



FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH
FAIR OAKS RANCH

Day 6: The Treasure of the Lord

Isaiah 33:6 *And he will be the stability of your times, abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge; the fear of the Lord is Zion's treasure.* (ESV)

DEVOTIONAL

Isaiah writes to a people whose times feel anything but stable. Assyria is on the march, the nation is shaken, and everything they trusted is proving fragile. Into that anxiety Isaiah announces where true security is found — not in armies, alliances, or full storehouses: “The fear of the Lord is Zion’s treasure.” Of all the things a trembling people might treasure, God says: treasure Him.

The Hebrew for treasure is *'otsar* — a storehouse, a vault, the place where a king keeps what is most precious. The single most valuable thing God’s people can hold is not gold or security or influence, but a reverent fear of the Lord. Everything else can be plundered, spent, or lost. This treasure cannot. It grows in value in every season and survives every collapse (Matthew 6:19-21).

We know how to treasure things — we insure them, protect them, and arrange our lives around them. We hide them in a safety deposit box or home safe to ensure they remain safe. We do this because we perceive an intrinsic value in the item we protect. Something that makes them valuable to us and why we want to protect them against loss. The searching question is: do we treasure the fear of the Lord in this same way? Is our awe of Him something we protect, hide in our heart and perceive as invaluable (Psalm 119:11) R.C. Sproul argued that until we truly encounter the holiness of God, we keep looking for stability (and value) in all the wrong places, because we’ve never seen the one thing worth building a life upon. The hidden treasure of Israel, even when being attacked by the Assyrians, was they had a fear of the Lord and He would never abandon them.

Look at what this treasure secures: “he will be the stability of your times.” In a world of shifting circumstances, economies that fall, headlines that unsettle, plans that upend, the person whose treasure is in the Lord has an anchor that holds. Not because their circumstances are calmer, but because their treasure is where storms cannot reach.

Hopefully this reframes our pursuit of holiness. Instead of treating the pursuit of purity as something we must give up such as worldly pleasures, money or control; Isaiah calls the fear of the Lord a treasure; something of great intrinsic value worth storing up and protecting. The holy life is not the impoverished life; it is the wealthy one. While the world spends itself chasing counterfeits, the one who walks in reverence has laid hold of the richest treasure in the universe.

TAKE AWAY

Take inventory. If the fear of the Lord isn't yet the vault at the center of your life, start moving it there. It's the one treasure that survives when everything else is gone.

PRAYER PROMPT

Ask the Lord to make reverence for Him the treasure at the center of your life, more valued than any security this world offers.