

The Fear of the Lord Is the Beginning of Wisdom

To the church,

I write to you so that you may walk in the light and not deceive yourselves. For the Scripture is true when it says, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.” Proverbs 9:10. Where the fear of God is absent, wisdom cannot remain, no matter how sincere the words or how active the faith may appear.

This letter is not written to expose how the church has replaced the cross with comfort. That darkness has already been named. I write to you about something nearer and more serious, the responsibility of each soul before God. No one will stand before Him as part of a crowd. Each will stand alone. Deception does not excuse disobedience, and influence does not replace obedience.

Many say they love God, yet they do not keep His commandments. Many speak of grace, yet they make peace with sin. Many desire eternal life, yet they continue in paths that Scripture says lead to death. These things cannot live together. Truth does not change because it is believed sincerely.

This is how deception grows among believers. Sin is no longer called sin. It is called weakness, struggle, trauma, or personality. But Scripture does not speak this way. Sin is lawlessness. It darkens the heart and blinds the understanding. What you refuse to call sin, you will never turn away from. And what you do not turn away from will rule you.

Love for God is not measured by words, but by obedience. Christ Himself said that those who love Him keep His commandments. Persistent disobedience is not a small matter. It is a matter of life and death. If a person does not love their own soul enough to turn away from the path that leads to destruction, how can they claim to love others while their life quietly teaches compromise. A divided walk produces a divided witness.

Light does not remain hidden. And neither does sin. What is done in the dark affects the whole body. Sin weakens prayer. It dulls discernment. It steals authority. When a person speaks truth but refuses obedience, their words lose weight. This is not weakness, it is hypocrisy, and hypocrisy is worst because it harms those who hear it.

Silence in the face of sin is not love. It is participation. When fear of rejection or discomfort keeps a believer silent, that silence becomes testimony against them. Love that abides in the light does not protect darkness. The fear of the Lord drives out the fear of man and calls us to walk in truth even when it costs us peace with others.

Even the spirits that oppose God tremble at His authority and obey when He commands. Yet many who claim to know Him resist His commands when obedience costs their will. This reveals the heart of the matter. The issue is not understanding or opportunity. **It is the absence of the fear of the Lord.** Obedience that is delayed or negotiated is still refusal.

True repentance is not sorrow alone. Tears without change do not cleanse the heart. Repentance is turning away from darkness and walking into the light. It cuts off what feeds sin. It abandons excuses. Obedience always costs something, because light and darkness cannot share the same place. Grace was never given so that we could remain unchanged, but so that we could walk in truth.

Faithfulness before God is not measured by results or acceptance. It is measured by obedience. Many will hear truth and turn away. That does not release us from walking in the light. When God speaks, obedience is required, whether others receive it or reject it. This is settled by the fear of the Lord.

Hear this and understand it clearly. Every time truth is revealed and resisted, the heart hardens. Light rejected does not disappear; It becomes witness. What is heard and ignored will stand as testimony. There is no place where truth can be known without consequence.

The fear of the Lord is not terror without hope. It is clarity. It is seeing God as light, sin as darkness, and obedience as the way of life. That fear leads to repentance, discipline, and truth. Without it, faith becomes words only, prayer loses power, and love becomes a lie we tell ourselves.

Yet hope remains. God is faithful and just to forgive those who turn to Him. He strengthens those who submit. He restores those who walk in the light. No one is beyond repentance. But no one is saved by delay. Life is not promised tomorrow, and light is not given so that it can be postponed.

I write these things so that you may respond, not merely reflect. The study that follows does not soften the truth. It explains from Scripture how the fear of the Lord is formed, how it governs the heart, and what must change when a person chooses to walk in the light. What you do with this truth will determine whether it brings life or stands as witness.

Do not read these words to feel affirmed. Read them so that you may have life. Do not measure them against others, but against the Word of God while there is still time. Eternal life is too precious, and the soul too valuable, to walk carelessly.

May God grant us hearts that turn toward the light, strength to put away darkness, and wisdom that begins with fearing Him.

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For a deeper study on John's message see: B3-C01-S03 - THE FEAR OF THE LORD

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