



Berean Family Worship Center
One Church In Two Cities
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Wednesday, July 08, 2020 - Group Study

Lesson Series: The Nature Of Fear

Lesson Series Text: (2 Tim. 1:1-9)

Lesson 4: The Fear Of Man

Lesson 4 Text: (Rom. 1:16-17)

All Scriptures are KJV; unless otherwise noted.

Prepared By Dr. Walter Henderson III

- I. Why would Paul speak to the Romans of not being ashamed of the Gospel?
 - A. The Gospel was associated with a poor carpenter who was crucified.
 - a. Crucifixion was a form of execution reserved for lowest class of criminals.
 - B. The Romans didn't particular like the Jews. [Acts 18:2 - *And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them.*]
 - C. The Gospel came from one of the smallest nations that the Romans had conquered.
 - D. Christians were not among the elite of society; they were mainly the poor and slaves.
 - E. Rome worshipped Caesar as god and king.
- II. To the World, the Gospel is foolishness.
 - A. (1 Cor. 1:23-24) *But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.*
 - B. (1 Cor. 1:18) - *For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.*
 - C. (Matthew 11:25 - *At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.*
- III. Many are afraid of what man may think of them.
 - A. (Proverbs 29:25 - *The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.*
 - B. (Pro. 29:25 - *The fear of human opinion disables; trusting in GOD protects you from that. MSG)*
 - C. (Pro. 29:25 - *Fearing people is a dangerous trap, but trusting the LORD means safety. NLT)*
 - D. We do not want to seek the glory that come from men, but the glory that comes from above.

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- IV. When we operate in the fear of man, we are operating in insecurity.
- A. Insecurity is a lack of confidence or assurance. ¹*Dictionary.com*
 - B. Insecurity is the condition that results from placing confidence in people or things that can be taken away. ² *Del Fehsenfeld Jr., The Fear of Man.*
 - a. The truth of the matter is that everything and everybody in our lives can be taken away: spouses, children, parents, jobs, ministry, health, positions, abilities, etc.
 - C. True Security comes from placing our security in something that cannot be taken away; the Lord. (*Pro. 29:25*)
- V. What are some of the snares or consequences of the fear of man?
- A. Fearful of sharing the Gospel; because of the fear of what the person may think.
 - B. We can become ineffective and not function as the Father wants us to function. We become fakes.
 - C. **Dishonesty.** It's tough to speak truth into someone's life because the truth can be painful. However, if we fear someone's response; necessary words will remain unsaid, because we care more about ourselves (being liked) than we do about the person (seeing Jesus work in their life). This negligence always creates more long-term damage than the hurt it avoids in the present.³ *Jamie Munson, 8 Snares Set By Fear Of Man.*
 - D. Will cause you to lower your standards.
 - E. Will cause us to stay in sin and not receive our deliverance; because we are afraid of what man will think about us.
- VI. Why is it that the devil wants us to be ashamed to share the Gospel of Christ?
- A. It releases the power (*dunamis – inherit power*) of God.
 - B. The power released ministers grace to the heart, producing salvation.
 - C. The salvation will change everyone that believes.
 - D. The righteousness of God is then revealed.

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