

THEME: SEVEN DEADLY CONTROLLERS – FEAR

TOPIC: HOW DOES FEAR COME?

TEXT: 1 JOHN 4:18, 2 TIMOTHY 1:7, PSALM 34:4, 56:3, 1 PETER 5:6-7, EPHESIANS 6:10

Introduction

Fear is a bad thing which becomes a stopper. It served the enemy in belittling and limiting Israel from entering and maximising her promised land. It has the ability to keep a person from entering the fullness of the provision Christ has for him. Just as it kept Israel from all that it had on the other side of Jordan, fear can stop you from moving into the fullness of God's calling on your life and the maximisation of your ministry.

Fear can hold you in sickness and disease and justify the position in which you have found yourself. Fear has a nagging way of justifying poverty, lack and conditions that are not conducive or in agreement with the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross.

HOW DOES FEAR COME?

Trauma, accidents, incidences that are shocking, these have often been inroads for fear. People's actions and reactions around us can also set us in motion to walk and express unnecessary phobias. A spouse in an abusive relationship, a friend with a controlling partner, people working in places of employment where they are given the impression of continuous uncertainty live perpetually under the 'Sword of Damocles' of the spirit of fear.

Fear can make a person withdraw into a dream world or revert to violent and defensive attitudes. It is believed that fear for a child at the sight of images, impressions and emotional challenges it cannot handle, can result in an almost permanent emotional damage.

1. Fear comes when people receive bad news.
2. Fear comes when people use threatening words.
3. Fear can follow when businesses go into a downward spiral and we begin to imagine every evil that can happen to us.
4. Fear comes when people hear bad news and also meditate on it.
5. Fear is a product of sin and rebellion against God. **Genesis 3:10, 4:7**
6. Fear could be the product of a seed of trouble fed by your own imagination ...It is a spirit sent from hell to destroy; once it is entertained it makes its room until it invites other spirits like the spirit of death and hell.
7. The entrance of fear is obviously through words – **Isaiah 37: 6 – 7, Jeremiah 1: 8, Exodus 14:13, Psalms 91:5, Deuteronomy 20: 1, 3, 2 Chronicles 20:15.**
8. From the scriptures above, it is understood that fear is a product of words, faces of men, terrors that fly by day and night, the magnitude and power of the people who rise up against you.

FREEDOM FROM FEAR

A man will boast of how he will fare in battle until the battle really rages. From all we have shared it is obvious that fear is a weapon of Satan. Knowing well that through external encirclement he cannot hit as much. Satan specialises in using internal demoralisation.

Internal demoralisation begins with an attack by the spirit of fear. It is fed furthermore by how close or distant we are from daily meditation in the Word of God. It is the entrance of God's Word that makes the path of the righteous to shine. It is the entrance of God's Word that makes the righteous to shine. It is the entrance of God's Word that makes the righteous to be as bold as a lion. Without a constant supply of God's Word we begin to live on suggestions and we are carried away by the things we see, hear or feel and not led by the Lord. **Romans 8:14.**

CONCLUSION

Whatever happens fear requires your permission to magnify circumstances, situations, faces and facts to be elevated above the Word of God.

We know we can be free from fear because God promises to be the one to whom we can "steal away". **Psalms 46: 1-2.**

So when God becomes our refuge and our strength, what trouble can scare the believer's heart? Trust becomes a strong element in breaking the power of fear. We just have to trust God during those silent moments when solutions have not been found to the challenges we face. When answers have not come forth to the questions we have, that God will still make good the promises He has made. **Psalms 56: 3-4, 9.**

A trusting heart will cry to God, a trusting heart will report the matter to God instead of taking the matters in its own hand.