

The Forgotten Fear

Romans 3:18

Introduction:

This past week has been unprecedented in a number of ways.

Obviously there is the grim reality of a large number of people that have died as a result of the virus Covid-19. There have been Hospital ERs and ICUs overwhelmed with patients in Acute Respiratory Distress. Supplies have been running out and stress and fear in these communities have been very high.

In Italy, there have been 86,498 cases with currently 3732 case in serious or critical condition with 9,134 death related to Covid-19 (numbers are 24hrs old)

A 34-year-old Italian nurse working on the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic took her own life after testing positive for the illness and was terrified that she had infected others, according to a report.

Another woman, understood to be in her 20s, killed herself. She was working on a ward where eight patients being treated for Covid-19 have died.

The stress of the work and the fear of contracting the virus are high among the medical community on the frontlines of this pandemic.

One nurse, tearfully recounts the position she is put in when the patient is dying. No one from the family is allowed to go and see the patient, to comfort, or be by the beside of there loved one in the last moments before death. The nurses are often ask to hold a cell phone with face time so the Patient and family can say there good byes.

There are those that say that this is not any worse that the flu.

And if you look at the numbers right now. The key is right now, just by numbers alone, they may be right.

In the United States

In 2017, 61,000 deaths were attributed to flu

In 2018, 34,200 deaths were attributed to flu

Globally, the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that the flu kills 290,000 to 650,000 people per year.

This Is How Many People Die From the Flu Each Year, According to the CDC

Are more people dying from the flu this year compared to other seasons? Here's what to know.

By **Claire Gillespie** Updated March 26, 2020

There is a couple of major differences that has been stated between Covid-19 and the flu, that I have read.

1. Covid-19 is much more contagious than the flu and is as one doctor put it, pneumonia on steroids. Flu is 1to1 were as Covid-19 is 1 to 3

2. Nobody isolates because of the flu. and we have meds for the flu and vaccines.

We don't know and won't know what this Covid-19 would have been like if it were approached like the annual flu. No isolation, no cancelations of large events and assemblies of people.

How much more would it have spread.

All of this and much more you can read for yourself, has gripped our world with fear. A simple reading of the headlines each day is enough to drive you insane.

South Africa begins 'unprecedented' military-patrolled lockdown...

Fears of alcoholism, addiction in confinement...

Singapore may jail people who stand close...

'She just had a cough': Teen's death shakes France...

Paris hospitals near breaking point...

Inmates Going Free Over Virus Fears Spark Renewed Anti-Jail Push...

Pandemic could spark unrest among urban poor...

On Front Lines of Pandemic, 'I Love You' Can Mean 'Goodbye'...

Fauci Throws Cold Water on Easter Miracle...

White House officials: 'Rolling disaster awaits'...

Workers Critical to Food Supply Starting to Fall Ill...

Bill Gates warns lockdown could last 10 WEEKS...

Health care workers feel like 'lambs to slaughterhouse'...

DOCTOR arrested for coughing on co-workers...

Terror plot to blow up Missouri hospital uncovered..

Longtime AMERICAN AIRLINES flight attendant dies while awaiting results...

NYC closed until end of MAY?

One dies every 17 mins...

Rhode Island Police Hunt Down New Yorkers Seeking Refuge...

Demand for online ordering leaves grocery stores scrambling, customers waiting...

Farmworkers key to keeping nation fed are wary of spread...

Heart Attack? No, It Was Coronavirus...

Power Demand to be 'Profoundly' Hit...
INTERNET BREAKING...

AMAZON DELIVERY GUY DELIBERATELY SPITS ON PACKAGE...

All of this was one day of headlines, one 24 hour period.

So a lot of what is driving the choices being made is fear.

Fear of contracting the virus

Fear of a family member getting the virus and dying

Fear of the economic impact in our country

Fear of the inability to have the basic necessities so life

Fear of what normal will look like after the virus.

Fear of Government over reach.

Fear for our freedom.

Fear for how long this will go on.

The list could go on and on.

Fear can be debilitating and crippling. Like the child who is scared of the dark and hears a noise under his bed. **YOU FREEZE.**

Fear can also be good,

Fear will keep you from walking into a cave where a Grizzly Bear lie sleeping.

God created us with the self preserving mental and emotional response of fear.

In this context, I am not surprised there are a lot of people, in fact, Millions of people through out the world that are very afraid. Their minds and their hearts are full of fear.

I read at least 50 articles this week alone, from the secular to the religious, and evangelical and 99% talk about the fear, the panic, the concern, the worry.

In the religious or evangelical circles there is a lot of discussion of need not to fear, not to worry, not to be afraid, but to Trust God.

And with that I whole heartily agree.

But this evening I want to remind you of "The Forgotten Fear"

The Fear of God.

There is a Fear that is needed. There is a Fear that Preserves, There is a Fear that leads our minds to wisdom. There is a fear that gives a proper world View.

That is the Fear of God.

That is not being discussed, or promoted or preached as often as it should.

If there is anything that this situation should do is Drive us to Fear God.

One week, everything can seem normal, with jobs and restaurants and hospitals, families and life. the next, its brought to its knees.

God can create a very very small virus and bring the entire world to a stop.

It is so small that it needs to be seen with an electron microscope.

A typical atom is anywhere from 0.1 to 0.5 nanometers in diameter. DNA molecules are about 2.5 nanometers wide. Most proteins are about 10 nanometers wide, and a typical virus is about 100 nanometers wide. A bacterium is about 1000 nanometers. Human cells, such as red blood cells, are about 10,000 nanometers across. At 100,000 nanometers, the width of a human hair seems gigantic. The head of a pin is about a million nanometers wide. An adult man who is 2 meters tall (6 feet 5 inches) is about 2 billion nanometers tall!

Another way to imagine the nanoscale is to think in terms of relative sizes. Consider yourself with respect to the size of an ant (3-5 millimeters). An ant is roughly 1000 times smaller than you are. Now think of an ant with respect to the size of an amoeba (about 1 micron). An amoeba is about 1000 times smaller than an ant. Now, consider that a nanometer

is roughly 1000 time smaller than an amoeba! You would have to shrink yourself down by a factor of 1000 three times in a row in order to get down too the level of the nanoscale.

Lesson 2: Scale of Objects

Student Materials

https://nanosense.sri.com/activities/sizematters/sizeandscale/SM_Lesson2Student.pdf

For those who are denying the Glory that should be given to God for the POWER He has and in His Sovereignty over this situation, who want to say that this is evolution at it best, killing the unproductive people of our communities (our seniors)

Let me remind you that this virus has a creator, This virus has design and purpose and intent. It is not chance that this has the design and RNA specific enough to accomplish that its Purpose Consider the amazing details we know already....

Once a virus like Covid-19 enters the human body through the eyes, mouth, or nose, it looks for cells with its favorite doorways—proteins called receptors. If the virus finds a compatible receptor, it can invade and start replicating itself. For SARS-CoV-2, that receptor is found in lung cells and the gut.

Once inside, the genetic material of the virus, or RNA, is released.

The infected cell reads the RNA and begins making proteins that will keep the immune system at bay. As the infection progresses, these new proteins form copies of the virus.

New copies of the virus are assembled and carried to the outer edges of the cell, then go on to infect other host cells

God is showing Himself again, Yet man refuses to see it.

Romans 1:18–23 (NKJV)

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, ²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and changed the glory of the

incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

There is a reason that men don't glorify God as God. They refuse to recognize Him for who He is. They suppress the Truth of who He is and is Rightful Authority in their Life.

Romans 3:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ *“There is no fear of God before their eyes.”*
After a long list of characteristics taken from Psm 5, 59, 140 He concludes this

Psalm 36:1–4 (NKJV)

Man's Wickedness and God's Perfections

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David the Servant of the Lord.

- 1 An oracle within my heart concerning the transgression of the wicked:
There is no fear of God before his eyes.
- 2 For he flatters himself in his own eyes,
 When he finds out his iniquity *and* when he hates.
- 3 The words of his mouth *are* wickedness and deceit;
 He has ceased to be wise *and* to do good.

4 He devises wickedness on his bed;
 He sets himself in a way *that is* not good;
He does not abhor evil.

Some have tried to say that there word fear used
 in the scripture only refers to reverence and Awe
 or respect. But that is not case.

Fear in this Psalm is not to be understood in the sense of “reverence” but of terror. Evildoers would do well to have a healthy fear of him who will determine their eternal destiny, but they have none. It is a little curious that *fear* is connected with what is *before their eyes*; perhaps there is a contrast with “I have set the Lord always before me” (Ps. 16:8). “While a believer sets his course towards God Himself, this man does not take even ‘the terror of the Lord’ into account.”

Morris, L. (1988). [*The Epistle to the Romans*](#) (p. 169). Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: W.B. Eerdmans; Inter-Varsity Press.

“The word *pachad* denotes terror inspired by God, not reverence for God.... Transgression persuades the wicked man that there is no need for him to dread God’s judgments” (A. F. Kirkpatrick, *The Book of Psalms* [Cambridge, 1910], p. 184).

Morris, L. (1988). [*The Epistle to the Romans*](#). Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: W.B. Eerdmans; Inter-Varsity Press.

Brown-Driver-Briggs

I. ⁴⁹ **מִחַדָּה** noun masculine ¹Samuel 11:7 dread; — **פ** absolute Genesis 31:42 +, construct 1 Samuel 11:7 +, suffix **מִחַדָּהְךָ** Deuteronomy 2:25; Psalm 119:120, **מִחַדָּדוֹ** Job 13:11; 1 Chronicles 14:17, etc.; plural **מִחַדָּדִים** Job 15:21: —
1 dread, **פ**, i.e. before **פ**, often (not always) terrifying, unfitting for action, Isaiah 2:10,19,21; 1 Samuel 11:7; 2Chron 14:13; 2 Chronicles 17:10, so **פ** **מִחַדָּדִים** Chronicles 20:29, with suffix Job 13:11; Psalm 119:120 trembleth for dread of thee; with Genitive object Israel, Deuteronomy 2:25 (" **יִרְאַה** ""), Deuteronomy 11:25 (" **מִוֶּרָא** ""), Psalm 105:38; Esther 8:17; Esther 9:2, **אֲוִיָּב פ** Psalm 64:2, of individual 1 Chronicles 14:17; Esther 9:3; with Genitive object of thing Proverbs 1:33; absolute, in General, Exodus 15:16 (song; "" **אֵי מִחַדָּה** ""), Job 4:14 (" **רַעְדָה** ""), Jeremiah 30:5 (" **קוֹל חֲרָדָה** "") +; as accusative of congrate meaning with verb with **מִחַדָּד** Psalm 14:5 + (see **מִחַדָּד**); c. Genitive subject Proverbs 1:26,27 (both "" **אֵיד** "") Deuteronomy 28:67.

Some have tried to say that there word fear used in the scripture only refers to reverence and Awe or respect. But that is not case.

Exodus 15:10–16 (NKJV)

¹⁰ You blew with Your wind,

The sea covered them;

They sank like lead in the mighty waters.

¹¹ “Who *is* like You, O Lord, among the gods?

Who *is* like You, glorious in holiness,

Fearful in praises, doing wonders?

¹² You stretched out Your right hand;

The earth swallowed them.

¹³ You in Your mercy have led forth

The people whom You have redeemed;

You have guided *them* in Your strength

To Your holy habitation.

- 14 “The people will hear *and* be **afraid**;
Sorrow will take hold of the inhabitants of Philistia.
- 15 Then the chiefs of Edom will be dismayed;
The mighty men of Moab,
Trembling will take hold of them;
All the inhabitants of Canaan will melt away.
- 16 **Fear** and **dread** will fall on them;
By the greatness of Your arm
They will be *as* still as a stone,
Till Your people pass over, O Lord,
Till the people pass over
Whom You have purchased.

Fear emah: terror, dread **Mental**

Original Word: אֵימָה

Part of Speech: Noun Feminine

Transliteration: emah

Phonetic Spelling: (ay-maw')

Definition: terror, dread

dread **Emotional**

pachad: Original Word: פָּחַד

Part of Speech: Noun Masculine

Transliteration: pachad

Phonetic Spelling: (pakh'-ad)

Definition: dread

Deuteronomy 2:24–25 (NKJV)

²⁴ “ ‘Rise, take your journey, and cross over the River Arnon. Look, I have given into your hand Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land. Begin to possess *it*, and engage him in battle. ²⁵ This day I will begin to put the dread and fear of you upon the nations under the whole heaven, who shall hear the report of you, and shall tremble and be in anguish because of you.’

Romans 3:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ *“There is no fear of God before their eyes.”*

The metaphor of fear “before their eyes” is typical of the OT, where “eyes” appears around 700 times and the human attitude toward God is depicted as having eyes turned toward God.

Jewett, R., & Kotansky, R. D. (2006). [*Romans: A commentary*](#). (E. J. Epp, Ed.) (p. 263). Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press.

Finally, he concludes, **There is no fear of God before their eyes** (verse 18). We talk about that which is before our eyes as that which comes into our field of vision. A more abstract word for ‘before their eyes’ may be ‘perspective’. Each one of us has a perspective on life, how we look at things.

Paul, in describing fallen man, says, There is no fear of God before their eyes. How does a person look at things who has no fear of God? We can take that word ‘fear’ in two ways. Sometimes we think of fear as that which frightens us, hence Paul is saying that nobody is afraid of God any more. There is a certain sense in which that is still true. We live as if there were no God; we live as if we never had to stand before God; we live as if God couldn’t possibly hurt us or do anything to cause us grief if he wanted to.

But of course, the deeper meaning of the fear of God in Scripture is not a servile fear that causes us to tremble in fright in the presence of God, but rather a fear born of honour. It is ‘filial’ fear, fear to offend one whom we love, adore and respect. Paul is saying that the human race is an irreverent race; that humanity has no profound respect for God.

Sproul, R. C. (1994). *The Gospel of God: An Exposition of Romans* (pp. 69–70). Great Britain: Christian Focus Publications.

...every wickedness flows from a disregard of God: for as the principal part of wisdom is the fear of God, when we depart from that, there remains in us nothing right or pure. In short, as it is a bridle to restrain our wickedness, so when it is wanting, we feel at liberty to indulge every kind of licentiousness.

Calvin, J., & Owen, J. (2010). [*Commentary on the Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Romans*](#) (p. 128). Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software.

What many may not be aware of in our touchy feely lovey dovey preaching today is that God is a God to be Feared.

It is talked about All thru Scripture

“that there are no fewer than 150 to 175 explicit references to the fear of God. If you add to these explicit references the instances in Scripture where the fear of God is illustrated, though not explicitly stated, it is accurate to say that the references to the fear of God run well into the hundreds. It is amazing, then, that a theme so dominant in the Old and the New Testaments can either be greatly overlooked or carelessly treated, as it often is in our day.”

Martin, Albert N.. *The Forgotten Fear: Where Have All the God-Fearers Gone?* . Reformation Heritage Books. Kindle Edition.

1. The Fear of the Lord is what Characterizes true Christianity

Revelation 19:5 (NKJV)

⁵ Then a voice came from the throne, saying, “Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!”

Revelation 11:17–18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ saying:

“We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty,
The One who is and who was and who is to come,
Because You have taken Your great power and
reigned.

¹⁸ The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come,
And the time of the dead, that they should be
judged,
And that You should reward Your servants the
prophets and the saints,
And those who fear Your name, small and great,
And should destroy those who destroy the earth.”

Psalms 85:9 (NKJV)

⁹ Surely His salvation *is* near to those who fear Him,
That glory may dwell in our land.

Psalm 103:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him;

Psalm 115:13 (NKJV)

¹³ He will bless those who fear the Lord,
Both small and great.

Psalm 147:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him,
In those who hope in His mercy.

Psalm 145:19–20 (NKJV)

¹⁹ He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him;
He also will hear their cry and save them.
²⁰ The Lord preserves all who love Him,
But all the wicked He will destroy.

Genesis 22:12 (NKJV)

¹² And He said, “Do not lay your hand on the lad,
or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear

God, since you have not withheld your son, your only *son*, from Me.”

Jeremiah 32:38–40 (NKJV)

³⁸ They shall be My people, and I will be their God;

³⁹ then I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear Me forever, for the good of them and their children after them. ⁴⁰ And I will make an

everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from doing them good; but I will put My fear in their hearts so that they will not depart from Me.

I believe we are warranted to conclude that to be devoid of the fear of God is to be devoid of biblical and saving religion.

Martin, Albert N.. The Forgotten Fear: Where Have All the God-Fearers Gone? . Reformation Heritage Books. Kindle Edition.

2. The Fear of the Lord produces Purity, Faithfulness and Obedience

Proverbs 8:13 (NKJV)

¹³ The fear of the Lord *is* to hate evil;

Pride and arrogance and the evil way

And the perverse mouth I hate.

Proverbs 16:6 (NKJV)

⁶ In mercy and truth
Atonement is provided for iniquity;
And by the fear of the Lord *one* departs from evil.

Proverbs 23:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Do not let your heart envy sinners,
But *be zealous* for the fear of the Lord all the day;

Psalms 112:1 (NKJV)

Praise the Lord!
Blessed *is* the man *who* fears the Lord,
Who delights greatly in His commandments.

Luke 23:39–40 (NKJV)

³⁹ Then one of the criminals who were hanged
blasphemed Him, saying, “If You are the Christ, save
Yourself and us.”

⁴⁰ But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying,
“Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under
the same condemnation?”

Deuteronomy 6:1–2 (NKJV)

6 “Now this *is* the commandment, *and these are* the
statutes and judgments which the Lord your God
has commanded to teach you, that you may observe

them in the land which you are crossing over to possess, ² that you may fear the Lord your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged.

Deuteronomy 10:12 (NKJV)

¹² “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,

Deuteronomy 6:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ And the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as *it is* this day.

2 Corinthians 7:1 (NKJV)

7 Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Philippians 2:12 (NKJV)

¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

1 Peter 1:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay *here* in fear;

3. The Fear of God is the Responsibility of Man

Ecclesiastes 12:13 (NKJV)

¹³ Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter:

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

1 Peter 2:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Honor all *people*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

there are two basic aspects of the fear of God, as in all human fear. There is dread, and there is awe. The first aspect of fear drives us from the object of dread; the other aspect draws us to the object of awe. Our Lord's teaching makes very clear that both aspects are included in a healthy fear of God— including this element of dread.

Martin, Albert N.. *The Forgotten Fear: Where Have All the God-Fearers Gone?* . Reformation Heritage Books. Kindle Edition.

It is right, it is proper, it is natural if you understand the Biblical God to have a healthy robust Fear of HIM

Hebrews 10:26–31 (NKJV)

²⁶ For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or

three witnesses. ²⁹ Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

³⁰ For we know Him who said, “*Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,*” says the Lord. And again, “*The Lord will judge His people.*” ³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Luke 2:9 (NKJV)

⁹ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

Acts 5:9–11 (NKJV)

⁹ Then Peter said to her, “How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband *are* at the door, and they will carry you out.” ¹⁰ Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying *her* out, buried *her* by her husband. ¹¹ So **great fear** came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things.

The fear of God is so fundamental to godliness that even into eternity, even after the last remains of sin are purged from believers, we will still fear God.

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Revelation 15:1–4 (NKJV)

15 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete.

² And I saw *something* like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark *and* over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. ³ They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying:

“Great and marvelous *are* Your works,
 Lord God Almighty!
 Just and true *are* Your ways,
 O King of the saints!

⁴ Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name?
 For *You* alone *are* holy.

For all nations shall come and worship before You,
For Your judgments have been manifested.”

Please Listen to me carefully

Do not be deceive. Don't listen to the musings of
your mind that lulled you into a state of complacency
with God.

Don't think you are alright with God, when you are
not.

Don't believe the modern preachers who tell all is
well and God Loves you and has a wonderful plan
for your life.

You will close your eyes in death very soon and
wake up in Hell.

Men and women who are right with God Fear HIM
That is absolute, there is no middle ground.

Don't even utter the words that you love God, when
you don't care to honor Him

Don't say you are His child when you never care to
obey Him

Please listen carefully.

Don't say you fear Him when you have no desire to
place Him first in your life, when the last time you
may have thought of Him was when you saw you
had a problem that you couldn't solve and you
hoped that He would come out of his bottle and
grant you your wish.

Your soul weighs in the balance of how you respond to this truth will determine Heaven or Hell

You say you fear Him

DO YOU?

DO YOU REALLY

Do you fear the the wrath that He can bring on You.

Do you fear his displeasure when you continue disobeying him

Do you have any conscience awareness of the impending Judgment of your Soul.

IF YOU Really Fear Him

....this will be in your life.

1. You will love Him
2. You will desire to obey Him
3. You will not deny Him
4. You will love his Word.
5. You will desire to know Him
6. You will hate your sin
7. You will desire repentance
8. You will desire to please Him
9. You will desire to serve Him
10. The Bible will be precious to you.
11. The Church, the people of God will be your family
12. The Pursuit of Holiness will be your love.

Fear God Because

1. Infringements are exposable
2. Punishment is inevitable
3. Judgement is inescapable

1. Infringements are Exposable

Luke 12:1–3 (NKJV)

12 In the meantime, when an innumerable multitude of people had gathered together, so that they trampled one another, He began to say to His disciples first *of all*, “**Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.**

² For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known.

³ Therefore whatever you have spoken in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you

have spoken in the ear in inner rooms will be proclaimed on the housetops.

The Greek word *hupokritēs* (hypocrite) was originally a secular term referring to an actor who played a role on stage. But in the New Testament it became a religious term, used exclusively in the negative sense of one who claims to speak for God but does not—a hypocrite. The original theatrical definition of *hupokritēs* figuratively expresses the nature of spiritual deceivers. An actor attempts to play a convincing role on the stage, pretending to be someone that he is not. So do religious deceivers. Even today most commonly the words “hypocrite,” and “hypocrisy” have religious overtones. While all hypocritical spiritual leaders cheat people out of their earthly possessions, the eternal consequences of their unconscionable deception are far more damaging. Although they pretend to speak for God, they are fraudulent liars and deceivers (1 Tim. 4:2), who cause people to forfeit to judgment their eternal souls. These hypocrites the Pharisees, Jesus said, actually made people into fellow sons of hell (Matt. 23:15).

MacArthur, J. (2013). [Luke 11–17](#) (p. 112). Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers.

Jesus gave three compelling reasons for honoring the Father. First, He will uncover what is hidden. The statement **there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known** expresses a frequent theme of our Lord’s teaching (cf. 8:17; Matt. 10:26; Mark 4:22). It echoes the closing verse of Ecclesiastes, where Solomon warned that “God will bring every act to judgment, everything which

is hidden, whether it is good or evil” (Eccl. 12:14). The apostle Paul wrote of the “day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus” (Rom. 2:16), and exhorted the Corinthians, “Do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men’s hearts; and then each man’s praise will come to him from God” (1 Cor. 4:5).

The point is that while hypocrites may succeed in their deception for a time, no one ultimately gets away with hypocrisy. What hypocrites successfully conceal from people will eventually be uncovered. Some will be exposed in this life, as Paul told Timothy (1 Tim. 5:24–25); all will be exposed in the future, when “the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and will then repay every man according to his deeds” (Matt. 16:27; cf. Rom. 2:5–6).

The Lord’s warning, **Accordingly, whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in the inner rooms will be proclaimed upon the housetops**, metaphorically reinforces the truth that sins will eventually be exposed. What hypocrites try to hide in the darkness is clearly visible to God, as the oldest book in the Bible reveals: “There is no darkness or deep shadow where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves” (Job 34:22; cf. Ps. 139:12; Isa. 29:15; Jer. 23:24; Heb. 4:13). The

inner rooms of which Jesus spoke were storerooms (the same Greek word is so translated in v. 24), built in the middle of houses away from the exterior walls, which were more easily dug through by thieves. Such inner rooms were used to store valuables, but could also serve as a location for private conversations, or prayer (Matt. 6:6). The point is that hypocrisy cannot be permanently hidden, as Darrell L. Bock notes:

This figure of speech describes our most private practices. This is a classic reversal theme: the most private of acts and utterances become the most public. It is this exposure that makes hypocrisy useless in the long run and the heroic deed done in private an object of admiration eventually. The contrasts are strong: darkness versus light and private whispering versus public preaching. (*Luke 9:51–24:53*, Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament [Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996], 1135)

MacArthur, J. (2013). [*Luke 11–17*](#) (pp. 117–118). Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers.

All of our attempts to make our selves look good and righteous will be exposed for what they really are.

White sheets over a black and evil heart.

Take away the soul from the body, and all you have left in a few days is a stinking carcass. Take away the fear of God from any profession of godliness, and all that is left is the stinking carcass of pharisaism, barren religiosity, or calculated hypocrisy.

Martin, Albert N.. The Forgotten Fear: Where Have All the God-Fearers Gone? . Reformation Heritage Books. Kindle Edition.

1. Infringements are exposable

2. Punishment is Inevitable

Luke 12:4–5 (NKJV)

⁴ “And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. ⁵ But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!

Jesus did not come to negate the fear of God; He came to enforce it.

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If my perception of God and my comprehension of His revealed character do not lead me to fear Him..., I have not rightly understood who God is.

Jesus said, to **be afraid of humans, who** in the worst case scenarios can only **kill the body and after that have no more that they can do**. On the other hand, Jesus went on to **warn people whom to fear**: rather, they are to **fear the One who, after He has killed, has authority to cast into hell**. *Gehenna* (**hell**) refers to the valley of Hinnom, located just outside of Jerusalem. Within that valley the apostate Jews had built a place of worship, where they sacrificed their children to the abominable pagan god Molech by burning them in fire (Jer. 7:31). That shrine was defiled by godly King Josiah as part of his reforms (2 Kings 23:10), and eventually the site became Jerusalem's city dump. Because it was a place where fires were constantly burning, *gehenna* came to be used figuratively to speak of eternal hell (cf. Matt. 5:22, 29, 30; 10:28; 18:9; 23:15, 33; Mark 9:43, 45, 47; James 3:6).

The one with the **authority to cast into hell** is not, as some imagine, Satan. Satan is neither the one who sends people to hell, nor is he the ruler of hell. On the contrary he himself will in a sure future day be cast into hell (Rev. 20:10), where he will be its most notorious prisoner for all eternity. Nowhere in Scripture is there a command to fear Satan.

Believers have been completely delivered from him in the present, “because greater is He who is in [them] than he who is in the world” (1 John 4:4), and in the future he will have no influence on us because “the God of peace will [quickly] crush Satan under [our] feet” (Rom. 16:20). So instead of fearing Satan, believers are to resist him (James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:9), be wary of his schemes (Eph. 6:11), and avoid giving him an opportunity to lure them into sin (Eph. 4:27; 1 Peter 5:8). God is the one to be feared (Prov. 23:17; 24:21; 2 Cor. 7:1; Eph. 5:21; 1 Peter 2:17; cf. Job 28:28; Pss. 19:9; 34:11; 111:10; Prov. 1:7; 9:10; Acts 9:31).

Here is another strong passage in our Lord’s teaching that refutes the false idea that there is no hell. To insist that **hell** is a reference to the grave only destroys the contrast here and makes nonsense out of the Lord’s statement. If there is no hell, then God would be unable to do anything to a person other than what men could do. Both could kill someone, who then would merely go out of existence. Jesus’ whole point is that God is to be feared because He alone has the authority to both kill sinners and after death cast them into eternal torment.

1. Infringements are exposable
2. Punishment is inevitable

3. Judgement is Inescapable

Luke 12:6–7 (NKJV)

⁶ “Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. ⁷ But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

A final reason to fear God is that nothing escapes His knowledge. Jesus used two illustrations to demonstrate God’s omniscient knowledge of even the most insignificant details. **Are not five sparrows sold for two cents?** He asked. **Sparrows** are common small birds that were often eaten by the poor. They were so inexpensive that **five** could be bought for only **two cents** (a cent was one sixteenth of a day’s pay for an average worker). **Yet** despite

their insignificance **not one of them is forgotten before God**. He knows of every sparrow in the world. Not only that, He also knows the number of **hairs** on everyone's **head**—more than 100,000 on average. Such omniscience is the source of great comfort to His children (cf. Matt. 6:25–34), who have nothing to **fear**, since they **are more valuable than many sparrows**. But while this truth is comfort to believers, it should be a cause of terror to hypocrites, whose fraudulent self-righteousness will avail them nothing in light of God's complete and detailed knowledge of their true unregenerate condition.

MacArthur, J. (2013). [Luke 11–17](#) (p. 119). Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers.

Conclusion

Luke 12:13–21 (NKJV)

¹³ Then one from the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

¹⁴ But He said to him, **“Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?”** ¹⁵ And He said to them, **“Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”**

¹⁶ Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully.

¹⁷ And he thought within himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?’ ¹⁸ So he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, *and* be merry.” ’ ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’

²¹ “So *is* he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”