



THE GOSPEL OF
MATTHEW



Retraining Our Fears

Matthew 10:26–33



Matthew 10:26–28

²⁶ “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. ²⁸ And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.”



Matthew 10:29–33

²⁹ “Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³² So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.”



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- Unhealthy fear can silence our witness.



1. The coming dawn of truth (10:26–27)

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1. The coming dawn of truth (10:26–27)

- All evil will be exposed (10:26)

²⁶ “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known.”



Psalm 10:4, 11

- 4 In all his scheming,
the wicked person arrogantly thinks,
“There’s no accountability,
since there’s no God.”
- 11 He says to himself, “God has forgotten;
he hides his face and will never see.”



1 Corinthians 4:5

...the Lord... will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart.



1. The coming dawn of truth (10:26–27)

- **True disciples will be vindicated (10:26)**

²⁶ “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known.”



Romans 8:19

For the creation waits with eager longing
for the revealing of the sons of God.



1. The coming dawn of truth (10:26–27)

- **The good news must go public (10:27)**

²⁷ “What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops.”



In a sense the apostles were to have more of a public ministry than Jesus himself. He told them things in private, some of which they did not even understand till after the Resurrection... But they were to teach them fully and publicly.

— Don Carson



John 1:5

The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.



1 Peter 3:14–15

¹⁴ Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect...



2. The infinite power of God (10:28)

²⁸ “And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.”



Proverbs 29:25

The fear of man lays a snare,
but whoever trusts in the LORD is safe.



2 Corinthians 5:8

Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.



Matthew 25:46

“And these will go away into eternal punishment,
but the righteous into eternal life.”



2 Thessalonians 1:9

...the punishment of eternal destruction,
away from the presence of the Lord and
from the glory of his might...



3. The intimate care of your Father (10:29–30)

²⁹ “Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.”



Nothing happens to the children of a loving Father which falls outside his providential care; it neither takes him by surprise nor frustrates his purpose.

— R. T. France



Matthew 6:26

“Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?”



Psalm 139:16

All my days were written in your book and planned
before a single one of them began.



“I am immortal until God’s work for me to do is done.”

— Henry Martyn



Romans 8:35–37

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.



1 Samuel 14:45

But the people said to Saul, “Must Jonathan die? ...
No, as the LORD lives, **not a hair of his head will
fall to the ground...**”



2 Samuel 14:11

He said, “As the LORD lives, not one hair of your son shall fall to the ground.”



1 Kings 1:52

And Solomon said, “If he will show himself a worthy man, not one of his hairs shall fall to the earth...”



Daniel 3:27

...the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men. **The hair of their heads was not singed**, their cloaks were not harmed, and no smell of fire had come upon them.



Isaiah 43:2

When you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.



4. Your precious value to God (10:31)

³¹ “Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.”



5. The final word of God's Son (10:32–33)

³² “So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.”



John 12:42–43

⁴² Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³ for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.



James 1:12

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.



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