



**Sermon Title:** New Hearts, New Lives, New Loves

**Scripture:** 1 Peter 1.13-25 (LSB)

**Date:** 05-02-2024

**Speaker:** Andrew Scott

Review Last Week

### **Our Identity in Christ - 1 Peter 1.3-12**

The Hope of our Salvation - 1 Peter 1.3-5

The Joy of our Salvation - 1 Peter 1. 6 - 9

The witness of our Salvation - 1 Peter 1.10-12

### **Our New Life in Christ. - 1 Peter 1.13-25**

**1 Peter 1:13–16 LSB**

Therefore, having girded your minds for action, being sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, not being conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your conduct; because it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

A life of \_\_\_\_\_.

**1 Peter 1:17–21 LSB**

And if you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your sojourn, knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things like silver or gold from your futile conduct inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but appeared in these last times for the sake of you who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

**A Life of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**1 Peter 1:22–25 LSB**

Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a love of the brothers without hypocrisy, fervently love one another from the heart, for you have been born again not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.

**A life of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Application:**

**A Life of Holiness.**

## **A Life of Reverence.**

### **Personal Worship**

#### **Romans 12:1–2 LSB**

Therefore I exhort you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a sacrifice—living, holy, and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may approve what the will of God is, that which is good and pleasing and perfect.

### **Family Worship**

#### **Ephesians 6:4 LSB**

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

### **Corporate Worship**

#### **Hebrews 10:25 LSB**

not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

## **A Life of Love.**

**Fear of the Lord** A religious expression conveying either devotional piety or the dread of punishment. The term “Lord” in this context refers to Yahweh.

### **Biblical Relevance**

The act of fearing Yahweh is discussed throughout the Old Testament. The concept “fear of the Lord” occurs most prominently in the Old Testament’s Wisdom Literature, where it is described as both the beginning of wisdom (Prov 9:10) and the responsibility of all humanity (Eccl 12:13).

The “fear of the Lord” motif occurs in three distinct ways in the Old Testament:

1. As an expression of corporate Israelite religion—the religious system of worshipping Yahweh. Occurrences of the phrase “fear of the Lord” in the general sense of religious piety mostly appear in Wisdom texts. In this sense, “fear of the Lord” is an essential component of Israel’s theology (Perdue, *Wisdom and Creation*, 78–79). It essentially means faith in Yahweh.
2. As a description of personal piety—the act of worshipping and obeying Yahweh. In Deuteronomy 5:29, God declares to Moses His desire that the people would fear Him enough that they would obey His commandments. “Fear” can be expressed as (positive) obedience caused by reverence for Yahweh and/or (negative) obedience caused by the threat of divine punishment (Weinfeld, *Deuteronomy 1–11*, 325).
3. As an identification of a religious person, i.e., a worshiper of Yahweh. Joseph identifies himself as a God-fearer when he is reunited with his brothers (Gen 42:18). Jonah similarly identifies himself as a God-

fearer when he is questioned by the sailors (Jonah 1:9; compare Pss 25:14; 33:18; 34:9).

### **Key Occurrences**

Key occurrences of the phrase “fear of the Lord” in the Old Testament include:

In Genesis 22, when Abraham sets out to obey God’s command to sacrifice Isaac and is stopped by the Angel of Yahweh, the angel says, “For now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son” (Gen 22:12 NRSV). Here the fear of God is demonstrated through Abraham’s perfect moral obedience to Yahweh (Westermann, “Genesis 12–26,” 361–62).

Deuteronomy 10:12–13 begins with the statement, “So now, O Israel, what does Yahweh your God require of you?” The answer is five commands: to fear Yahweh, to walk in His ways, to love Yahweh, to serve Yahweh, and to keep His commandments. All of these are expressions of reverence to God. Fearing the Lord occurs first and summarizes the act of carrying out the other four expressions of obedience (Christensen, *Deuteronomy 1:1–21:9*, 201–06).

Job is introduced as “perfect, just, one who feared God, and avoided evil” (Job 1:1). Later, when God discusses Job with “the Satan,” He refers to these same characteristics (Job 1:8). However, it is Job’s fear of God that Satan questions and attacks (Job 1:9). Satan argues that if God takes away Job’s wealth, Job will deny God. After this fails, God again acknowledges Job as a God-fearer (Job 2:3).

The New Testament also contains several references to the “fear of the Lord.” For instance, Acts 9:31 records that after Saul’s conversion, the entire church in Judaea, Galilee, and Samaria was at peace, and “walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied” (ESV). The New Testament writings also mention a group of people known as the God-fearers, one of whom was Cornelius the centurion (Acts 10:2). In the time of the New Testament, the term “God-fearers” referred to Gentiles who worshiped Yahweh and adhered to Jewish laws (Bruce, *The Book of the Acts*, 203).

James W. Knox, “Fear of the Lord,” ed. John D. Barry et al., *The Lexham Bible Dictionary* (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2016)