# THE FEAR OF GOD

A PATHWAY TO HIS FAVOR & BLESSINGS

# The Fear of God

The God We Fear

What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.

Nothing twists and deforms the soul more than a low or unworthy conception of God.

A.W. Tozer

What is God like?

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 Col. 3:10 – Put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

#### What is God like?

• Leonard Ravenhill: "This low view of God held by so many Christians today is the cause of a hundred lesser evils everywhere among us. If we were able to extract from any man a complete answer to the question, "What comes into your mind when you think about God?" we might predict with great certainty the spiritual future of that man."

# Idolatry

- Idolatry is the entertainment of thoughts about God that are unworthy of Him.
- Ps. 50:21 You thought I was one like yourself.

# Idolatry

• A.W. Tozer: "We do the greatest service to the next generation of Christians by passing on to them — undimmed and undiminished — that noble concept of God which we received from our Christian fathers of generations past. This will prove of greater value to them than anything that art or science can devise."

Moral excellence

- The entirety of the divine perfection.
- Thomas Brooks: "God's holiness and His nature are not two things, they are but one. God's holiness is His nature, and God's nature is His holiness."
- Stephen Charnock: "Power is God's arm, omniscience His eye, mercy His bowels, eternity His duration, but holiness is His beauty."

• Isa. 6:1-4 – In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord

Almighty. The whole earth is full of his glory." At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook, and the temple was filled with smoke.

• Isa. 6:5 – "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am undone! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty."

• R.C. Sproul: "God's holiness is not simply the best we know infinitely bettered. We know nothing like the divine holiness. It stands apart, unique, unapproachable, incomprehensible, and unattainable. The natural man is blind to it. He may fear God's power and admire His wisdom, but His holiness he cannot fully grasp."

 The life of a mature Christian flows from the revelation of God's holiness.

• 1 Pet. 1:14-16 – As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance. But like the Holy One who called you, be holy in all your behavior, because it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

- Does God command something because it is good, or is it good because God commands it?
- God's commands are a reflection of His nature.

#### 2. The Faithfulness of God

• Isa. 25:1 – Lord, you are my God; I will exalt You and praise Your name, for in **perfect faithfulness** You have done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

## 2. The Faithfulness of God

• Lam. 3:22-23 — Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

## 2. The Faithfulness of God

- God will always do what He said He will do.
- Num. 23:19 He is not a man that He should lie.
- All of His power is behind every word.
- Our hope is grounded in the very nature of God.
- Leonard Ravenhill: "I have no faith in my faith. My faith is in the faithfulness of God."

Your whole faith is based on the understanding of who God is.

We can rest in His faithfulness.

# He is faithful to forgive

• 1 John 1:9 – If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

## He is faithful to make all things...

 Rom. 8:28 – And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

#### 3. He is Eternal

- John 3:36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them.
- God will be faithful to that word.
- Rev. 20:15 Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.



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