

THE FULLNESS OF FEARING

July 15, 2012 Ephesians 5:21 by Bob Branch
Living Out Our Inheritance In Christ, Part 22

MAIN IDEA: Submitting to one another out of holy fear is a powerful pathway to living filled with the Holy Spirit!

1. The Spirit will fill the YIELDED HEART.

A yielded heart of God always works itself into a yielded heart to others.

Fear Christ?

“Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” **Matthew 10:28** NAS (see Luke 12:5)

DILEMMA: *Thesis + Antithesis = Synthesis*

2. Fearing God is as NORMAL for a real Christian as loving Him.

There's fear that draws you to Him & fear that drives you away
Exodus 20:18–21

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. **Prov. 9:10**

WHY FEAR CHRIST?

► Because He is AWESOME IN POWER! (Rev. 14:7)

In fear and amazement they asked one another, “Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.” **Luke 8:25**

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified.
Matthew 17:5-6

Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has arisen among us!” and “God has visited his people!” **Luke 7:16**

► Because He is JUDGE of the living and dead!

“He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he [Jesus] is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. **Acts 10:42** (see 1 Cor. 11: 30)

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom... **2 Timothy 4:1**

Of the Living (in the present tense)

When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last. And great fear came upon all who heard of it... And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things. **Acts 5:5, 11**

Of the Dead

People die once, and after that they are judged. **Heb. 9:27** GW

Did you receive me? —Jesus (John 1:12; 3:16-18; 12:48)

You will give account of what we've said and done.

For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God... So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Romans 14:10, 12

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others.

2 Corinthians 5:10–11

3. Fearing God is PERSONAL and ACTIVE, not Theoretical and Impersonal.

Revelation 1:9-18