

The Fear of the LORD – What is it Good For?

Isa. 33:6 ESV and He will be the stability of your times, abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge; the fear of the LORD is Zion's treasure.

1) The fear of the LORD makes us give ear to the Word of the LORD.

Jn. 6:68 ESV Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life,

Lk. 14:35 ESV It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

2) The fear of the LORD makes us take God's Word and His teachings seriously

Matt. 7:21-23 ESV "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.²² On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?'²³ And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

3) The fear of the LORD makes us turn away from evil

Gen. 39:9b ESV How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?"

4) The fear of the LORD can help you in the face of temptation

Prov. 14:27 ESV The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, that one may turn away from the snares of death.

5) The fear of the LORD sends us running to Christ

Ps. 51:1 ESV *To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.* Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Lk. 23:40 ESV But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?"

6) The fear of the LORD takes away fear of everything else

Prov. 19:23 ESV The fear of the LORD leads to life, and whoever has it rests satisfied; he will not be visited by harm.

Isa. 41:10 ESV Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.