Happiness & the Fear of the Lord

I. In His Presence

A. Fullness of Joy

Ps 16.11 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is **fullness of joy**; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

God is love. Whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in him.

B. Pure Terror

Luke 2.8 ESV And in the same region there were shepherds ... 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ..."

B. Ceaseless Love & Endless Mercies

Lam 3.22 ESV The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;

23 they are **new every morning**; great is your faithfulness.

II. Human Families – The Best and the Worst

Romance helps us understand God.

Gen 2:23 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and **be united** to his wife. One flesh.

He loves us, but doesn't control us. Love is Christ on the Cross

The Bible is full of families, births, love stories, and family crisis.

True from the first page, with Adam & Eve's family with its burden of violence, but also its enduring strength to its very last, where we behold the wedding feast and the Bride and the Lamb.

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III. A Happy Home & the Fear of the Lord

Ps 128.1 ESV **Blessed is** <u>everyone</u> who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways!

- 2 You shall **eat the fruit of the labor** of your hands; you shall be **blessed**, and it shall be **well** (TOV) with you.
- 3 Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots

around your table.

- 4 Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD.
- 5 The LORD bless you from Zion! May you **see the prosperity of Jerusalem** all the days of your life!
- 6 May you see your children's children! Peace be upon Israel!

Asher – Happy Blessed

Yaré – To be afraid, to be frightened, to be in awe, to respect

A. Evidence: Walks in His Ways

John 14.15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

B. Fruit: Harmony & Fruitfulness (Image of God)

1. Dignity, Happiness, TOV

V.2 **eat the fruit of the labor** of your hands; be **blessed**, ... be **well** with you.

2. Relational Fruit

V. 3 **wife will be like a fruitful vine -** pleasantness & pleasure

children will be like olive shoots – potential, anointing, long term

3. Contribution to the World around Us

V. 5&6 TOV of Jerusalem, see future gen's, Shalom on Israel

IV. 8 Benefits of the Fear of the Lord

Ps 25.10 NKJ	All the paths of the LORD are mercy and	d truth,
To such as	keep His covenant and His testimonies.	

12 Who *is* the man that fears the LORD?Him shall He teach in the way He chooses.(NIV He will instruct him in the way chosen for him)

- 13 He himself shall dwell in prosperity, And his descendants shall inherit the earth.
- 14 The secret of the LORD *is* with those who fear Him, And **He will show them His covenant**.
- Pr 31.30 Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.
- **Ps 34.7** The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- 8 Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!
- 9 Oh, fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him have no lack!
- 10 The young lions suffer want and hunger;

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but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.
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11 Come, O children, listen to me;

I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Benefits

- 1. Divine Instruction in the path of life
- 2. General success
- 3. Legacy to future generations
- 4. Intimate friendship with YHWH (secret)
- 5. Manifestation of the covenant

6. Praise, acknowledgment

7. Angelic Protection & Deliverance

8. No lack of good

V. Source: Fresh Encounters with Holy Spirit

A. The Internal Counsel of the Holy Spirit

Acts 9.31 ESV So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied..

A. The Perspective of Eternity

- 2 Cor 5.6 ESV So we are always of **good courage** (confident). We know that while we are **at home** in the body we are **away from** the Lord, 7 for we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 Yes, we are of **good courage**, and we would rather be **away from** the body and **at home** with the Lord. 9 So whether we are at **home** or **away**, we **make it our aim to please him**. 10 For **we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ**, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.
- 11 Therefore, **knowing the fear of the Lord**, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience.

VI. Holy Spirit Come!

- Rev 3.17 For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.
- 18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not

be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.

- 19 Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.
- 20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.
- 21 The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. 22 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'"

Eternal life begins the moment you say, **"Yes" to God.**

LIFT YOUR HANDS into the OILY ELECTRIC PRESENCE Holy Spirit come! Pour out the awesome fear of God and the love of God in our hearts. Clothe us with power from on high!