

Good Fear and Bad Fear

by John Telgren

My oldest son has been reading the story, Tell Tale Heart in school. I remember reading the same story in school. We talked a little about the meaning behind the story. We discussed the insane paranoia that came from deep-seated inescapable guilt in the story. There is no peace in wickedness.

The Bible makes this very clear. Consider this proverb carefully:

"What the wicked fears will come upon him, but the desire of the righteous will be granted (Proverbs 10:24)."

This proverb paints a picture of a person consumed with guilt, fear, and paranoia. It will be their undoing. One example is King Ahaz. You can read about it in 1 Chronicles 28:16-20, also 1 Kings 16, and especially Isaiah 7. Ahaz was a wicked king who would not trust in God. He made a treaty with Assyria (rather than trust God) because he was afraid of Aram and Israel attacking him. In the end, Assyria, his supposed helper, attacked him. Truly, "what the wicked fears will come upon him." Consider this next proverb:

"The wicked flee when no one is pursuing, but the righteous are bold as a lion (Proverbs 28:1)."

I remember stealing a little toy from a store when I was little. It was an inexpensive little hot wheel. I felt pleased with myself at first that no one noticed I took it. When I got home with it, I found that it brought me little joy. I couldn't really play with it for fear I would be caught with it. Even when my friends came over, I had to keep it in hiding. I lived in constant fear of being caught with it. I kept trying to find new and better hiding places for it. I hid it under the dresser, in the vent, between the mattresses, in a shoe. Then there was that time I nearly jumped out of my skin when I was in the process of finding a new hiding place for it. I had the hot wheel in my hand, and then I heard one of my parents walking down the hall. I ran behind my bed ready to fling the tiny toy under my bed. They never came in; they were just going to the restroom.

People do it all the time. There are those who run when they hear police sirens. There is the person who lives in fear of losing their job for fear that his lack of honesty on the job will be found out. There is the one who lives in fear that his affair will be found out. There are those who lie, and out of fear of being found out, they tell more lies which causes even more fear. And the list goes on and on. There is no lasting joy of life in wickedness, only fear.

However, there is a type of fear that is freeing. There is a fear that brings joy and life. It makes you as "bold as a lion." This fear comes not from guilt and paranoia, but from love and respect. Consider this proverb carefully:

"In the fear of the Lord there is strong confidence, and his children will have refuge (Proverbs 14:26)."



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732
July 21, 2019

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today's Sermon *Name That Church*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

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Scripture: John 17:6-12

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** July 24th, Mike Huddleston will continue with his lessons on the Beatitudes.
- **VBS** – August 10th here at the building with volunteers from Kittanning and Camp Hill churches. **We will need cookies, drinks and snacks! Volunteers to help the day go smoothly are always welcome.**
- **Next Potluck: August 18th.**



NEWS

- **What a couple of busy weeks we have had! Last week with the Sojourners knocking on doors all over town to make contacts, our gospel meeting with Larry Krause on the weekend, and Friday and Saturday manning our booth at the Athens Street Fair! All of this has been very encouraging for those participating!**
- **Vicki Joice, Jackie's daughter and Dara and Darlene's sister from OK is here visiting with and helping her mom out for a while.**
- **Mike Huddleston, one of our Sojourners, who we get to keep with his wife Nadine for a while yet, started a series of lessons on the Beatitudes last Wednesday. We decided we want to hear them all, so we planned to eat together after worship today and then have another lesson after we ate. Instead, however, Mike is doing his lesson during our regular Bible class this morning. If anyone wants to join us for sloppy joes and other delights, we will be eating together after worship as planned. The lessons will continue Wednesday evening.**

PRAYERS

- Prayers for **Jackie's** continuing recovery from her fall. Thanksgiving for Vicki's visit.
- Pray for **Ted's brother John**, who has a blood condition.
- Pray for **Mark Elsbree**, who needs a kidney donor soon.
- Pray for the family of **Marilynn Patrick** who went to be with our Lord last week after a long battle with colon cancer and heart disease. Also pray for her family some of which are also sick with cancer.
- Pray for **Andrea Lentz** – lung cancer.
- Pray for **Lori Kashorek** –stage 4 lung cancer. She needs to be able to gain weight back.
- **Erin Beiber** - metastatic breast cancer.
- Remember to pray for **Ronnie Jones** (stroke) and **Don Myers** (back pain). Ronnie is getting better, but Don is very disabled. He needs our prayer and concern.
- **Mike and Nadine's little twin granddaughter, 6-month-old Blair**, will be having open heart surgery on August 1st. We pray that everything goes well for her.
- **Sandy** will be undergoing a further MRI soon to check out a result of the one she had last week on her neck vertebrae. Please pray that it is nothing to be concerned about.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.