



## Isaiah 26

3 You keep him in perfect peace  
whose mind is stayed on you,  
because he trusts in you.

4 Trust in the LORD forever,  
for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock.

A dark silhouette of a castle with multiple towers and spires is set against a clear, deep blue sky. The castle's intricate architecture is visible in the dark, with some parts appearing slightly more defined than others. The overall mood is mysterious and imposing.

# FEAR

# Numbers 13

25 After forty days the men returned from spying out the land,

26 and they went back to Moses, Aaron, and the whole congregation of Israel in the Wilderness of Paran at Kadesh.

They brought back a report for the whole congregation and showed them the fruit of the land.

## Numbers 13

27 And they gave this account to Moses:

“We went into the land to which you sent us, and indeed, it is flowing with milk and honey. Here is some of its fruit!

28 Nevertheless, the people living in the land are strong, and the cities are large and fortified.

We even saw the descendants of Anak there.

29 The Amalekites live in the land of the Negev; the Hittites, Jebusites, and Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live by the sea and along the Jordan.”

## Numbers 13

30 Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said,

“We must go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly conquer it!”

31 But the men who had gone up with him replied, “We cannot go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are!”

# Numbers 13

32 So they gave the Israelites a bad report about the land that they had spied out:

“The land we explored devours its inhabitants, and all the people we saw there are great in stature.

33 We even saw the Nephilim there—the descendants of Anak that come from the Nephilim!

We seemed like grasshoppers in our own sight, and we must have seemed the same to them!”



# Deuteronomy 3

3 So the LORD our God also delivered Og king of Bashan and his whole army into our hands.

We struck them down until no survivor was left.

11 (For only Og king of Bashan had remained of the remnant of the Rephaim. His bed of iron, nine cubits long and four cubits wide, is still in Rabbah of the Ammonites.)



## Amos 2

9 Yet it was I who destroyed  
the Amorite before them,  
though his height was like that of the  
cedars,  
and he was as strong as the oaks.

# Numbers 13

32 So they gave the Israelites a bad report about the land that they had spied out:

“The land we explored devours its inhabitants, and all the people we saw there are great in stature.

33 We even saw the Nephilim there—the descendants of Anak that come from the Nephilim!

**We seemed like grasshoppers in our own sight,** and we must have seemed the same to them!”

# Numbers 14

1 Then the whole congregation lifted up their voices and cried out, and that night the people wept.

2 All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, “If only we had died in the land of Egypt, or if only we had died in this wilderness!

3 Why is the LORD bringing us into this land to fall by the sword?

Our wives and children will become plunder.

Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?”

4 So they said to one another, “Let us appoint a leader and return to Egypt.”

# Numbers 14

5 Then Moses and Aaron fell facedown before the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel.

6 Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes

7 and said to the whole congregation of Israel, "The land we passed through and explored is an exceedingly good land.

## Numbers 14

8 If the LORD delights in us, He will bring us into this land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and He will give it to us.

9 Only do not rebel against the LORD, and do not be afraid of the people of the land, for they will be like bread for us.

Their protection has been removed, and the LORD is with us. Do not be afraid of them!”

10 But the whole congregation threatened to stone Joshua and Caleb.



# Numbers 14

10 Then the glory of the LORD appeared to all the Israelites at the Tent of Meeting.

11 And the LORD said to Moses, “How long will this people treat Me with contempt?

How long will they refuse to believe in Me, despite all the signs I have performed among them?

12 I will strike them with a plague and destroy them—and I will make you into a nation greater and mightier than they are.”



# Numbers 14

20 “I have pardoned them as you requested,” the LORD replied.

21 “Yet as surely as I live and as surely as the whole earth is filled with the glory of the LORD,

22 not one of the men who have seen My glory and the signs I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness—yet have tested Me and disobeyed Me these ten times—

23 not one will ever see the land that I swore to give their fathers.

# Numbers 14

None of those who have treated Me with contempt will see it.

24 But because My servant Caleb has a different spirit and has followed Me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he has entered, and his descendants will inherit it.

# A Focus on ***FEAR***

Is our situation(s) today like the one we read?

Is our fear as evil as the fear of the Israelites?

Is all fear sin?

Why does some fear offend God so much?

Why does fear divide people?

What does the Bible really teach about fear?

How can we defeat fear that offends God?

# A Focus on *FEAR*

## Goal:

1. To see our fear from God's perspective.
2. To know what God has done for us and given to us, so that we need not be controlled by fear.
3. To have a disciplined and sound mind that can think truthfully about fear.

## 2 Timothy 1

7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control.

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7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and **self-control.**  
**sound mind**

- Self-discipline that comes from right thinking; prudent and thoughtful

# A Focus on *FEAR*

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# A Focus on *FEAR*

## Defining Sinful Fear:

**This is not directly about worry or anxiety.**

**The Bible speaks both compassionately and rebukingly about fear.**

# Genesis 15

1 ...the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

“Do not be **afraid**, Abram.

I am your shield, your very great reward.”

# John 14

27 Peace I leave with you;

My peace I give to you.

I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled;

do not be **afraid**.

28 You heard Me say, 'I am going away, and I am coming back to you.'



# Matthew 10

29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?  
Yet not one of them will fall to the ground  
apart from the will of your Father.

30 And even the very hairs of your head  
are all numbered.

31 So do not be **afraid**;  
you are worth more than many sparrows.

# Mark 4

39 Then Jesus got up and rebuked the wind and the sea.

“Silence!” He commanded.

“Be still!” And the wind died down, and it was perfectly calm.

40 “Why are you so **afraid**?” He asked.

“Do you still have no faith?”

# Hebrews 10

38 But My righteous one will live by faith;  
and if he **shrinks back**,  
I will take no pleasure in him.” [Habakkuk 2:3–4]

39 But we are not of those who **shrink back** and are destroyed,  
but of those who have faith and  
preserve their souls.

# Revelation 21

7 The one who overcomes will inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he will be My son.

8 But to the **cowardly** and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and sexually immoral and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars,

their place will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur. This is the second death.”

# A Focus on *FEAR*

## Defining Sinful Fear:

This is not directly about worry or anxiety.

The Bible speaks both compassionately and rebukingly about fear.

Not all fear is sin.

- fear of God
- appropriate concern and precautions
- respect for danger



# A Focus on *FEAR*

## Defining Sinful Fear:

**The powerful and often habitual focus on a perceived danger or loss that causes us to:**

- disobey God's will for us.**
- not truly worship God as God.**
- not love Him properly or others.**



# A Focus on ***FEAR***

Why is obeying our fear so evil?

Why does God hate it so much?

1. Fear is sin rooted in the human heart.
2. Fear is unbelief.

# Numbers 14

11 And the LORD said to Moses, “How long will this people treat Me with contempt?

How long will **they refuse to believe in Me**, despite all the signs I have performed among them?

# A Focus on *FEAR*

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1. Fear is sin rooted in the human heart.
2. Fear is unbelief.
3. Fear is not trusting the God who redeemed me.

# Deuteronomy 1

29 So I said to you: “Do not be terrified or afraid of them!

30 The LORD your God, who goes before you, will fight for you, just as you saw Him do for you in Egypt 31 and in the wilderness, where the LORD your God carried you, as a man carries his son, all the way by which you traveled until you reached this place.”

32 But in spite of all this, **you did not trust the LORD your God,**

33 who went before you on the journey, in the fire by night and in the cloud by day, to seek out a place for you to camp and to show you the road to travel.

# A Focus on ***FEAR***

Why is obeying our fear so evil?

Why does God hate it so much?

1. Fear is sin rooted in the human heart.
2. Fear is unbelief.
3. Fear is not trusting the God who redeemed me.
4. Fear is open rebellion against God.

# Deuteronomy 1

23 The plan seemed good to me, so I selected twelve men from among you, one from each tribe.

24 They left and went up into the hill country, and came to the Valley of Eshcol and spied out the land.

26 But you were unwilling to go up;  
**you rebelled against the command of the  
LORD your God.**



# A Focus on ***FEAR***

**Why is obeying our fear so evil?**

**Why does God hate it so much?**

- 1. Fear is sin rooted in the human heart.**
- 2. Fear is unbelief.**
- 3. Fear is not trusting the God who redeemed me.**
- 4. Fear is open rebellion against God.**
- 5. Fear is attributing to God, characteristics that are not in His nature.**

# Deuteronomy 1

26 But you were unwilling to go up;  
you rebelled against the command of the  
LORD your God.

27 You grumbled in your tents and said,  
“**Because the LORD hates us,  
He has brought us out of the land of Egypt  
to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites  
to be annihilated.**

# A Focus on *FEAR*

**Why is obeying our fear so evil?**

**Why does God hate it so much?**

- 1. Fear is sin rooted in the human heart.**
- 2. Fear is unbelief.**
- 3. Fear is not trusting the God who redeemed me.**
- 4. Fear is open rebellion against God.**
- 5. Fear is attributing to God, characteristics that are not in His nature.**
- 6. Fear is the belief that I could be a better god than the true God.**

## Jeremiah 17

1“**The sin of Judah is written with an iron stylus, engraved with a diamond point on the tablets of their hearts and on the horns of their altars.**

## Jeremiah 17

9 The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure.

Who can understand it?

10 I, the LORD, search the heart;

I examine the mind to reward a man according to his way, by what his deeds deserve.

## Jeremiah 17

5 This is what the LORD says:

“Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind,  
who makes the flesh his strength  
and turns his heart from the LORD.

6 He will be like a shrub in the desert;  
he will not see when prosperity comes.

He will dwell in the parched places of the desert,  
in a salt land where no one lives.



## Jeremiah 17

7 But blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,  
whose confidence is in Him.

8 He is like a tree planted by the waters that  
sends out its roots toward the stream.

It does not fear when the heat comes,  
and its leaves are always green.

It does not worry in a year of drought,  
nor does it cease to produce fruit.

