

GRACE FOR THE AFRAID

MATTHEW 1:18-22

This dark night is an inflowing of God into the soul, which purges it from its habitual ignorances and imperfections, natural and spiritual.”

— *The Dark Night, Book I, Chapter 8, §1*

For the more God communicates Himself to the soul, the more does He cause it darkness; because He is infinite light.”

— *The Dark Night, Book II, Chapter 5, §2*

**THERE IS GRACE IN KNOWING CRISIS
COMES AS GOD MOVES NEAR.**

(MATTHEW 1:18)

**THE GRACE OF GOD CREATES CRISIS
BEFORE IT CREATES PEACE.**

“Son of David” (v. 20) - Fear cannot move our identity.

“Fear is not first a situational problem; it is an identity problem.

When you forget who you are in Christ, you will look to something else to give you peace.”

~ *Paul David Tripp*

“If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God’s child, and having God as his Father.”

~ J.I. Packer

“Son of David” (v. 20) - Fear cannot move our identity.

“from the Holy Spirit” (v. 20) - Fear is an invitation by the Holy Spirit.

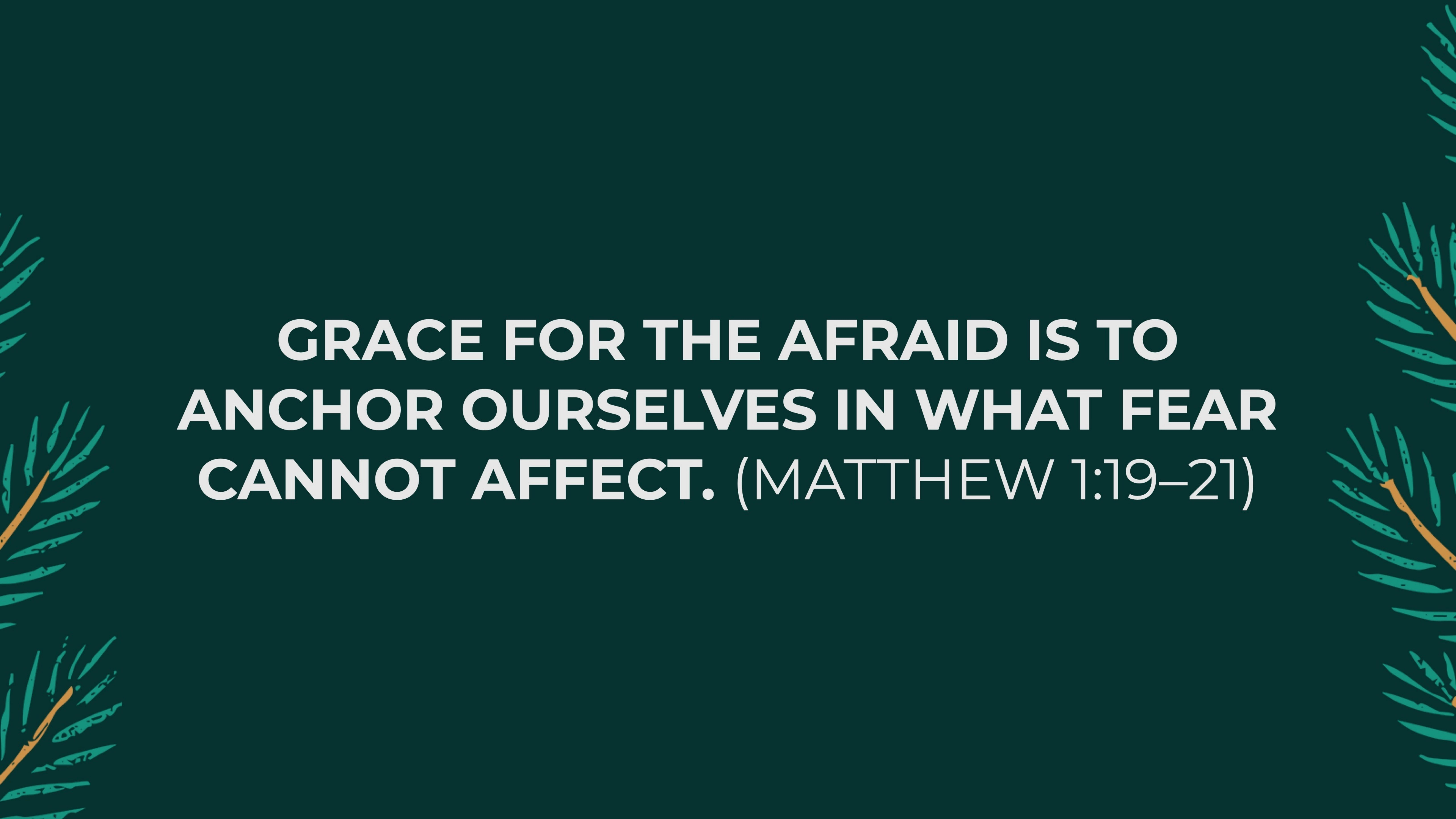
“The work of the Spirit is not to draw attention to Himself but to press Christ upon our understanding, our affections, and our wills.”

~ Sinclair B. Ferguson, *The Holy Spirit*

“Son of David” (v. 20) - Fear cannot move our identity.

“from the Holy Spirit” (v. 20) - Fear is an invitation by the Holy Spirit.

“Jesus...Immanuel” (21-23) - God with you is better than you without fear.



**GRACE FOR THE AFRAID IS TO
ANCHOR OURSELVES IN WHAT FEAR
CANNOT AFFECT. (MATTHEW 1:19–21)**

GRACE FOR THE AFRAID IS THE
COURAGE TO MOVE FORWARD
DESPITE FEAR. (MATTHEW 1:24)

- JOSEPH COMMITTED HIS HEART.
- PUT HIS FEAR IN THE PROPER PLACE.
- MADE HIS OBEDIENCE PUBLIC.