

apptoteach.org

THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

Colossians 4:2-9
Lesson #13
Facing fear
04/19/2026

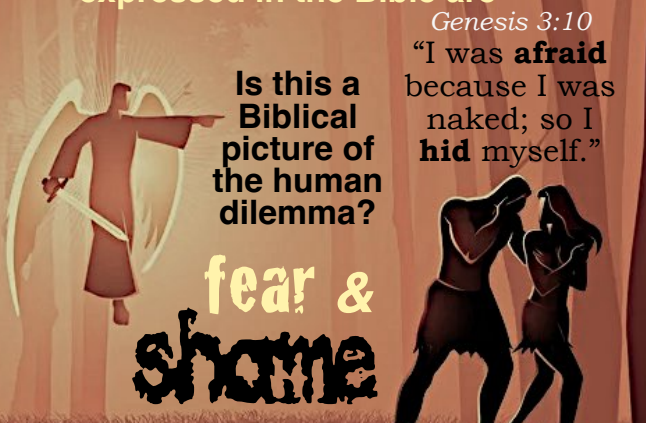
1

The first negative human emotions
expressed in the Bible are

Genesis 3:10
"I was **afraid**
because I was
naked; so I
hid myself."

Is this a
Biblical
picture of
the human
dilemma?

**fear &
shame**




2


Genesis 3 suggests that

**The fear of God
is the root of all
human anxiety.**

Hebrews 2:15
"(That Jesus)
might free those who
through fear of death
were subject to slavery
all their lives."



3



Fear

is perhaps the most
powerful negative
emotion affecting
spiritual decisions.

4

**Too many things
can go wrong
for me to feel
safe when I am
left alone in life.**



5

**The Top 10 Fears
That Hold People Back in Life:**

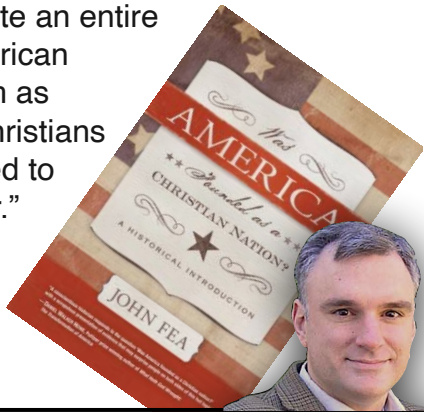
- **Change (1)**
- **Loneliness (2)**
- **Failure (3)**
- **Rejection (4)**
- **Uncertainty (5)**
- **Bad Circumstances (6)**
- **Getting Hurt (7)**
- **Being Judged (8)**
- **Inadequacy (9)**
- **Loss of Freedom (10)**

Note how many involve
social self-image
& relationships.

Nov. 4, 2019
BY AMY MORIN,
Psychotherapist,
"13 THINGS MENTALLY
STRONG PEOPLE DON'T DO"

6

“Despite the biblical passages exhorting followers of Christ to “fear not,” it is possible to write an entire history of American evangelicalism as the story of Christians who have failed to overcome fear.”



John Fea
Chair of the History
Department at
Messiah College.

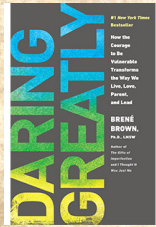
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What is the latest new fear?

health care deep state the pope ISIS global warming
inflation secularism economic collapse Christian nationalism
autocracy media fake news
Iran corrupt gov. immoral values cyber terrorism A.I.
officials

8

“We’re tired of the national conversation centering on –



what should we fear and who should we blame?”



Cassandra Brene Brown PhD

9

Hebrews 4

“1 Therefore, let us fear (be careful) lest, while a **promise remains** of entering **His rest**, any one of you should seem to have come short of it.”

Resting in peace has three spheres.



Reconciliation to God

REST IN PEACE before God



Resurrection to heaven

REST IN PEACE - for eternity



Response to life

REST IN PEACE while suffering



10

Victims

of slavery to **FEAR**

don't get **BRIGHTER** and **BETTER**

they get **BLINDER** and **BITTER**



11

Worrying

does not take away tomorrow's fears or assure tomorrow's hopes; it just takes away today's peace.


12

symptoms

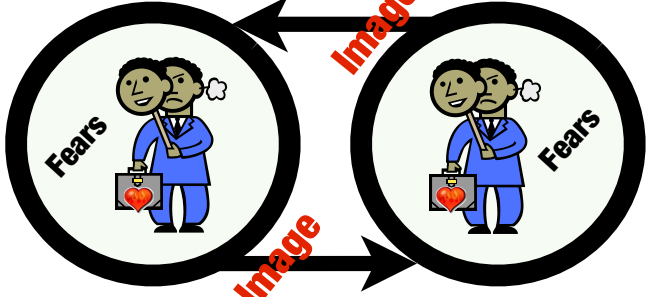
greed, gossip, jealousy, abuse, materialism, slander, immorality, lying, hatred, ETC., insecurity

Fear
fed by a distorted perspective of God

We too often address the symptoms but not the root problem.



13




When our image and fears relate to the image and fears of others we may feel safe but we are **isolating**, not connecting.

14

What do these books have in common?

Stories of love that is greater than **FEAR**



The highest degree of...
Brotherhood

ROBERTS RIDGE
MALCOLM MACPHERSON

OUTLAW PLATOON
SEAN PARNELL

LIONS OF KANDAHAR
NAIOLU ALUFI BARKER

15

Are we addressing symptoms or the source?



Anger, Anxiety, Addiction signs of death and life

Serenity, Security, Significance The Word and Way of the Cross

Looking for life in all the wrong places

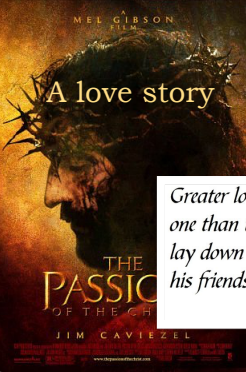
Rooted in this world

Rooted in Christ

Jeremiah 2:13
"For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, to hew for themselves cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water."


16

The Gospel ~ Love that is greater than fear



A love story

Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13

i always thought love was shaped like a  but it's actually like a

17



"I fear no evil for Thou art with me."

"Thy Rod and Thy Staff, they comfort me."



18

“1 The Lord is merciful and gracious,
 2 He makes me lie down in grass; he restores my soul;
 He leads me beside still waters;
 He guides me in the path of righteousness
 for His name's sake.
 3 When I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 I fear no evil, for You are with me;
 Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
 4 You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil, and my cup overflows.
 5 Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life,
 and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

Fearlessness comes from knowledge of God & self through the mystery of Christ.

19

Looking back to the O.C. does not remove FEAR.
Look to the Way of the Cross.

	
Law (O.T.) (outside - in)	Love (N.T.) (inside - out)
focus on social systems	focus on spiritual status
constrains the heartless	changes the heart

20

Looking ahead to the N.C. does remove FEAR.
Look to the Mystery of Christ.

It is willing to sacrifice and suffer like soldiers, athletes, farmers and Jesus because it sees the prize.



We bear a cross to a banquet.

21

The Law of Moses points us to both

Our shame    **Our Savior**

“To run and work the law commands,
 Yet gives me neither feet nor hands;
 But better news the gospel brings:
 It bids me fly, and gives me wings.”

22

Colossians 3

“1 If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
 2 **Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.**”

Colossians shows that the “mystery of Christ” is a vital part of the “whole situation” of finding peace in a scary world.

23

Colossians 4

“2 Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of **thanksgiving**; 3 praying at the same time for us as well, that God may open up to us a door for the word, so that we may **speak forth** the **mystery of Christ**, for which I have also been imprisoned; 4 in order that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak. 5 Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the **opportunity**. 6 Let your **speech** always be with **grace**, seasoned, as it were, with salt, so that you may know how you should **respond** to each person. 7 As to all my affairs, Tychicus, our beloved brother and faithful servant and fellow bond-servant in the Lord, will bring you **information**. 8 For I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know about our **circumstances** and that he may **encourage** your hearts; 9 and with him Onesimus, our faithful and beloved brother, who is one of your number. They will inform you about **the whole situation**.”

24

*How do we deal with
FEAR?*

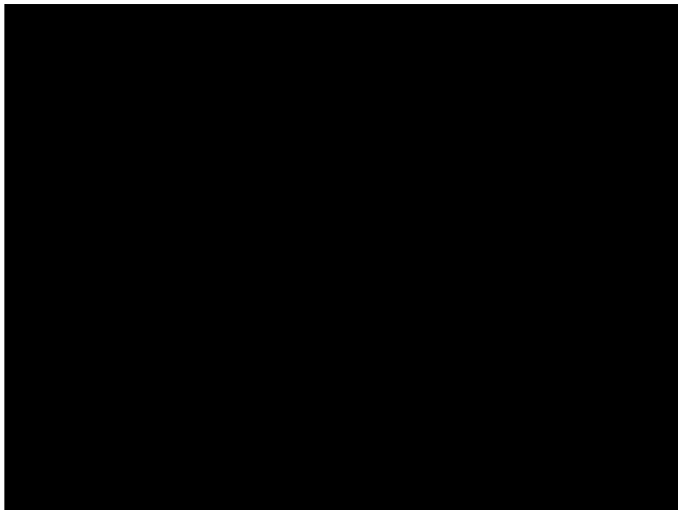
- ✓ Acknowledge that we **ARE** dealing with them, but **HOW?**
- ✓ Are we taking our **BAPTISM** seriously?
- ✓ Circumstances call for - **seeing** clearly (the big picture), **standing** tall (not alone), **showing** up, and **speaking** out.

25

Colossians



26



27