



Into: Jim Baker to John Bevere "I loved God...I didn't fear God!"

Luke 12:1-7 In the meantime, when an innumerable multitude of people had gathered together, so that they trampled one another, He began to say to His disciples first of all, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. 2 For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known. 3 Therefore whatever you have spoken in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have spoken in the ear in inner rooms will be proclaimed on the housetops. 4 **"And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. 5 But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!** 6 "Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. 7 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Vs1. Beware hypocrisy (The Leven of the Pharisees)

- **Nothing destroys your witness and ministry effectiveness like hypocrisy!**
- How is my walk? Do I live what I say?
- We are called to reflect Christ. Reflect his image and character. When our walk doesn't align with our talk it not only sabotages our ministry it misrepresents Jesus!
- The lack of the fear of the Lord leads to hypocrisy.
- Live and minister in integrity!

Vs. 2-3 Nothing is hidden

- God sees and hears all
- There is no such thing as "secret sin"
- **Deal with sin now. Repent, get free and stay free!**

Vs. 4 Don't fear men

- Hypocrisy leads to improper fear!!!
- **Man's power and scope of influence is limited.**
- Proverbs 29:25 "The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe."
- Improper fear is a snare that will keep you bound!

- Vs. 5 Fear God!

- **Develop a reverential fear & holy respect for God.**
- Yes He is your Father and He loves you but He is also the Almighty Creator who created and upholds your life with the word of His power.
- **The Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.** (Prov. 1:7, 9:10...
- **The Fear of the Lord is not simply an O.T. command Jesus, Paul & Peter say it also!** (2 Cor. 7:1, 1Pet.2:17)
- **The Fear of the Lord keeps us from sin.** (Pro. 8:13...Fear of Lord = Hate sin)
- **Blessing, goodness & healing belong to this who fear the Lord** (Psalm 112:1, 31:19, 128:4, Mal. 4:2)
- **The Fear of the Lord is the whole duty of man!** Ecclesiastes 12:13
- **The Fear of the Lord is a fountain of life** (Prov.14:27, 19:23)
- **The fear of the Lord leads to eternal reward!**
- **Malachi 3:16-17** “Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another, And the Lord listened and heard *them*; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the Lord And who meditate on His name. 17 “They shall be Mine,” says the Lord of hosts, “On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them As a man spares his own son who serves him.”It is the fear of the Lord that keeps us from sin and leads to life!

Vs.6-7 Don't fear lack!

- **Improper fear leads to improper thinking and improper action.**
- Fear God but nothing else!

Conclusion:

When you have a proper fear of God you will realize that you are:

Remembered Always (If a sparrow isn't forgotten neither will you be!)

Known Intimately (He knows the number of hairs on your head)

Valued Greatly (You are of more value than sparrows)