

October 28th – A Spirit of Fear

“God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” (2 Timothy 1:7)

In his inaugural address in 1933, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt said these famous words: “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.” Keep in mind that America was in the midst of the Depression. The threat of war was still very real following World War 1. Roosevelt was trying to tell his fellow Americans that fear would keep them from being what they could be. Some things never change – fear still has millions of people bound in shackles all over the world.

We’re afraid for so many reasons. Sometimes we’re afraid that we might get sick and not recover. In the turbulent world we now live in, many people are afraid of terrorism and the threat of nuclear war. Investors are always concerned that the stock market is going to crash and they’re going to lose everything they have. Most people are afraid of everyday issues – paying the bills, the safety of their children, losing a job, etc. Sadly, many people are even afraid to die.

There’s good news – if Jesus Christ is your Savior, you don’t have to be afraid of anything. In fact, the only thing God has commanded us to fear is Himself: “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom” (Prov. 9:10). If we have a holy reverence and respect for the Lord, we don’t need to be afraid of anything else. As a follower of Christ, I know that God is my Provider and Protector. For that reason, I can live each day with power, love, and soundness of mind! “The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear; the Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?” (Psalm 27:1)