

Fear | Psalm 27:1-3

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

The Reality of Fear

The Bible doesn't shy away from fear, rather it presents us with the reality of fear that the people of God face and them responding to it in an opposite manner of the world:

- a. Interrupting fear with tasks v. interrupting fear with worse case scenarios
- b. Promoting positivity v. promoting God's character
- c. Self reliant opportunity v. Self denying worship
- d. Focusing on others for motivation v. focusing on what God has done

The Root of Fear

The root of fear reveals our heart, therefore exposing our idols (comfort, approval, control, power, etc.)

- a. "[Fear] and anxiety is always the result of the implosion or the collapse of a false god." (Tim Keller)

The Response to Fear

We have two options when fear rises:

- a. Turn toward God
 - i. Worship
 - ii. Surrender
 - iii. Anything but God and his will is vulnerable. Nothing [or no one] can take God away from you. Anything else you set your heart on (idols) can be taken away. When there's a threat to it, you fall to pieces." (Tim Keller)
- b. Turn from God
 - i. Pride and self-reliance

Benediction | Proverbs 3:5-8

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.