

Fear No Evil

Chapter 10

We live our lives in and among evil. Why do we fear it? The Lord says, "Greater is He that is in you, then he that is in the world."

PS 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."

He does not say that He will take us out of the valley of death, but that He will get us through it. How else are we to be used?

Where did Jesus live? but among the evil people, the thieves, beggars, the prostitutes, the murders, and the heathen (religious people). He did not run away from them because they were evil, but He ran to them. Why, because they were the lost sheep.

They were the ones that needed and wanted to be saved.

MT 9:10 "While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and "sinners" came and ate with Him and His disciples. [11] When the Pharisees saw this, they asked His disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and `sinners'?"

MT 9:12 "On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. [13] But go and learn what this means: **`I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.**"

He says to stand boldly against evil or why else does He say?

EPH 6:10 "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. [11] Put on the full armor of God **so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.** [12] For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. [13] Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. [14] Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, [15] and

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with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. [16] In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. [17] Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. [18] And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.”

He wants us as warriors, or at least to be strong in His might to stand as Christians. But it says here that all of our struggles are against evil. Our struggle to live, to work, to raise our children, to eat and drink is against evil.

Evil can only hurt us when we let it. If we have the strongest armor on in the world, the armor of God, of the living God, of the God that created the universe, of the world, how can anything be stronger than that, how can anything penetrate that? There is nothing stronger than that. It is made by the All Mighty; therefore, it can never be broken, and not even by any evil.

So why are we afraid of evil, when we have the armor of God on? We are afraid because we believe the evil lies. Because evil cannot get through our armor, he tries to convince us that we do not have armor. He lies to make us to forget to put it on. Then yes we are vulnerable. Evil can hurt us then.

That is why God has churches and fellowships, to remind us to put on our armor. The armor is from the Holy Spirit and He is everywhere. He is our armor bearer. He brings it with Him every time we forget to put it on. We only have to ask Him, and He will put it on us.

Over and over and over again, the bible tells us to not fear evil. We can go through all of those scriptures, but you are the one who has to have the faith to put on the armor. You are the one who has to close the windows. You are the one who has to stop believing the lies of the evil one and believe God. Just because you believe the scriptures, does not mean that magically the armor is there, No. You have to put it on.

Because without this faith, armor and closed windows, you are no good to God. He cannot use you. He cannot use a person who is always afraid even when He has provided the strongest armor to fight in.

You have to be like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

DA 3:16 “Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. [17] If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and He will rescue us from your hand, O king. [18] But even if He does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

DA 3:19 “Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude toward them changed. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual [20] and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace. [21] So these men, wearing their robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace. [22] The king's command was so urgent and the furnace so hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, [23] and these three men, firmly tied, fell into the blazing furnace.”

DA 3:24 “Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, "Weren't there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?"

They replied, "Certainly, O king."

DA 3:25 He said, "Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods."

We can show more and more examples of God's saving grace, but it is up to us to allow His grace on us, to allow Him to be our God and pour His grace on us, but if we are not trusting Him and have no faith in Him, then we are dead. Evil will destroy us no matter what we do, because we are putting our faith in evil and not God.

Religious things made of man cannot hurt us, not images, idols statues, symbols or any thing of that kind. It only has meaning if we give our faith to it. They are nothing but deceptions, lies and tricks. They are only powerful if we put our faith in these things, believe those lies, and are afraid of the tricks.

There is not difference between the religious things and non-religious things such as tv, radio, video games, movies, books or music. To hide in fear of what they might do to you, is giving **it** your faith, and then yes it will hurt you. It will allow evil to come into you life and control you because you do not believe that God will take you safely through the valley of death.

For to live in this world is to be constantly walking through that valley of death. It is constantly providing means of death and misery, but God's grace is greater then that. He has given us promises after promises after promises that He will take care of us in all situations.

So why do we fear? Here is the only fear we should have.

1SA 12:14 “If you fear the LORD and serve and obey Him and do not rebel against His commands, and if both you and the king who reigns over

you follow the LORD your God--good! [15] But if you do not obey the LORD, and if you rebel against His commands, His hand will be against you, as it was against your fathers.”

LK 12:4 "I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. [5] But I will show you whom you should fear: **Fear Him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell.** Yes, I tell you, fear Him. [6] Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. [7] Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”

LK 12:8 "I tell you, whoever acknowledges Me before men, the Son of Man will also acknowledge him before the angels of God. [9] But he who disowns Me before men will be disowned before the angels of God. [10] And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.”

1PE 3:8 “Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. [9] Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. [10] For,

“Whoever would love life
and see good days
must keep his tongue from evil
and his lips from deceitful speech.”

1PE 3:11 “He must turn from evil and do good;
he must seek peace and pursue it.”

1PE 3:12 “For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous
and His ears are attentive to their prayer,
but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.””

1PE 3:13 “Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? [14] But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. **“Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened.”** [15] But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, [16] keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. [17] It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. [18] For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, [19] through whom also He went and

preached to the spirits in prison [20] who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, [21] and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also--not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, [22] who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand--with angels, authorities and powers in submission to Him.”

1PE 4:1 “Therefore, since Christ suffered in His body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because He who has suffered in His body is done with sin. [2] As a result, He does not live the rest of His earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. [3] For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do--living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. [4] They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you. [5] But they will have to give account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. [6] For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to men in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit.”

1PE 4:7 “The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. [8] Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. [9] Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. [10] Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. [11] If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.”

If we live in fear of all things we are worthless to God.

This is a bit long from Hebrews, but it summarizes this pretty good.

HEB 10:32 “Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you stood your ground in a great contest in the face of suffering. [33] Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. [34] You sympathized with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions.”

HEB 10:35 “So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. [36] You need to persevere so that when you have done the will

of God, you will receive what he has promised. [37] For in just a very little while,

"He who is coming will come and will not delay.

HEB 10:38 "But My righteous one will live by faith.
And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him."

HEB 10:39 "But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved."

HEB 11:1 "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. [2] This is what the ancients were commended for."

HEB 11:3 "By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible."

HEB 11:4 "By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead."

HEB 11:5 "By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. [6] And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

HEB 11:7 "By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith."

HEB 11:8 "By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. [9] By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. [10] For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God."

HEB 11:11 "By faith Abraham, even though he was past age--and Sarah herself was barren--was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise. [12] And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore."

HEB 11:13 “All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. [14] People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. [15] If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. [16] Instead, they were longing for a better country--a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.”

HEB 11:17 “By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, [18] even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." [19] Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.”

HEB 11:20 “By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.”

HEB 11:21 “By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.”

HEB 11:22 “By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions about his bones.”

HEB 11:23 By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.”

HEB 11:24 “By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. [25] He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. [26] He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. [27] By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. [28] By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.”

HEB 11:29 “By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.”

HEB 11:30 “By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the people had marched around them for seven days.”

HEB 11:31 “By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.”

HEB 11:32 “And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, [33] who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, [34] quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. [35] Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. [36] Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. [37] They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated-- [38] the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.”

HEB 11:39 “These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. [40] God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.”

HEB 12:1 “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. [2] Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. [3] Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”

HEB 12:4 “In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. [5] And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons:

“My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline,
and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,

HEB 12:6 because the Lord disciplines those He loves,
and He punishes everyone He accepts as a son.”

HEB 12:7 “Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? [8] If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. [9] Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we

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submit to the Father of our spirits and live! [10] Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. [11] No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.”

HEB 12:12 “Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. [13] "Make level paths for your feet," so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.”

HEB 12:14 “Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. [15] See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. [16] See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. [17] Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. He could bring about no change of mind, though he sought the blessing with tears.”

For we live by faith and not by sight.

And

WE live by the might of His Grace.

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