy Fear: Reverential Trust and Respect of God

- A. Wisdom *Proverbs 9:10*
 - 1. Decisions are based on something broader and bigger than me
 - 2. Hatred of evil *Proverbs 8:13*
- B. Deeper Love for God *1 John 4:18 There is no fear in love.*
- C. More Intimacy with God