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WALKING
— *in the* —
FEAR OF GOD

— Choosing God's Will —
Above Self-Will

A Biblical
Guide to
Reverence,
Obedience
and a Life
that Pleases
God

JAYEOBA JOSHUA

WALKING IN THE FEAR OF GOD

Choosing God's Will Above Self-Will

*A Biblical Guide to Reverence, Obedience, and a Life that Pleases
God*

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This publication is intended to encourage spiritual growth through the faithful teaching of the Holy Scriptures. Every effort has been made to ensure that the biblical interpretations presented in this book are faithful to the context of Scripture and centred on the Lord Jesus Christ. Readers are encouraged to prayerfully study the Bible for themselves and to rely on the guidance of the Holy Spirit in understanding and applying its truths.

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PUBLISHER'S VISION

TGN Ministry Publications exists to publish Christ-centred resources that proclaim the Gospel, equip believers through sound biblical teaching, and inspire lives of faith, holiness, and spiritual maturity for the glory of God.

"To know Christ and to make Him known."

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PREFACE

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is God's power for the salvation of mankind, and at the heart of the Gospel is a call to know God, love Him, and walk in obedience to His Word. It is my sincere conviction that one of the greatest needs in the Church today is a renewed understanding of the fear of God not as a spirit of terror, but as a life of reverence, obedience, and wholehearted devotion to the Lord.

I did not write this book merely to add another title to a shelf or to share theological knowledge. I wrote it with a burden placed upon my heart by the Holy Spirit for the expansion of the Gospel and the winning of souls for the Kingdom of God. My prayer is that every reader will not only gain a deeper understanding of the fear of God but will also experience a transformed life that reflects the character of Jesus Christ.

Throughout the pages of this book, you will discover that the fear of God is far more than an emotion or a religious expression. It is a continual choice to place God's will above self-will. It is the foundation of wisdom, the pathway to holiness, and the guiding principle of a life that truly pleases God. These truths are not intended merely to inform the mind but to transform the heart and produce lives that honour Christ.

As you read, I encourage you not to rush through these chapters. Take time to prayerfully meditate on the Scriptures, allow the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart, and ask God to reveal areas where He desires to shape and strengthen your walk with Him. True spiritual growth comes not from hearing the Word alone but from responding to it in faith and obedience.

It is my earnest prayer that this book will strengthen believers, encourage spiritual maturity, and inspire many to live boldly for Christ. I also pray that those who have not yet come to know Jesus as Lord and

Savior will encounter His love, repent, believe the Gospel, and receive the gift of eternal life. If, through this book, even one soul is drawn to Christ and one believer is stirred to live more faithfully for Him, then my labour will have been richly rewarded.

To God alone be all the glory. May He use this book as an instrument to advance His Kingdom, strengthen His Church, and proclaim the unchanging message of the Gospel to this generation and those to come.

Soli Deo Gloria.

Jayeoba Joshua

Founder, TGN Ministry (The Gospel of Now)

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

This book was written to be more than a source of biblical knowledge; it was written to lead you into a deeper relationship with God through a greater understanding of the fear of the Lord. Its purpose is not simply to inform your mind but to transform your heart and strengthen your daily walk with Jesus Christ.

To receive the greatest benefit from this study, I encourage you to approach each chapter prayerfully and with an open heart. Ask the Holy Spirit to illuminate the Scriptures, reveal God's truth, and show you how His Word applies to your life. The fear of God is not merely a subject to be studied—it is a lifestyle to be embraced.

As you read, take time to look up every Scripture reference in your Bible. Read each passage in its context and allow God's Word to speak for itself. The teachings presented in this book are founded on the Scriptures, and your personal study of God's Word will deepen your understanding of each truth.

Do not rush through the chapters. Read thoughtfully, meditate on what you have learned, and allow time for personal reflection. If a particular chapter speaks to your heart, revisit it. Spiritual growth is not measured by how quickly we finish a book but by how faithfully we apply God's Word to our lives.

Throughout this journey, ask yourself simple but important questions:

- *What is God teaching me through this chapter?*
- *In what areas of my life am I choosing my own will instead of God's?*
- *How can I apply this truth in my daily walk?*

- *What changes is the Holy Spirit calling me to make?*

If you are reading this book with your family, a Bible study group, or a church fellowship, take time to discuss the Scriptures together, share your insights, and encourage one another to live according to God's Word. Spiritual growth is strengthened when believers learn and grow together.

Most importantly, put into practice what you learn. The fear of God is revealed not only by what we know but by how we live. As James reminds us, we are to be doers of the Word and not hearers only. Let every chapter challenge you to choose God's will above your own and to walk in obedience to Him each day.

My prayer is that, by the time you reach the final page, you will not simply have finished another book—you will have drawn closer to Christ, grown in wisdom, deepened your reverence for God, and become more committed to living a life that brings glory to His name.

May the Lord bless you as you read, study, and apply His Word. May this journey lead you into a richer understanding of His character, a deeper love for His truth, and a lifelong walk in the fear of the Lord.

INTRODUCTION: WALKING IN THE FEAR OF GOD

The fear of God is one of the most profound and yet one of the most misunderstood truths taught in Scripture. To many people, the word fear immediately suggests terror, anxiety, or the expectation of punishment. Consequently, many assume that to fear God means to live in constant dread of Him. However, the Bible presents a much deeper and richer understanding. The fear of God is not the fear that causes us to run away from Him; it is the reverent fear that draws us closer to Him. It is the attitude of a heart that recognizes God's holiness, honours His authority, and willingly submits to His will.

Walking in the fear of God is not a one-time spiritual experience or an occasional act of obedience. It is a continual lifestyle that influences every area of our lives. It shapes our thoughts before they become words, our decisions before they become actions, and our desires before they become habits. The fear of God is therefore not limited to church gatherings or moments of worship; it is demonstrated in the way we live each day.

One of the greatest truths we discover throughout Scripture is that the fear of God is not a burden that God forces upon humanity. Rather, it is a choice. Every day, every believer is presented with opportunities to choose between God's will and personal desire. The fear of God is revealed in those moments when we willingly choose God's way above our own. It is choosing obedience over convenience, righteousness over compromise, and God's pleasure above our personal ambitions.

This understanding forms the foundation of every other truth we will study throughout this book. The fear of God is more than an emotion; it is a way of life. It is the continual decision to align our hearts with God's Word

and to submit ourselves to His authority. As this becomes our lifestyle, our character begins to reflect His nature, our decisions become governed by His wisdom, and our lives produce the fruit that glorifies Him.

The Scriptures consistently reveal that every person who walked closely with God also walked in the fear of God. Their greatness was not merely the result of their gifts, talents, or opportunities, but of their unwavering commitment to honour God above themselves. This truth remains unchanged today. A fruitful Christian life is built upon a continual walk in the fear of the Lord.

As we journey through this study, we will discover that the fear of God is the fountain from which wisdom flows, the foundation upon which holiness is built, and the pathway that leads to a life that truly pleases God. It is not merely a biblical concept to be understood, but a daily reality to be lived.

CHAPTER ONE

The Fear of God: The Fountain of Life

"The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to turn one away from the snares of death."

— Proverbs 14:27 (NKJV)

One of the greatest descriptions the Bible gives concerning the fear of God is found in Proverbs 14:27, where Solomon describes it as a fountain of life. This description is neither accidental nor symbolic without purpose. It reveals the true nature of the fear of God and its vital place in the life of every believer.

A fountain is a continual source from which water flows. As long as the fountain remains active, it continues to supply life, nourishment, and refreshment. In the same way, the fear of God is not merely one spiritual principle among many; it is the continual source from which every aspect of godly living flows. It sustains our walk with God, strengthens our character, and directs our decisions. Remove the fountain, and life begins to diminish. Likewise, where the fear of God is absent, spiritual life gradually weakens because the very source that sustains obedience has been neglected.

The fear of God is mentioned repeatedly throughout both the Old and the New Testaments because it is foundational to the believer's relationship with God. It is not presented as an optional virtue reserved for a few

devoted Christians, but as the pattern of life expected of everyone who desires to walk with Him. Throughout Scripture, those who feared God were distinguished by their obedience, their wisdom, and their unwavering commitment to honour Him above every earthly desire.

For this reason, the writer of Proverbs calls the fear of the Lord the fountain of life. It is the source from which a fruitful life begins. Every lasting work of God in the life of a believer finds its beginning in a heart that has chosen to fear Him. Holiness, wisdom, integrity, humility, and faithful obedience do not grow independently; they spring from a life that continually reverences God.

This truth also teaches us that the quality of a person's life is closely connected to the attention they give to the fear of God. A life that consistently chooses God's will over personal desires will naturally produce spiritual maturity and lasting fruit. On the other hand, when the fear of God is neglected, a person's decisions gradually become governed by self-interest rather than by the will of God. The issue is not merely outward behaviour; it is the condition of the heart from which every decision flows.

Therefore, if we desire to measure true success from God's perspective, we must look beyond achievements, possessions, or public recognition. Scripture measures a fruitful life differently. The true measure of a person's life is found in the degree to which they have learned to walk in the fear of the Lord. Show me a man or woman whose life has brought lasting glory to God, and I will show you someone who has given careful attention to living daily in the fear of God.

The promise attached to the fear of God is equally remarkable. Solomon declares that it turns a person away from the snares of death. This means that the fear of God serves as a divine safeguard. It produces spiritual discernment, enabling believers to recognize temptation before it becomes

bondage and to reject sin before it takes root. The fear of God does not merely rescue us after we have fallen; it teaches us to avoid the traps that lead to destruction in the first place.

This understanding prepares us for the next truth presented in Scripture:

"The fear of the Lord prolongs days, but the years of the wicked will be shortened."

— Proverbs 10:27

The fear of God is not only the fountain of life; it is the path that preserves life. God never intended His children merely to exist. He desires that we live lives marked by His wisdom, protected by His guidance, and sustained by continual obedience. Such a life begins—and continues—in the fear of the Lord.

CHAPTER TWO

The Fear of God Is a Choice

"Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord."

— Proverbs 1:29 (NKJV)

One of the greatest misconceptions about the fear of God is the belief that it is an emotion that comes upon a person unexpectedly. However, the Scriptures reveal something entirely different. Proverbs 1:29 tells us that people "did not choose the fear of the Lord." This statement is significant because it shows that the fear of God is not something that happens to us; it is something we deliberately choose.

From the very beginning, God has never forced His will upon humanity. Instead, He has always given mankind the responsibility of making choices. Every day we are presented with two paths: the path of our own desires or the path of God's will. The fear of God is revealed in the decision to choose His will above our own.

This understanding forms the true biblical definition of the fear of God. The fear of God is not living in terror of God, nor is it simply acknowledging that He exists. It is the continual choice to align our lives with His Word, His purpose, and His will. It is choosing obedience when disobedience appears easier, choosing holiness when compromise seems attractive, and choosing truth when deception appears profitable.

The fear of God is therefore not a burden that God places upon anyone.

Neither is it a religious obligation that we perform merely to satisfy our conscience. It is a willing response of a heart that has come to know God's wisdom, His holiness, and His goodness. True obedience is never forced; it flows from a heart that has willingly submitted itself to God.

Every decision we make reveals the direction of our hearts. Long before our actions become visible, a choice has already been made within us. Every act of obedience begins with a decision to honour God, just as every act of disobedience begins with the decision to satisfy self. The fear of God is therefore demonstrated, not merely by what we confess with our mouths, but by the choices we make each day.

This explains why two people may possess the same knowledge of God's Word yet live completely different lives. One chooses to obey what God has said, while the other chooses to follow personal desires. Knowledge alone does not produce godliness. The transforming power lies in choosing to apply God's truth. The fear of God moves us beyond knowing what is right; it compels us to live according to what is right.

This choice confronts every believer in both great and seemingly ordinary moments. It is evident in the words we speak, the relationships we cultivate, the attitudes we display, the integrity we maintain when no one is watching, and the priorities we establish each day. Walking in the fear of God is not determined by a single extraordinary decision but by a lifetime of choosing God in the ordinary circumstances of life.

This is why Scripture consistently contrasts the wise with the foolish. Wisdom is not merely the possession of knowledge; wisdom is revealed in the choices we make. The wise person continually chooses God's way, while the foolish person knowingly rejects it. The difference between the two is not opportunity or intelligence, but the continual decision to honour God.

This truth explains why many people recognize what is right yet refuse

to do it. They understand God's instruction, but they choose another path. The fear of God is therefore much more than understanding truth; it is choosing to live by it. It is a way of life that places God's pleasure above personal preference.

Every believer must therefore ask a simple but searching question: *Whose will governs my decisions?* If our choices are consistently directed by God's Word, we are walking in the fear of the Lord. If our lives are continually governed by self-interest, then we must return to the place of humble submission and choose His way again.

The wonderful truth is that this choice is available every day. Regardless of yesterday's failures or successes, God continually invites His children to walk in His ways. Every new day presents another opportunity to choose obedience, to choose holiness, and to choose the fear of the Lord.

This understanding prepares us for the next truth taught in Scripture:

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever."

— Psalm 111:10 (NKJV)

When the fear of God becomes our daily choice, it produces something that cannot be obtained by human ability alone—it gives birth to true wisdom. That is the truth we will examine in the next chapter.

CHAPTER THREE

The Fear of God Produces Wisdom

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever."

— Psalm 111:10 (NKJV)

Having established that the fear of God is a deliberate choice, we now discover the fruit of that choice. Scripture declares that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. This is a profound truth because it teaches us that wisdom does not begin with knowledge, experience, education, or age. True wisdom begins with a heart that reverences God and willingly submits to His authority.

The psalmist does not merely say that the fear of God is connected to wisdom; he declares that it is the beginning of wisdom. In other words, every truly wise decision has its origin in a life that fears God. Without the fear of the Lord, human knowledge may increase, but godly wisdom will always be lacking.

This is why the fear of God is so essential to the Christian life. When a believer continually chooses God's will above personal desires, the Holy Spirit shapes that person's thinking according to God's Word. As a result, wisdom becomes more than intellectual understanding—it becomes the ability to live according to God's truth.

Notice that the psalmist continues by saying, "A good understanding

have all those who do His commandments." This is an important distinction. Understanding is not reserved for those who merely hear God's Word but for those who obey it. The fear of God moves us beyond hearing the truth to living the truth. Obedience is therefore the practical expression of wisdom.

Many people possess a great knowledge of Scripture, yet their lives reveal little of God's wisdom. This is because wisdom is not measured by what we know but by what we practice. The Word of God was never given simply to increase our knowledge; it was given to transform our lives. Therefore, every act of obedience demonstrates that the fear of God is actively working within us.

This challenges us to examine our own lives. Can we truly claim to be wise if our daily choices consistently place our own desires above God's instructions? Wisdom cannot be separated from obedience. Whenever we knowingly reject God's way in favour of our own, we are not walking in wisdom but according to human understanding.

The fear of God continually teaches us to surrender our own opinions, ambitions, and preferences to the authority of God's Word. As we do this, our decisions begin to reflect God's character rather than our own emotions. We learn to judge situations from God's perspective instead of being led by temporary circumstances or personal feelings. This is the wisdom that produces stability, discernment, and spiritual maturity.

The relationship between wisdom and holy living cannot be overlooked. Every holy life is a wise life because holiness is the practical outworking of obedience to God. Likewise, every wise life is rooted in the fear of God because wisdom continually leads us back to God's will. Holiness is therefore not merely avoiding sin; it is living in continual agreement with the Word of God.

The fear of God also gives us discernment. It enables us to recognize the difference between what is merely acceptable and what truly pleases God. As believers mature in the fear of the Lord, they become more sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Decisions are no longer based solely on what is beneficial or convenient, but on what brings honour and glory to God.

This truth is beautifully illustrated in the life of Joseph. When temptation confronted him, his response was not based on fear of consequences or concern for his reputation. His decision flowed from a heart that feared God. His wisdom was revealed in his obedience, and his obedience was rooted in the fear of the Lord.

The fear of God therefore does not simply produce wise thoughts—it produces wise living. Every choice made in obedience to God's Word becomes evidence that His wisdom is shaping our hearts. The more we walk in the fear of God, the more our lives reflect His wisdom, His holiness, and His righteousness.

This naturally leads us to one of the clearest biblical examples of a person who walked in the fear of God. In the next chapter, we will examine the life of Joseph and discover how the fear of God shaped his decisions, preserved his integrity, and enabled him to remain faithful to God even in the face of great temptation.

CHAPTER FOUR

Joseph: A Living Example of the Fear of God

"There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"

— Genesis 39:9 (NKJV)

Having established that the fear of God produces wisdom, Scripture now gives us a living example of what that wisdom looks like in practice. Throughout the Bible, many men and women demonstrated the fear of God, but the life of Joseph stands as one of the clearest examples of a person whose decisions were governed by reverence for God rather than by personal desire or temporary pleasure.

Joseph's encounter with Potiphar's wife was not merely a test of moral character; it was a test of where his heart truly belonged. He was far from his family, separated from those who knew him, and placed in a position where no human authority was watching his actions. From a natural perspective, Joseph had every opportunity to give in to temptation without immediate consequences. Yet his response revealed that his life was governed by a higher authority.

Before refusing the temptation, Joseph acknowledged the trust that had been placed in him by his master. He recognized that Potiphar had

withheld nothing from him except his wife because she belonged to another. This demonstrated Joseph's integrity and gratitude for the responsibility entrusted to him. However, Joseph did not stop there. He immediately directed his attention to God, asking, *"How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"*

These words reveal the true nature of the fear of God. Joseph did not evaluate the situation merely by asking whether he would be discovered or punished. His greatest concern was that such an act would be a sin against God. This is the distinguishing mark of a person who walks in the fear of the Lord. Their first consideration is not personal gain, public opinion, or earthly consequences, but whether their choices honour God.

Joseph's response also teaches us an important truth about holiness. Holiness is not simply avoiding sinful actions because we fear the consequences. True holiness begins with recognizing what God calls sin and choosing to reject it because we desire to remain faithful to Him. The fear of God gives us spiritual discernment to identify wickedness for what it truly is and the strength to turn away from it.

This is why the fear of God must always precede holy living. A person cannot consistently live a holy life without first developing a heart that reverences God. It is the fear of God that shapes our convictions, governs our choices, and strengthens our resolve to obey Him even when obedience is costly.

Joseph's life demonstrates that the fear of God is not merely something we profess with our lips; it is something that becomes evident in our decisions. Every choice he made reflected a heart that had already surrendered to God's authority. His victory over temptation did not begin when Potiphar's wife approached him. It began long before that moment, through a continual walk of obedience and reverence for God.

This example also reminds us that temptation is an unavoidable part of the believer's journey. Every follower of Christ will face moments when the desires of the flesh conflict with the will of God. The question is not whether temptation will come, but how we will respond when it does. Like Joseph, those who walk in the fear of God choose obedience over compromise because their relationship with God is more valuable than any temporary pleasure.

The fear of God therefore changes the way we make decisions. Instead of asking, "*What do I want?*" we begin to ask, "*What pleases God?*" Instead of looking for the easiest path, we seek the righteous path. This transformation is the evidence that the fear of God has become a governing principle in our lives.

Joseph's life teaches us that integrity is built long before it is tested. A heart that continually chooses God's will in everyday life will also choose God's will when faced with great temptation. The fear of God prepares us for moments of testing by forming within us convictions that cannot easily be shaken.

As believers, we should therefore examine our own hearts in the light of Joseph's example. Do our decisions reflect a genuine desire to honour God, or are they primarily influenced by convenience, opportunity, or personal benefit? The fear of God calls us to live with an awareness that every decision is ultimately made before Him.

Joseph's testimony reminds us that the fear of God is more than a biblical principle—it is a practical way of life. It shapes our character, guards our integrity, and enables us to remain faithful even when no one else is watching. A life governed by the fear of God will always choose obedience over compromise because it values God's approval above every earthly reward.

Joseph's example naturally leads us to another essential aspect of walking in the fear of God. A heart that fears the Lord must also possess a spirit of humility and teachability. For no one can truly obey God's voice without first submitting to His instruction. This is the truth we will explore in the next chapter.

CHAPTER FIVE

Humility and the Teachable Spirit

"And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word."

— Luke 10:39 (NKJV)

One of the greatest pieces of evidence of a person who walks in the fear of God is a heart that is humble and willing to be taught. The fear of God is not merely a decision we make once; it is a lifelong journey of learning to know God's ways and applying them to our daily lives. This is why David extends an invitation in Psalm 34:11, saying, *"Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord."* These words reveal that the fear of God is something that can and must be learned.

This truth is beautifully illustrated in the life of Mary in Luke 10:39. While Martha was busy with many preparations, Mary chose to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to His word. This posture reveals the essence of humility and a teachable spirit. Mary was not distracted by activity or preoccupied with responsibility; she positioned herself in a place of learning, submission, and attentiveness to the voice of the Lord.

This is an important truth because it reminds us that no one is born knowing how to walk in the fear of God. While salvation is received by faith, growth in godliness requires continual instruction from God's Word. As we listen to His voice and submit ourselves to His teaching, our understanding deepens, our character is transformed, and our lives begin to reflect His nature.

The invitation to "come" and "listen" also reveals the attitude required of every believer. Before we can learn, we must first be willing to humble ourselves. Pride closes the heart to instruction, but humility opens it to receive correction, wisdom, and truth. A teachable spirit acknowledges that God's ways are higher than our own and willingly submits to His authority.

Mary's example in Luke 10:39 shows us that true discipleship begins with positioning ourselves at the feet of Jesus. It is in this place of surrender that we are shaped, corrected, and instructed. A life that is too busy to sit at His feet will eventually become a life that is spiritually dry, no matter how active it appears outwardly.

This is why humility is inseparable from the fear of God. A proud heart desires independence and self-rule, but a humble heart delights in following God's direction. The person who truly fears the Lord does not rely on personal understanding but continually seeks God's wisdom in every area of life. Such a believer recognizes that lasting success is found, not in self-confidence, but in complete dependence upon God.

As we give careful attention to the Word of God, it begins to teach us how to fear the Lord correctly. The Scriptures reveal God's character, His holiness, His righteousness, and His will. They become the blueprint by which we evaluate our thoughts, our motives, and our actions. The more we submit ourselves to the truth of God's Word, the more our lives are shaped by the fear of the Lord.

This continual submission is one of the defining characteristics of spiritual maturity. The fear of God is not demonstrated by occasional acts of obedience but by a consistent willingness to allow God's Word to correct, instruct, and direct our lives. A teachable believer does not resist God's correction but welcomes it, knowing that every instruction from the Lord is given for growth and maturity.

Submission, therefore, is not a sign of weakness but an expression of reverence for God. It is the recognition of our rightful place before Him. We acknowledge that He alone is sovereign, all-wise, and worthy of complete trust. As we willingly submit to His leadership, our confidence shifts from our own understanding to His perfect wisdom.

The fear of God also teaches us to maintain a balanced understanding of God's character. We submit to Him because we recognize both His unfailing love and His righteous judgment. His love draws us into fellowship with Him, while His holiness teaches us to walk carefully before Him. Together, these truths cultivate a life of reverence, obedience, and faithful devotion.

This humble and teachable spirit naturally leads to true worship. Worship is not limited to songs or public gatherings; it is expressed through a life that continually honours God. Likewise, discipleship is more than acquiring biblical knowledge. It is the lifelong process of allowing God's Word to shape our character until our lives reflect Christ.

As believers, we must continually ask ourselves whether we remain teachable before the Lord. Have we become satisfied with what we already know, or do we still hunger to grow in the knowledge of God? The fear of the Lord keeps our hearts receptive to His instruction. It reminds us that spiritual growth never ends, and that every new lesson learned from God's Word draws us into a deeper relationship with Him.

Therefore, humility is not merely a Christian virtue; it is the posture of every heart that truly fears God. A teachable spirit allows the Holy Spirit to continually mould us, refine us, and prepare us for greater usefulness in God's kingdom. The believer who remains humble before the Lord will continue to grow in wisdom, walk in obedience, and become a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ.

Having learned that the fear of God produces humility and a teachable spirit, we now arrive at another beautiful result of walking in the fear of the Lord. As our hearts are shaped by His Word, we begin to see life from God's perspective. We learn to love what He loves, hate what He hates, and pursue the holiness that reflects His nature. This is the truth we will explore in the next chapter.

CHAPTER SIX

Seeing Through God's Eyes

"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

— 2 Corinthians 7:1 (NKJV)

The fear of God does more than influence our outward conduct—it transforms the way we see. As we grow in reverence for God and continually submit to His Word, our perspective begins to change. We no longer evaluate life according to human reasoning or personal preference; instead, we begin to see people, circumstances, and decisions through God's eyes. This is one of the greatest evidences of spiritual maturity.

"But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

— 1 Corinthians 2:14 (NKJV)

Throughout this study, we have seen that the fear of God is a continual choice to place God's will above our own. That choice does not merely affect our actions; it renews our minds and reshapes our hearts. The more we walk in the fear of the Lord, the more our thoughts, desires, and values become aligned with His.

One of the clearest results of this transformation is that we begin to love what God loves and hate what God hates. Our standard for judging what is

right and wrong is no longer determined by culture, public opinion, or personal feelings. Instead, God's Word becomes the measure by which we examine every aspect of our lives. What He calls holy, we desire to pursue. What He calls sinful, we choose to reject.

This change of perspective is not produced by human effort alone. It is the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer who has willingly submitted to God's authority. As we continually walk in the fear of God, the Holy Spirit renews our understanding and teaches us to view life from heaven's perspective rather than from the limitations of our natural understanding.

This is why the Apostle Paul exhorts believers in 2 Corinthians 7:1 to cleanse themselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Paul's words reveal that the fear of God is the environment in which holiness is perfected. Holiness is not achieved through outward appearance or religious performance. Rather, it is the continual work of God within a heart that has chosen to honour Him in every area of life. As we walk in the fear of the Lord, the Holy Spirit exposes attitudes, motives, and habits that do not reflect God's character and lovingly calls us to surrender them.

Notice that Paul speaks of cleansing ourselves from both the filthiness of the flesh and of the spirit. This reminds us that God's concern extends beyond outward behavior. He desires purity in our actions as well as in our thoughts, motives, attitudes, and intentions. The fear of God therefore leads to complete transformation, affecting both what people can see and what only God can see.

This is why walking in the fear of God requires continual self-examination. We must regularly bring our hearts before the Lord and allow His Word to reveal anything that is inconsistent with His holiness. The

believer who fears God does not resist conviction but welcomes it, understanding that God's correction is an expression of His love and a means of producing Christlike character.

As our hearts become increasingly aligned with God's heart, our priorities also begin to change. We become less concerned with pleasing ourselves and more concerned with pleasing Him. Our ambitions become subject to His purpose, our desires are shaped by His will, and our decisions are guided by His wisdom. This is what it means to see through God's eyes. It is to value what He values, pursue what He desires, and reject everything that opposes His nature.

Seeing through God's eyes also changes the way we relate to others. We become more patient, more compassionate, and more forgiving because we recognise that every person is someone for whom Christ died. At the same time, we do not compromise God's truth for the sake of acceptance. Instead, we learn to speak the truth in love, holding firmly to His standards while reflecting His grace.

The fear of God ultimately produces a life that reflects the character of Christ. As we continue to behold Him through His Word, our lives are transformed into His likeness. Our thoughts become more like His thoughts, our attitudes reflect His humility, and our actions reveal His righteousness. This is the lifelong work of sanctification—a process that continues as we daily choose to walk in the fear of the Lord.

"But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

— 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)

When we begin to see through God's eyes, obedience is no longer a burden but a delight. Holiness is no longer viewed as a restriction but as the beautiful expression of a life surrendered to God. We discover that the fear of the Lord does not limit our lives; it leads us into the fullness of the life God intended for us from the very beginning.

As we conclude this study, one truth becomes unmistakably clear: the fear of God is not a single decision but a continual walk. Every day presents another opportunity to choose His will, to grow in wisdom, to remain humble and teachable, and to pursue holiness. Those who continue in this path will experience the abundant and fruitful life that God has promised to those who fear His name.

CHAPTER SEVEN

Walking Daily in the Fear of God

"The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant."

— Psalm 25:14 (NKJV)

The fear of God is not an experience that begins and ends with a single decision. Neither is it a spiritual achievement that, once attained, no longer requires our attention. The fear of God is a daily walk—a continual lifestyle of choosing God's will above our own in every circumstance of life.

Throughout this study, we have discovered that the fear of God is the fountain of life, the beginning of wisdom, the foundation of holiness, and the pathway to spiritual maturity. These truths are not intended merely to increase our biblical knowledge; they are meant to shape the way we live each day. Every chapter has pointed us to one central truth: the fear of God is lived before it is taught.

Walking daily in the fear of God means allowing God's Word to govern every area of our lives. It affects the decisions we make, the words we speak, the attitudes we display, and the relationships we build. It influences our conduct in public and in private, when others are watching and when we are alone. A person who fears God understands that every moment of life is lived before the presence of God.

The Christian life is therefore a series of daily choices. Every day we are presented with opportunities to choose between self-will and God's will, between temporary satisfaction and eternal purpose, between compromise

and obedience. Walking in the fear of God means consistently choosing the path that honours God, even when it requires sacrifice.

This daily walk is not sustained by human determination alone. It is made possible through continual fellowship with God. As we spend time in His presence, meditate on His Word, and yield ourselves to the leading of the Holy Spirit, our hearts become increasingly sensitive to His voice. Obedience becomes more natural because our desires are being shaped by His desires.

Psalm 25:14 reveals a beautiful promise connected to this life of reverence: *"The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant."* This means that those who walk in the fear of God are invited into deeper intimacy with Him. God does not merely command obedience; He reveals His heart to those who honour Him. The fear of God therefore becomes the doorway into divine friendship, spiritual understanding, and covenant revelation.

Walking in the fear of God also requires perseverance. There will be moments of testing, seasons of waiting, and circumstances that challenge our faith. During such times, the fear of God keeps us anchored. It reminds us that our confidence is not found in changing circumstances but in the unchanging character of God. We continue to obey Him because we trust His wisdom, even when we do not fully understand His ways.

As believers, we must never view the fear of God as a burden. It is one of God's greatest gifts to His children. Through it, He protects us from the snares of sin, directs our paths with wisdom, forms Christlike character within us, and leads us into the life He has prepared for us. Every instruction He gives is an expression of His love, designed for our growth, our preservation, and His glory.

When we consistently walk in the fear of God, our lives begin to bear

visible fruit. Wisdom governs our decisions. Holiness becomes our pursuit. Integrity shapes our character. Humility keeps us teachable. Love for God deepens our worship, and love for others transforms our relationships. These are not qualities we manufacture by our own strength; they are the natural fruit of a life that continually chooses to honour God.

The fear of God is therefore not measured by how much we know but by how faithfully we obey. It is revealed in the ordinary moments of life—in the quiet decisions that no one else may ever see but that God sees clearly. Every act of obedience, every refusal to compromise, every step of faith, and every surrender to God's will becomes evidence that we are walking in the fear of the Lord.

As we reflect on the lives and Scriptures studied throughout this book, one truth becomes evident: God has always honoured those who choose to fear Him. Whether in the wisdom of Solomon, the integrity of Joseph, the humility of Mary, or the instruction of the apostles, we see the same consistent principle. The fear of God produces lives that bring glory to Him and blessing to others.

The diagram below summarizes the journey we have taken throughout this study and illustrates how every aspect of the Christian life flows from the fear of God:



This journey does not end with the final page of this book. It continues every day as we choose to walk with God. The fear of the Lord is not simply a doctrine to be understood but a lifestyle to be embraced. As we continually choose His will above our own, we grow in wisdom, walk in holiness, reflect the character of Christ, and experience the abundant life that God has promised to those who fear His name.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Conclusion: A Life That Pleases God

As we come to the end of this study, one truth stands above every other: the fear of God is not merely a doctrine to be understood; it is a life to be lived. Throughout Scripture, God has never sought people who simply possess knowledge of His Word. He seeks men and women whose hearts are fully yielded to Him, whose lives are governed by His will, and whose greatest desire is to bring Him honour and glory.

From the beginning of this book, we have seen that the fear of God is the fountain of life. It is the source from which wisdom, holiness, humility, obedience, and spiritual maturity flow. Every believer who desires to grow in Christ must first establish this foundation, for no lasting spiritual life can exist apart from a genuine reverence for God.

We have also discovered that the fear of God is a choice. Every day, we stand at the crossroads of two paths: the path of self-will and the path of God's will. The fear of God is demonstrated whenever we choose to obey God above our own desires. It is in these daily decisions often unseen by others that our love for God is proven and our character is formed.

The Scriptures have further shown us that the fear of God produces wisdom. True wisdom is not measured by intelligence, education, or experience but by a life that is submitted to God's Word. Wisdom is revealed through obedience. It is seen in a heart that continually seeks God's perspective before making decisions and values His approval above the praise of men.

The life of Joseph reminded us that the fear of God is practical. Faced with temptation, Joseph chose faithfulness because he feared God more than he desired temporary pleasure. His response teaches us that integrity is not built in the moment of testing but in the daily habit of walking with God. A heart that continually chooses God in ordinary moments will remain faithful in extraordinary trials.

We also learned that those who fear God remain humble and teachable. The fear of the Lord produces a heart that welcomes instruction, receives correction, and continually grows in the knowledge of God. It recognises that spiritual maturity is not measured by how much we know but by how willing we are to obey what God has already revealed.

As we continue to walk in the fear of God, our perspective is transformed. We begin to see through God's eyes. Our values change, our priorities are reordered, and our hearts become increasingly aligned with His. We learn to love what He loves, reject what He rejects, and pursue holiness because we desire to reflect His character. This transformation is the gracious work of the Holy Spirit in the life of every believer who continually yields to God.

Finally, we have seen that walking in the fear of God is a daily journey. It is not confined to moments of worship or seasons of spiritual excitement. It is lived out in our homes, our workplaces, our relationships, and our private lives. It is revealed in the quiet decisions that no one else may ever see but that God sees clearly. Every act of obedience, every refusal to compromise, and every step of faith becomes evidence of a life that fears the Lord.

The promise of Scripture is clear. Those who fear God are not deprived; they are blessed. They receive wisdom for life's decisions, strength to overcome temptation, grace to grow in holiness, and the joy of walking in

close fellowship with their heavenly Father. As Psalm 25:14 declares, *"The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant."* Those who honour God are invited into a deeper relationship with Him, where His purposes become clearer and His presence becomes more precious.

Therefore, let the fear of God become more than a subject we study. Let it become the guiding principle by which we live. Let every decision, every ambition, every relationship, and every pursuit be measured against one simple question:

Does this honour God?

When that question governs our hearts, we will continually choose His will above our own. We will walk in wisdom rather than folly, pursue holiness rather than compromise, and seek God's glory rather than personal recognition. Such a life will not only experience the blessings of God but will also become a testimony of His transforming power to a watching world.

As you close this book, remember that the journey does not end here. Every new day is another opportunity to walk in the fear of the Lord. Every decision is another opportunity to choose His will. Every challenge is another opportunity to trust His wisdom. Continue to seek Him, remain teachable before Him, and allow His Word to shape every area of your life.

A Prayer for the Walk:

"Lord, teach me to fear You. Give me a heart that delights in Your will above my own. Let my life reflect Your wisdom, Your holiness, and Your love, so that in all I do, You alone may be glorified."

May you walk in the fear of the Lord all the days of your life, and may your life become a living testimony that the fear of God is indeed the fountain of life, the beginning of wisdom, and the pathway to a life that truly pleases Him.

SCRIPTURE INDEX

The following Scriptures form the biblical foundation of this study. Readers are encouraged to read each passage in its full context and allow the Holy Spirit to deepen their understanding of the fear of God.

References

- **Genesis 39:9** – Joseph's response to temptation demonstrates that the fear of God produces integrity, holiness, and obedience even when no one else is watching.
- **Proverbs 1:29** – The fear of God is a choice. God calls every person to choose His ways rather than reject His wisdom.
- **Proverbs 10:27** – The fear of the Lord prolongs life and leads to a life established in God's blessing.
- **Proverbs 14:27** – The fear of the Lord is the fountain of life, turning people away from the snares of death.
- **Psalms 25:14** – God reveals His counsel and covenant to those who fear Him.
- **Psalms 34:11** – The fear of the Lord can be learned through humble instruction and a teachable heart.
- **Psalms 111:10** – The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and obedience produces understanding
- **2 Corinthians 7:1** – Believers are called to pursue holiness by cleansing themselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Central Theme:

Throughout this book, one truth has remained constant: **The fear of God is the continual choice to place God's will above self-will.** From that choice flow wisdom, holiness, humility, obedience, discernment, spiritual maturity, and a life that brings honour and glory to God.

APPENDIX A

Further Scriptures for Personal Study

The purpose of this book has been to establish a biblical understanding of the fear of God as a continual lifestyle of choosing God's will above self-will. While this study has focused on several foundational passages, the Bible contains many other Scriptures that deepen our understanding of this vital truth.

As you continue your personal study, prayerfully meditate on the following passages. Read each one in its context, ask the Holy Spirit for understanding, and consider how it applies to your daily walk with God.

1. Deuteronomy 10:12–13 — Walking in God's Ways

"And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul..."

This passage beautifully connects the fear of God with love, obedience, and wholehearted service. It reminds us that fearing God is not merely avoiding sin; it is living in loving submission to Him and walking faithfully in His ways every day.

- **Reflection Questions:**
 - *Am I walking in God's ways daily?*
 - *Does my obedience flow from love for God?*
 - *Is every area of my life surrendered to Him?*

2. Joshua 24:14 — Serving God with Sincerity

"Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth..."

Joshua calls God's people to wholehearted devotion. The fear of God produces sincerity, integrity, and faithfulness in our service. God desires hearts that worship Him without hypocrisy.

- **Reflection Questions:**

- *Is my service to God genuine?*
- *Do I honour Him both publicly and privately?*
- *Am I serving Him with an undivided heart?*

3. Ecclesiastes 12:13 — The Whole Duty of Man

"Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all."

After examining every pursuit under the sun, Solomon concludes that life's ultimate purpose is found in fearing God and obeying His commandments. Everything else is temporary, but a life lived for God has eternal value.

- **Reflection Questions:**

- *What is currently shaping the purpose of my life?*
- *Are my priorities aligned with God's eternal purposes?*
- *Am I pursuing what truly matters?*

4. Isaiah 11:2–3 — Delighting in the Fear of the Lord

Isaiah's prophecy concerning the Messiah reveals that Jesus Himself delighted in the fear of the Lord. This reminds us that the fear of God is not something to dread but something in which we can delight because it draws

us into deeper fellowship with God.

- **Reflection Questions:**

- *Do I delight in obeying God?*
- *Does pleasing God bring joy to my heart?*
- *Am I becoming more like Christ in my daily walk?*

5. Acts 9:31 — Growing Through the Fear of the Lord

"Then the churches...walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, were multiplied."

The early Church grew in strength because believers walked in the fear of the Lord while depending upon the comfort and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Reverence for God and the ministry of the Holy Spirit always work together to produce spiritual growth.

- **Reflection Questions:**

- *Am I growing spiritually?*
- *Is my walk with God marked by both reverence and dependence upon the Holy Spirit?*
- *Does my life encourage others to grow in Christ?*

6. Philippians 2:12–13 — Working Out Our Salvation

"Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."

Paul reminds believers that spiritual growth requires active cooperation with God's work within us. We do not earn salvation by our works, but because God is at work in us, we respond with reverence, obedience, and

faithful living.

- **Reflection Questions:**

- *Am I responding to God's work within my life?*
- *Do I willingly submit to His transforming work?*
- *Is my life becoming more pleasing to Him?*

7. Hebrews 12:28–29 — Serving God Acceptably

"Let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire."

The fear of God produces reverence in worship and sincerity in service. God's holiness calls us to approach Him with awe, gratitude, and wholehearted devotion.

- **Reflection Questions:**

- *Does my worship reflect genuine reverence?*
- *Do I approach God casually or with holy respect?*
- *Is my service acceptable before Him?*

8. 1 Peter 1:15–17 — Living Holy Lives

Peter exhorts believers to be holy because God is holy and reminds us to conduct ourselves throughout our earthly pilgrimage in the fear of the Lord. Holiness is not merely an outward appearance but the practical expression of a heart devoted to God.

- **Reflection Questions:**

- *Is my lifestyle reflecting God's holiness?*
- *Are my daily choices bringing honour to Christ?*

- *Am I living as one who remembers that I belong to God?*

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

— Proverbs 9:10 (NKJV)

OTHER BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR

If this book has encouraged and strengthened your walk with God, you may also enjoy these other Bible teaching resources by **Jayeoba Joshua**:

- ***Journey of a Promise Child***
- ***When Faith Grows***

More books and Bible study resources are in preparation and will be released as the Lord leads.

For more Bible teachings, articles, devotionals, and sermons, visit:

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Jayeoba Joshua is a devoted Bible teacher, gospel writer, and the founder of TGN Ministry (The Gospel of Now). Called by God to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, he is passionate about equipping believers to live victorious, impactful, and Christ-centred lives through the transforming power of God's Word.

By the grace of God and the leading of the Holy Spirit, he founded TGN Ministry in June 2021 with a clear vision: to proclaim the Gospel for this generation, ignite spiritual revival, and inspire believers to grow into maturity in Christ. What began as daily Spirit-inspired journals has grown into a ministry that reaches people through biblical teaching, articles, seminars, and discipleship resources.

Although he was raised in a Christian home and blessed with a strong biblical foundation, his journey has also been marked by seasons of testing and God's restoring grace. Like the Apostle Paul, whose testimony in Galatians 1:16 declares, *"to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles,"* Jayeoba's greatest desire is to see Jesus Christ revealed in every life through the faithful teaching of God's Word.

Through TGN Ministry, he has written numerous Bible articles and devotionals that encourage believers to walk in faith, discern the strategies of the enemy, and discover the hope found in Christ alone. The ministry also hosts seminars and teaching conferences, including *Living an Impactful Christian Life*, *Teaching with Power and Authority*, and other discipleship programmes designed to equip believers for effective Christian

living and ministry.

Every article, journal, seminar, and outreach bears witness to God's faithfulness. Wherever the ministry serves, the desire is the same—to exalt Jesus Christ, strengthen His Church, and encourage believers to walk in the fullness of their God-given purpose. Jayeoba remains committed to preaching the uncompromised Word of God, depending wholly on the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and seeing lives transformed through the power of the Gospel.

Today, his passion remains unchanged: to help people know Christ more deeply, understand His Word more clearly, and live lives that glorify God. His prayer is that every resource produced through TGN Ministry will strengthen believers, awaken hearts to God's truth, and point people to Jesus Christ—the only hope of the world.

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