

Click on the Fear of God

The purpose of this document is to define the most useful tool when facing temptation: the fear of God. There are other tools, but this one is most useful because it always works. Because it leads us to those other tools, it is like a first step. If we are confident we can skip that step, then why are we being tempted? I say this because to draw us back to him, the Lord uses the pain of sin. Like a parent's discipline, pain and the threat of pain is our fear of God.

Our Physical Tool (The Fear of God is not spiritual)

The fear of God works every time. The other tools are internal and spiritual, but the fear of God is external and physical. To fear God, all you have to know are the external, impersonal, historical deeds of the Lord. They prove his control of things, things like the weather and all authority. Plus, the evidence of these deeds proves his creative power. Most important for this definition, they prove his holiness. Our soul is designed for and drawn to his holiness. Like a parent, he wants us to fear his holiness.

Must be Learned

The fear of God must be developed. To be protected by them, little children need to learn to fear their parent's holiness. Besides parents, they find much to fear. For them to overcome these other fears, they are designed by God to test the limit their parent's control. Like little children, we all test the limits of Gods control. We find those limits by studying the evidence of his deeds in history. We develop a fear of God by recognizing him in the story of his people. He has blessed his people. Based on what the Occupy Wall Street protesters said, his people are the 1%. If his people are also the Federal Reserve Bank, then both sides of the political fence are blaming His People. Throughout history and throughout the whole world, God's People have been in the news. The fear of God is developed by studying His People. The Jews (His People) have both feared God and tested the limits of his control. They are just like us.

Always the First Step (Physical before spiritual)

The fear of God is always the first step. God gives us freedom. Even if we are the most spiritual Christian of all time, daily he sends us out into the World by ourselves so we can be free to worship him. When he sends us out with the gifts of our calling, we are free to use those gifts without repentance (as we please, he will not take them back). Out in this World we are motivated by his Holy Spirit. At the same time his physical Law is performing its function. Like rules of ethics, it lets us know we are losing our spiritual motivation and its protection. If we are outside, the first step inside to the spiritual begins outside in the physical. The fear of God is always the first step.

Summary: Click on the Fear of God

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