

**Series:** The Fear of the Lord

**Sermon:** "The fear of the Lord is hatred of evil." Proverbs 8:13

**Primary Texts:** Exodus 20:20; Job 28:28; Psalms 19:9; Proverbs 3:7; 14:2; 16:6; Jeremiah 10:6-7a; John 1:4; 7:38; 8:44; 10:10; 11:33; 17:3; 2 Corinthians 7:1; James 1:15

**Discussion guide:**

- When you think of evil what sort of thoughts or images come to mind?
- Christian psychiatrist Dr. M. Scott Peck says that "Evil is in opposition to life."
  - How is this true? (See John 8:44)
  - In what ways does evil "murder" or oppose life other than taking physical life?
- What is God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit's relationship to life? (See John 1:4, 7:38, 10:10, and 17:3)
- Is sin evil?
  - Why or why not? (See James 1:15)
  - How does sin lead to death?
- Why would the fear of the Lord be hatred of evil?
- How does seeing God's goodness cause us to hate sin more?
- How does seeing ourselves more clearly – in the light of or in relation to God – cause us to hate sin more?
- How does seeing others more clearly – in the light of or in relation to God – cause us to hate sin more?
- How does seeing sin more clearly cause us to hate sin more?
- Thomas Watson once said, "The more bitterness we taste in sin, the more sweetness we shall taste in Christ."
  - Do you agree with this statement?
    - Why or why not?