The Issue:

Through this study we have discussed a variety of fears that we need to overcome. In this final lesson, however, we will look at a fear that actually serves a good purpose. That is the fear of God. Whereas most fears bring about a sense of being frightened and scared, the fear of God is different. Fearing God refers to the sense of awe and respect we have for God when we consider who He truly is.

What does the Bible say?

Why is God worthy to be feared?

> Ps. 33:6-9 – Because He created all things.
> Matt. 10:28 – Because He has power over life and eternity.
> II Cor. 5:10; Rev. 14:7 – B/c we’ll stand before Him someday.

What results come from fearing God?

> Prov. 1:7 – It will enable us to grow in true wisdom.
> Prov. 28:14 – It keep us out of trouble.
> Ex. 20:20 – It prevents us from sinning.
> Ps. 103:11 – We receive God’s mercy and compassion.

What should I do?

Fearing people, things, or circumstances does not need to be a part of our life. God has not given us the spirit of fear (II Tim. 1:7). Yet there is a sense of honor and reverence that does come with knowing and serving God. That is a healthy fear that puts things into a proper perspective. It shows that we recognize Him as the Almighty God of the Universe and take seriously what He says. With that comes true satisfaction (Ps. 103:11) and a life that pleases the Lord (Ps. 147:11)!
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