



WORD

WITH PS SIMON SAY

Let Us Fear The Lord

I Peter 1:17-21 ESV

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And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, **18** knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, **19** but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. **20** He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you **21** who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.



What is Fear?*

Old Testament

- *yārē* (Hebrew)
- terror or awe and worship
- Terror: Gen. 3:10; Exo. 2:14; Jdg. 6:27
- Awe and worship: Deu. 10:12-13

New Testament

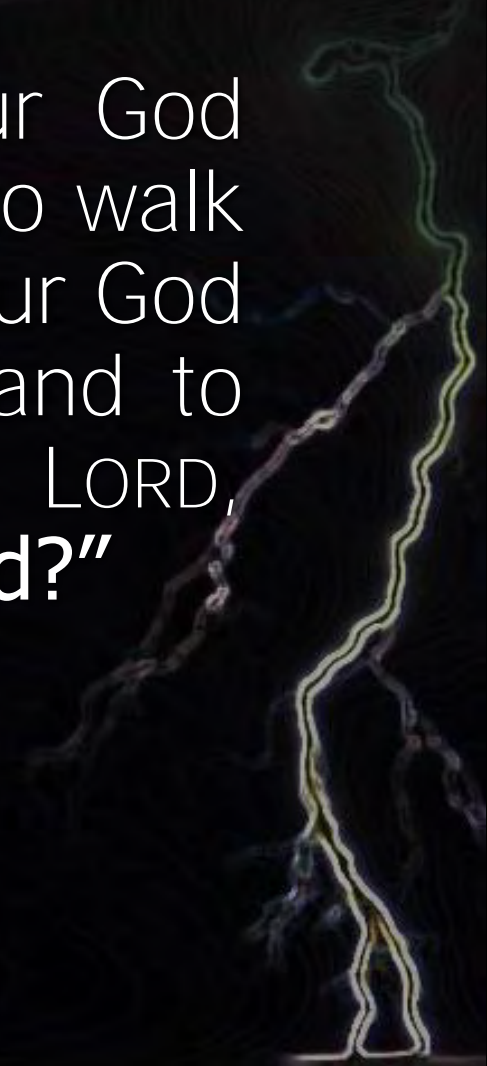
- *phobeomai* (verb) *phobos* (noun)
- 'frightened, alarmed' or 'respect, stand in awe'

* Adapted from **Mounce's** Complete Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words



Deuteronomy 10:12-13 (ESV)

12 “And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to **fear** the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, **13** and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your **good?**”



Why Fear The Lord?

1. We are Short-lived Sojourners (v17)
2. God is the Just Judge (v17)
3. Jesus is the Revered Redeemer (vv18-21)



1. We are Short-lived Sojourners

1 Peter 1:17

- *'time of exile'* (ESV) *'strangers'* (NIV) denotes short time
- *'sojourn'*: a short period a person stays in a particular place
- Life is short: James 4:14; Ecclesiastes 6:12; Psalm 103:15
- We can be here today and gone tomorrow
- How ought we to live?
- Major on the major
- Make our life count for God
- **Do the 'God' thing over the good things**



Life is Short

James 4:14

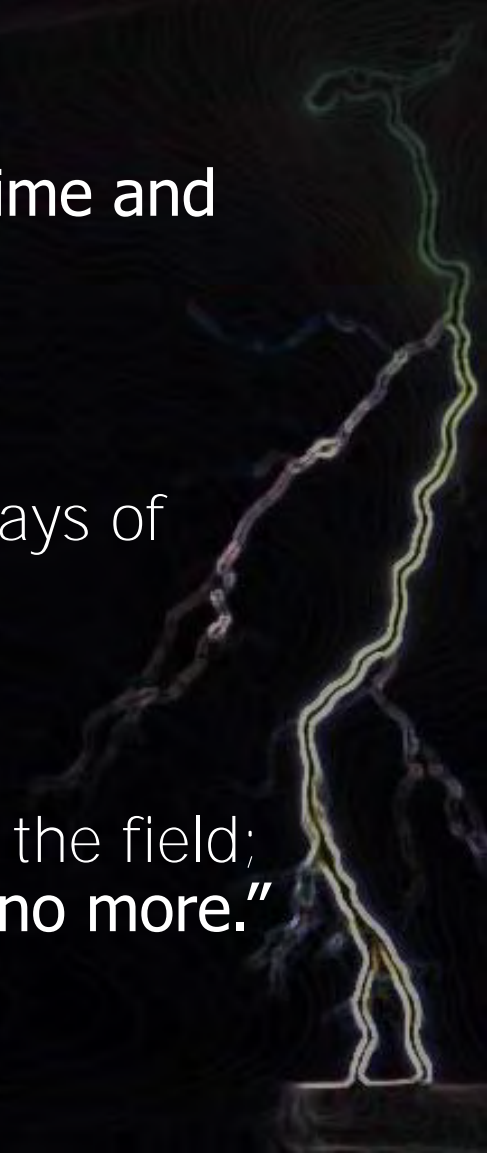
“What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.”

Ecclesiastes 6:12

For who knows what is good for man while he lives the few days of his vain life, which he passes like a shadow?

Psalms 103:15-16

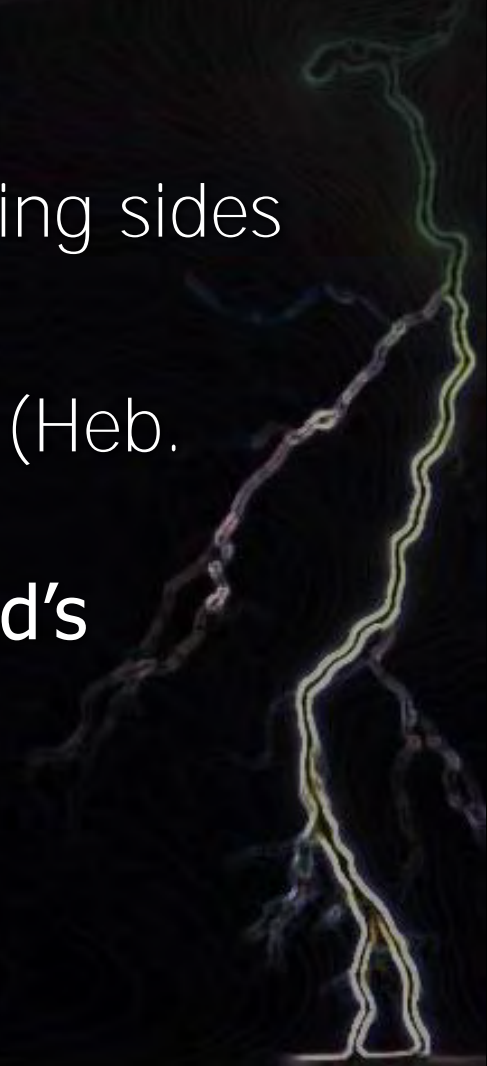
“**As** for man, his days are like grass, he flourishes like a flower of the field; the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.”



2. God is the Just Judge

1 Peter 1:17

- God is not only (loving) Father He is also Judge
- He judges impartially, showing no favouritism nor taking sides
- God is judging us daily for our works
- As he judges he disciplines in love, for our own good (Heb. 12:1-12)
- **How ought we to conduct ourselves in the light of God's impartial judgment towards us?**



3. Jesus is the Revered Redeemer

1 Peter 1:18-21

- A slave can be set free if he/she can buy him/herself out or if someone buys him/her out
- 'Redeem': to purchase or buy out at a price
- Slaves don't forget their days of slavery
- Moses urged Israel to remember that they have been slaves in Egypt (Deut. 5:15; 16:12; 24:18, 22)
- We, too, mustn't forget our days of slavery
- Jesus redeemed us through His *precious* blood



How Can I Develop The Fear Of God (CAST)?

Creation

Be in awe of God's wondrous creation (Ps. 8:3-4; Rev. 4:11)

Accountability

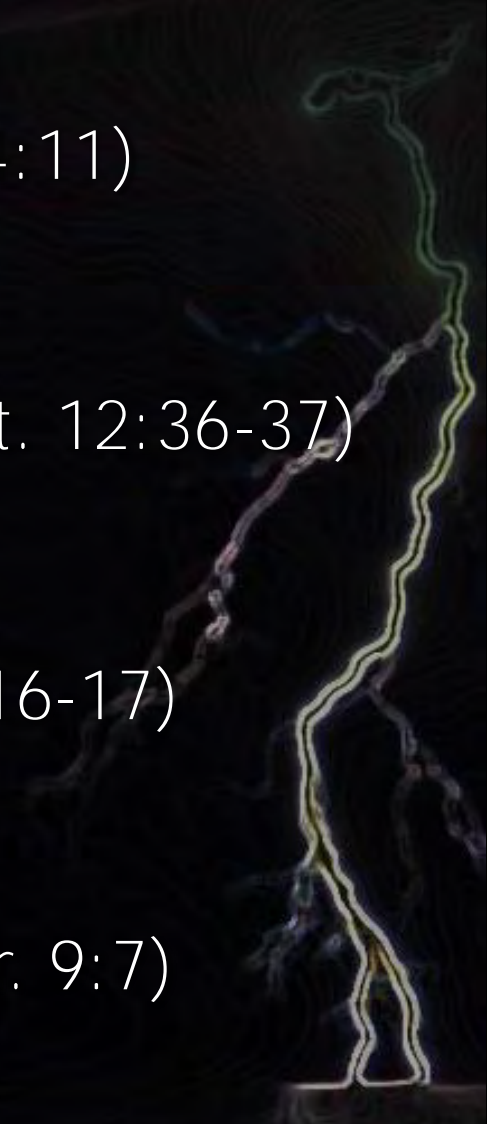
We will have to give account to Jesus one day (Rom. 14:12; Mt. 12:36-37)

Scripture

Respect God's Life-giving Word (Heb. 4:12-13; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)

Tithe-Giving

Tithing teaches us to revere the Lord (Deut. 14:23; 2 Cor. 9:7)



PRAYER AND RESPONSE

Jesus is saying, "What hast thou given Me?"

What will you give to Jesus as you learn to live in the fear of the Lord?



Reflection/Discussion Questions

1. What do we learn about ourselves as sojourners?
2. What **do we know about God's current judgment over our lives?**
3. How should judgment influence our actions?
4. Why does it say this should cause us fear if we have already trusted in Christ (v17)?
5. **What does "redeemed" mean?**
6. What is the relationship between Christ redeeming us and the judgment?
7. How **should Christ's redemption** affect our lives and behaviour?