

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

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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.