

P235

**Grace Notes Radio Program
PGM 35: FEAR – Is it all bad?
SONGS: WHEN ALL WE HAVE IS JESUS 4:30
IN JESUS NAME 2:58**

INTRO: Welcome to Grace Notes. A recent U.S. News & World Report poll revealed that Americans fear a lot of things - crime, violence, drugs, guns, the economy, unemployment, health care and even education.

The magazine stated, "Fear is never far away." Yes, we all have fear, but in the right context, fear can be a valuable emotion. Today, on Grace Notes, Barbara Sandbek will talk about the fear we should have and the fear we shouldn't.

Have you ever been afraid? I sure have. As a child, I feared shadows in my bedroom, being home alone, and thunder and lightning. I mistakenly thought that when I became an adult, the thunder and lightning wouldn't bother me anymore, but I remember a time when a horrific storm came up and I took my sons to the basement, so THEY wouldn't be afraid. Really, though, it was for my benefit.

There are two types of fear: fear of evil or danger, which we shouldn't have, because it comes from Satan, and fear, or reverential awe, which we should have for Almighty God.

I've come to the conclusion that most people fear what they shouldn't because they don't fear Who they should.

Matthew 10:28 says...

Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.

Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both body and soul in Hell.

Jesus holds the deed to our soul because He created us. He also holds the keys to Heaven and Hell because He broke the chain sin and death had on humanity when He rose from the grave.

Fear began in the garden of Eden when Adam and Eve chose to know evil as well as good. Their choice brought evil into the world, and with it came fear. We, too, have chosen to disobey God. Romans 3:23 says...

For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

We naturally fear God's wrath because we know we deserve it. Romans 6:23 says...The wages of sin is death. Death is separation from God in hell forever - this is man's biggest fear.

There is no remedy for fear unless we choose to place our faith in Jesus, who God gave to pay our penalty so that we would not perish but have everlasting life.

1 Timothy 2:5 says...

There is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all men.

Romans 8:1 says...

There is therefore now NO CONDEMNATION to them which are in Christ.

We are “in Christ” when we accept by faith this gift of Salvation. According to Ephesians 1, we become holy and blameless in God’s sight – we’re born into God’s family. We’re accepted and loved and able to understand God’s perfect love, which 1 John 4:18 says casts out fear.

God places the Holy Spirit in our hearts, and gives us power to overcome fear.

2 Timothy 1:7 states...

...God hath not given us the spirit of fear but of power.

In John 16:33, Jesus said...

“In the world you will have trouble, but fear not, I have overcome the world.”

1 John 5:4 says...

Everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

Psalm 91:5-6 says...

You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.

Everything can be taken from you, but no one can take what’s in your heart, the promise of eternal life. You’ll find that when all you have is Jesus - Jesus is all you need.

***** WHEN ALL YOU HAVE IS JESUS – JESUS IS ALL YOU NEED*****

Even though we have God’s power and promises, we still fear. Why?

Because we expect too much out of ourselves and not enough out of God. We don't have that reverential awe, the appreciation and wonder for the powerful creator of the universe.

Did you know that there are a trillion, trillion stars in our universe alone? God says in Isaiah 40:26...

**Lift up your eyes and look to the Heavens. Who created all these?
He who brings out the starry hosts one by one and calls them each by name.
Because of His great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.**

God names and keeps track of stars. But even more importantly, He knows us intimately. In Isaiah 43:1 God says...

**Fear not, for I have redeemed you.
I have summoned you by name. You are mine.**

Psalms 103:11 reads...

For as high as the heavens are above the earth so great is His love for those who fear Him.

Psalms 103:13 reads...

As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.

Psalms 34:9 says...

Fear the Lord - for those who fear Him lack nothing.

So, how do we fear God correctly? Proverbs 2:1-5 tell us...

**...if you accept my words and store up my commands within you;
turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding,
and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you
look for it as for silver, and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you
will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.**

Do we seek God like that?

As Believers in Christ, we can call on His Name and receive everything we need to live without fear. His Name is His character. There is strength and power in the Name of Jesus. Proverbs 18:10 says...

The Name of the Lord is a strong tower. The righteous run into it and are safe!!

Are you afraid? Call on the Name of Jesus. He'll pull that stronghold of fear down!

***** IN JESUS NAME *****

You've been listening to Grace Notes. For more information about this ministry write to:

Sandbek Ministries

P.O. Box 581

Fallston, MD 21047

or email us through our web site at www.gracenotesradio.com.

Join us on our next program. Until then, let your grace notes be a song of praise!