

Knowledge vs Wisdom

Wisdom: the ability to _____ or _____ what is true, right, or lasting.

Knowledge: _____ gained through experience, reasoning, or acquaintance.

Wisdom is the fitting _____ of knowledge.

The Fear of the LORD – Proverbs 1:7a

Theme or Motto of Proverbs; occurs at least 16 times in the book (1:7; 1:29; 2:4-5, 3:7; 8:13; 9:10; 13:14; 14:27; 15:16; 15:33; 16:6; 19:23; 22:4; 23:17; 24:21; 31:10).

More than Just Respect – Translating and Defining "Fear"

יָרָא (yir'â) - fear, terror. Refers to the emotion or feeling or state of being afraid, terrified, or in awe.

Most common way to explain the "fear of the LORD" is having respect or reverence. This is part, but incomplete.

Our Issue of Fearing God

- 1) Over focus on God as only loving; more to His character.
- 2) Only view "fear" in the negative sense.

Two Kinds of Fear

"_____ " Fear - fear which the slave would feel towards a harsh and unyielding master. Slavish fear is the consequence of guilt, a fear of judgement. Kind of fear people experience before faith in Christ.

Examples of *Servile Fear*: Demons/Fallen Angels (James 2:19; Matt. 8:28-29; Mark 1:21-24 -- see Matt. 25:41); Adam (Gen. 3:10); unsaved (Matt. 10:28; Luke 12:5).

"_____ " Fear - (from the Latin filius, "a son") should be the experience of every child of God. It's the fear a child has for his father...A child who knows he is loved by his father obeys him because he doesn't want to disappoint him or let him down.

Examples of *Filial Fear*: Jesus (Isa. 11:1,3; Luke 2:40, 52, Prov. 9:10; John 12:49; John 14:31; Luke 22:42, Phil. 2:7-8).

What Does Fearing God Look Like for Us?

The Fear of the LORD is...

1. Acknowledging _____ as _____; a recognition of and even an intimidation of God's Holiness/Otherness, Perfection, and Glorious Deity in awe and reverence. It's an understanding and love and appreciation for God's greatness (His majesty, power). Isaiah 6:1-5; Revelation 1:9-17.
2. Love and appreciation for God and His _____ (His love and grace). Psalm 130:4.
3. Expressed through Worship in _____ and _____. Gen. 22:12.

4. _____ of sin; a recognition of correction and consequence. “Knowing that God’s wrath has been satisfied in Christ relieves the believer from the fear of condemnation but not from accountability to a holy God (2 Cor. 5:10–11; 7:1; 1 Tim. 5:20; 1 Pet. 1:17). Hebrews 12:5-11.

How is the Fear of the LORD the Beginning of Knowledge?

Fearing God is the “starting point” to knowledge; God is the One who has all knowledge and wisdom (Prov 2:6; James 1:5).

Fools Despise - Proverbs 1:7b

The opposite of the fear of the Lord is the rejection of instruction and humility.

If the fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, then those who despise wisdom and instruction are those who don’t have a filial fear of God.