



Greater Fear Needed!

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Proverbs 9:10	<i>"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight."</i>
Job 28:28	<i>"An He said to man, "Behold the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to turn away from evil is understanding."</i>
Jeremiah 17: 5-8	<i>"Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind and makes flesh his strength, and whose heart turns away from Yahweh. And He will be like a juniper in the desert and will not see when prosperity comes, but will dwell in stony wastes in the wilderness, a land of salt which is not inhabited. Blessed is the man who trusts in Yahweh and whose trust is in Yahweh. And he will be like a tree planted by the water, that sends forth its roots by a stream and will not fear when heat comes; but its leaves will be green, and it will not be anxious in a year of drought nor refrain from yielding fruit."</i>
Jeremiah 29:7	<i>"Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile and pray to the Lord on its be-half, for in its welfare you will find your welfare."</i>
I Timothy 2:1-3	<i>"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior."</i>

The verses above direct my prayers for the leaders of our nation.

Fear seems to drive our day. Deceitfulness characterizes our time. It permeates our culture with scams and ploys, untrustworthy news reports, and liars who seemingly stop at nothing. Authority is mocked and disrespected. As never before, we are captivated and afraid of the next day, election, vote and judicial decision. These are symptoms of a great problem. **We seem to fear everything but God, yet every government leader I know asked God to bless America.**

The Psalmist points out that the natural direction of this fallen world is to go against the wisdom and set boundaries of the Lord and the Christ (Psalm 2). It is a disastrous course.

Years ago, A.W. Tozer, author of *Knowledge of the Holy*, gave this insight, **"When men no longer fear God, they transgress His laws without hesitation. The fear of consequences is no deterrent when the fear of God is gone."**

How does a nation that is consumed with "misplaced fear" return to a fear of God? Reading the book of Proverbs is a good beginning. For to fear God, one must know the true God, not the God we want but the God who is! The Bible is the revelation of God.

I pray for those who serve in our nation, may the fear of the Lord be so much bigger than the fear of man. May you seek after Him and know His counsel. His law is perfect, and it causes your inner soul to rejoice, Psalm 19.

Years ago, I led groups of people through the study, *Experiencing God* by Henry Blackaby. I

wrote this statement stated in that study in my Bible.

"Satan, [the world and our own deceitful hearts] will always tell you what it will cost to adjust your life to obey Jesus Christ, but Satan never tells you what it will cost not to adjust. I asked God to help me to know what that cost is!"

Jeremiah 17:5 written above tells us the cost of not fearing, trusting and obeying God's counsel.

Abraham Lincoln wanted God to bless America, but he expressed that desire this way, "My great concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right."

May you seek the Lord and allow His counsel to guide your decisions.

Thank you for serving, God has appointed you and He will lead you!

For His Glory,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad".

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