

The Doctrine of Fear

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Definition

In the Bible, fear is represented in two ways: as an emotional or mental attitude sin, and as a term for reverence towards God. First, fear is a mental attitude sin that is characterized by panic when one is intimidated by something, or finds oneself in a dangerous situation. Fear arouses the emotions in a bad way. It is a painful emotional distress produced by actual impending pain, danger, and disaster, or by illusions regarding the same.

Whether the conditions causing the fear are real or imaginary the results are the same. Regardless of its source, fear will torment and punish you, and the worst thing is, you do it to yourself. Fear is self-induced misery. Fear is worry, apprehension, horror, or consternation, all of which cause the person to become paralyzed toward their problems. They run away from the problem like frightened mice, close their doors and hide from society. Fears will paralyze you physically and mentally to the point that you lose the normal function of life as God has designed it. People are afraid of many things, and death is usually at the top of the list. However, it's not death that a man should fear; rather he should fear never beginning to truly live. The mental attitude sin of fear will snatch the life right out of you.

Fear is also an active feeling of dread, of which fright and terror are the more intense degrees. Under these intense mental attitude sins the emotion of the soul takes center stage and the believer becomes unable to think rationally. No longer capable of making good decisions, he apprehensively waits

tions if fear is to be conquered.

10. Virtue-love, developed through a maximum amount of Bible doctrine in the soul, is the absolute that destroys fear in the life of the believer.

Conclusion.

In our study of fear we have arrived at the following ten points:

1. Fear is met and destroyed with courage.
2. When you face your fear, most of the time you will discover that it was not really such a big threat after all.
3. Fear defeats more people than any other one thing in the world.
4. Most of our problems would be totally solved if, instead of fearing to face them, we remember Bible doctrine and the promises of God, and walk boldly through them.
5. Whenever we're afraid, it's because we either don't know enough doctrine or fail to apply the doctrine to the situation. If we understood enough about God's promises, His character and nature, and apply them, we would never allow fear to control us.
6. Whenever we fear something, we give that which we fear power over us. The more fear we have, the more power fear has over us.
7. You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face, and operate in the ten problem solving devices.
8. Courage is resistance, and mastering fear.
9. Bible doctrine in the heart (right lobe) must rule the emo-

for the next realization of what he is dreading. While all believers have the potential to live this way, they do not have to. The solution to controlling fear, like all solutions to life's problems, is given to us in the Bible. The solution to controlling and overcoming all fears in life is learning virtue-love through the daily intake of Bible doctrine.

There is no fear in virtue-love; but mature love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not matured in love. (1Jo 4:18)

The second way that fear is used in the Bible is for reverence, respect, or being in awe of God. Our first reference to fear was the negative, but now we see the positive. Fear, or respect of God, is reverence that manifests itself in obedience. This positive sense of fear is better represented by the words "awe" or "respect." Unbelievers who do not know God may fear Him in many ways. Believers who are ignorant of Bible doctrine may also fear God because they find themselves in legalistic churches that teach them falsehoods about God. Many believers think that God is angry at them for their sins, or for failing to live up to some moral standard. Sadly, this is even taught from some pulpits, but it is the understanding of Bible doctrine that will teach the believer about God's love and grace. When a believer finds and understands this love and grace, fear is a Christian virtue.

Honor all men; love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king. (1Pe 2:17)

The meaning of the word "fear" in the Bible is determined by the context in which it is used, whether positive or negative. All students of the word of God need to know the difference.

2 The True Cause of Fear

Neglect or rejection of the mystery doctrine of the Church-age, and failure to know and apply the problem-solving devices results in many problems, one of which is fear. A soul that is minus doctrine is a soul that will be unable to think under pressure. The inability to think under the many pressures that the kingdom of darkness will bring to the believer's life will result in fear. Since many believers do not make Bible doctrine, and therefore Jesus Christ, their top priority in life, they live in fear much of the time. If believers claim to make Jesus Christ number one, but don't pursue the intake and application of Bible doctrine as the top priority in life, they are living a contradiction, because Jesus Christ is the Word of God (Joh 1:1; 1Co 2:16).

God designed us to be rational creatures. Fear contradicts God's purpose for us, because fear makes us irrational. Fear is an irrational and emotional sin, and calls for rebound and Bible doctrine to conquer. Once we take an objective approach regarding our fears, and face them, we usually discover that they weren't such a big threat after all. In fact, many times we will laugh with relief at how irrational they actually were. When believers think with Bible doctrine, and have faith in its power to produce virtue love in their lives, they will rest in solid amazement as their fears melt away.

Fear, therefore, is failure to learn and apply Bible doctrine to the problems of life, and failure to learn and apply the 10 problem solving devices from the word of God. Fear is part of the emotional complex of sins. These sins, when present

gance. God gives you spiritual freedom and human freedom so you can make your own choices and learn to take responsibility for your own decisions. People who live in fear are intimidated by life. Just because someone is alive does not mean that know how to live. When fear is eliminated by Bible doctrine the believer will have confidence in God and courage towards mankind developing great capacity for life, happiness, and most of all love. Therefore fear is a self induced misery that is removed by Bible doctrine:

Fear does not exist in virtue-love; but virtue-love drives out fear, because fear has self-punishment, and the one who fears has not been matured by means of virtue-love. (1Jo 4:18)

Virtue-love is an absolute of Bible doctrine which removes fear. The absolute standard drives out the false variable by means of the power of Bible doctrine. Therefore, virtue-love is the absolute that destroys fear in the life.

He will not fail you or forsake you" (Deu 31:6). "And the Lord is the one who goes ahead of you; He will be with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear, or be dismayed." (Deu 31:8)

Believers in all stages of spiritual growth can find themselves suddenly in the fear-panic ploy of the cosmic system from some sudden disaster. Every believer must be prepared for this. Faith always selects something (a promise from God, or a doctrine) that is stronger than the pressure that comes from sudden adversity. The solution to the fear-panic ploy is found in the faith-rest drill, where the believer claims a promise to stabilize the mind. The faith-rest drill, however, requires spiritual strength from maximum doctrine in the soul to function properly. Faith must be mixed with the doctrine that has been learned. **That your faith should not be in the wisdom of man [human viewpoint], but in the power from God [Bible doctrine in the soul] (1Co 2:5).**

The ability to deploy the problem solving devices prevent the outside pressures of adversity from becoming the inside pressures of stress in the soul. Adversity is the outside pressure of life. Stress is the inside pressure of life, like fear, worry, or anxiety. Adversity is what life does to us; stress is what we do to ourselves. When there are no problem solving devices on the FLOT line of the soul, adversity turns into stress, and stress overruns the command post of the soul, putting the spiritual life out of action.

The principle is that adversity is inevitable, even necessary; stress is optional, it is never necessary. That is because when you deploy the problem solving devices, stress is eliminated. You deal with your own problems in the privacy of your soul and thus avoid the reactions of panic, fear, and arro-

in the believer's soul, allow emotion to take over the soul. This is when you find yourself reacting with emotion rather than responding with Bible doctrine. Fear is made up of a whole system of emotional sins which include worry, anxiety, insecurity, incapability of doctrinal application, and therefore the inability to use the problem solving devices. All of these sins will put the emotions in the driver's seat of your soul, and therefore your life.

The word "worry" comes from the Greek word that means to choke, or to strangle. That is what fear and worry do; choke the flow of doctrinal thinking in a believer's life. When this happens the believer must name and cite those sins to God (1Jo 1:9), and continue to take in doctrine on a daily basis. Conversely, failure to take in doctrine will also choke the flow of doctrinal thinking, leading again to fear and worry. Fear, worry, anxiety and insecurity are all sin, so is failure to learn Bible doctrine consistently.

Many sins involve thinking only, while fear involves emotion and no thinking. The Christian loser is hindered from his advance by the various categories of sins and arrogance related to fear. Fear defeats more people than any other thing in the world. God has promised us a rest and peace that goes beyond understanding. God promised the Jews a land flowing with milk and honey where they would have rest on every side. However there were others in that land, many of them giants, that Israel would have to push out in battle. Rather than approaching the battle line with the confidence and courage of faith in the promise of God, most of Israel feared their enemies, and as a result did not enter into the rest of God.

The writer of Hebrews uses their example and asks us to

have a real fear, not of our enemies, or life's circumstances, but a fear of failing as the Jews did by not entering into God's rest through faith in what God has promised.

Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it. For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they [the Exodus Jews] also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it was not united by faith in those who heard. For we who have believed enter that rest, just as He has said, "As I swore in My wrath, They shall not enter My rest," although His works were finished from the foundation of the world. (Heb 4:1-3)

Only when we are no longer afraid do we begin to really live.

So that we confidently say, "The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What shall man do to me?" (Heb 13:6)

In God, whose word I praise, In God I have put my trust; I shall not be afraid. What can mere man do to me? (Psa 56:4)

To face your fears and not be afraid is the final test of maturity. Fear is crippling, it shackles those who could do great things, and keeps them from even attempting that which they could possibly achieve. Fear chokes and kills dreams and creativity, and the most interesting thing about fear is that it is a learned behavior. Infants are not afraid, a small child could be in the middle of a war, but if he was in his mother's arms, he would sleep peacefully. We eventually learn to fear, and it is Bible doctrine that will halt, and reverse this process by teaching us to live in God's peace.

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"In God I have put my trust, I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?" (Psa 56:11).

By faith he [Moses] left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing Him who is unseen. (Heb 11:27)

It is possible to learn many doctrines and yet fall apart in sudden historical or personal disaster. Sudden disaster often places the believer under such great pressure that he is thrown into an emotional state of panic where he cannot concentrate on the doctrine he has learned. Many believers can handle disasters if they know that they're coming, but they have a problem with sudden unexpected disaster. Remember that the difference between fear and courage is the ability to concentrate under great pressure. The coward cannot think under pressure, while the man of courage concentrates under the same pressure.

Concentration is required in learning and metabolizing doctrine, but is required to an even greater extent when applying doctrine under a pressure situation. Adversity, suffering, stress, and disaster all have the ability to destroy concentration and this causes your fears to take the place of what you have learned. The suddenness or intensity of a disaster hinders the believer from concentrating on doctrine that God has already provided and he has already metabolized. Because of this, there are many Biblical commands about fear. **"Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or tremble at them, for the Lord your God is the one who goes with you.**

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The Principle of the Fear-Panic Ploy

When Saul was anointed as the first king of Israel in his youth, he was a humble man, and the Holy Spirit was mightily upon him. In his later years, he spiraled into reverisionism through neglect of Bible doctrine, and grew afraid of David, fear that expanded to the point that it debilitated his entire life.

Now Saul was afraid of David, for the Lord was with him but had departed from Saul. (1Sa 18:12)

Then Saul was even more afraid of David. Thus Saul was David's enemy continually. (1Sa 18:29)

Then Saul immediately fell full length upon the ground and was very afraid because of the words of Samuel; also there was no strength in him, for he had eaten no food all day and all night. (1Sa 28:20)

Fear is prohibited in the grace plan of God (Deu 31:6-8; Jos 8:1; 1Ch 28:20; 2Ti 1:7). **"Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand" (Isa 41:10).**

Maturity is characterized by courage or lack of fear. **"I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people Who have set themselves against me round about." (Psa 3:6).**

"When I am afraid, I will put my trust in Thee. In God,

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The Snowballing Principle of Fear

The more things you surrender to fear, the more things you will fear. Today you may be worried about only one thing; tomorrow about two things, and soon you become so emotionally involved in fear that you have no identity. Irrationality means loss of identity, which means the accumulation of fear until you are afraid of life itself. Fear is something that, if not controlled, continues to develop in your life until you have no capacity left to enjoy life. By means of many years of such ungodly decisions to live in fear, as a believer you become a loser.

David said of the ungodly, **"There they were in great fear where no fear had been" (Psa 53:5a).** There was no reason to fear, but that's exactly what the ungodly did. Fear is irrational thinking caused by ignorance of Bible doctrine. One of the reasons people become addicted to drugs or alcohol is fear of life, which causes anxiety, worry, and tension. The cure for these addictions is a healthy diet of Bible doctrine which changes your irrational thinking to rational thinking which is the mind of Christ.

The more you surrender to fear, the greater becomes your capacity for fear. As fear controls more and more of your life, your insecurities increase, destroying your capacity for love, life, happiness, and blessing. This is akin to residing in the cosmic system rather than the Pre-designed Plan of God (PPOG). In the cosmic system no set of circumstances, be it wealth, success, prosperity will ever make you happy, because fear will always be there, strangling your capacity to

enjoy anything.

(For the choir director; on stringed instruments. A Maskil of David [a Maskil is a song or poem of instruction]. "Give ear to my prayer, O God; And do not hide Yourself from my supplication. Give heed to me, and answer me; I am restless in my complaint and am surely distracted, Because of the voice of the enemy, Because of the pressure of the wicked; For they bring down trouble upon me, And in anger they bear a grudge against me. My heart is in anguish within me, And the terrors of death have fallen upon me. Fear and trembling come upon me; And horror has overwhelmed me." (Psa 55:1-5)

Fear destroys happiness, where fear exists, happiness cannot. That's because there is no way you can have true love, or true happiness, apart from a healthy mental attitude, and fear destroys the mental attitude. So the greater your capacity for fear, the more you increase the power of fear in your life. The more you increase the power of fear in your life, the greater is your mind set as a loser believer, and the greater your chances of failure to execute the PPOG through the mechanics of the spiritual life under equal opportunity. The greater your chances of failure to execute the PPOG, the sooner you cancel your equal opportunity to glorify God. The sooner you cancel your equal opportunity to glorify God, the sooner you live a life of total misery through the law of volitional responsibility.

Most of our problems would melt away if, instead of shrinking in fear before them, we make up our minds to walk boldly through them by believing the promises of God and applying God's doctrines to our lives. This is what happened to the children of Israel when they were at the Red Sea when

of my life; Whom shall I dread? When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell. Though a host encamp against me, My heart will not fear; Though war arise against me, In {spite of} this I shall be confident. (Psa 27:1-3)

It is well with the man who is gracious and lends; He will maintain his cause in judgment. For he will never be shaken; The righteous will be remembered forever. He will not fear evil tidings; His heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord. His heart is upheld, he will not fear, Until he looks {with satisfaction} on his adversaries. (Psa 112:5-8)

doctrine as the means of executing the PPOG, and emotional experience which can be normal or abnormal. However, whether it is normal or abnormal emotion is never the spiritual life, only a response to it.

Guilt is another failure of the believer to rule his emotions through doctrine in his right lobe. Guilt is emotional feelings of culpability, and arrogant preoccupation with the correctness of one's behavior stemming from self-absorption. Guilt is a manifestation of the need for the problem solving devices, and therefore guilt is a sin.

Let your character [way of life] be free from the love of money. Being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you," so that we confidently say, "The Lord is my helper. I will not be afraid. What shall man do to me?" (Heb 13:5-6)

Fear is not just an emotional sin; it is also a mental attitude sin. A believer may believe any number of false doctrines that are promoted by the kingdom of darkness in this world. False doctrines lead to wrong conclusions and then sin is produced. One of these sins is the sin of fear. Though different from the emotional sin of fear because of its source, the result is the same: failure to apply God's word within God's PPOG for your life. The ten spies were cowards when they scouted the Promised Land. Joshua said of them, "**Nevertheless my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt with fear; but I followed the Lord my God fully**" (Jos 14:8).

Psa 27:1-3 (A Psalm of David.) The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defense

Moses told them to stand still and to stop being afraid. At that point, the Jews had mountains to the left, mountains to the right, and the Red Sea at their backs while the greatest army in the world was quickly descending upon them with the intent of killing them all.

As Pharaoh drew near, the sons of Israel looked, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them. (Exo 14:10)

The Hebrew verb for the phrase "to look" is "*nasa*" and it means that they kept staring and concentrating on Pharaoh's army, the oncoming problem. By doing so they were overwhelmed by fear, and they completely forgot the grace and power of God, and the marvelous deliverance they had experienced just a short time before. They were concentrating on the problem rather than concentrating on the solution. They not only panicked, but they began to do something which all of us have been guilty of at some time, they began to whine and complain. Whining and complaining Christians are not going to solve their problems. If you're complaining, you're concentrating on the wrong thing, the problem. God has provided solutions for every one of our problems, the great and the small. Therefore we must concentrate on principles of doctrine and not the circumstances. We will always fail and fall into fear when we concentrate on the disaster rather than on the solution.

In times of relative peace we must feast consistently on a healthy diet of Bible doctrine from our right pastor-teacher. We must concentrate on doctrines as they are repeated again and again so that when pressure hits we won't hit the panic button, but will automatically think and apply doctrine to the circumstance. With positive volition towards doctrine you

will know what to concentrate on when the pressure inevitably hits.

One of the main distractions in time of pressure is emotion, described by the word frightened in Exo 14:10. Notice the last part of the verse, **and they became very frightened; so the sons of Israel cried out to the Lord (Exo 14:10b)**. The reaction of fear and panic removed any possibility of applying Bible doctrine. They had seen the power of God in their deliverance from Egypt, but they made no application from that doctrine to this disaster. This is because they failed to concentrate on what they had learned, and allowed fear and panic to control the soul. They expressed their fear rather than their faith, so they screamed in panic to the Lord.

Then they said to Moses, "Is it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you dealt with us in this way, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the word that we spoke to you in Egypt, saying, 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever. The Lord will fight for you while you keep silent." (Exo 14:11-14)

Notice that first they had to be stabilized in their mentality or else some of them would have turned back to the Egyptians, begging to be slaves. Actually, on this day they were already slaves in their mentality. The principle is that you'll live like a slave unless you learn to become stabilized under pressure. Even living in a free country like the U.S., believers

10 Authority in the Soul

In the human soul, there exists a male and a female part. Intellect is the male part of everyone's soul, and must dominate the emotion, which is the female part. Like the woman responds to and reflects her man, emotion is a responder and reflector of the thinking, and/or the norms and standards of the soul. Being only a system of response and feeling, emotion in itself does not contain the ability to reason. It also has no content of thought, no common sense, no vocabulary as a tool for mental function, or doctrinal content. Therefore, emotion is never the criterion for Christian experience. You are never spiritual because you feel spiritual, or because you have an emotional experience. For example, allegedly speaking in tongues is blasphemy; no one has legitimately spoken in tongues since 70 A.D. when Jerusalem was destroyed under the fifth cycle of discipline. It is emotional arrogance and even blasphemy to think you are not saved unless you feel saved, or you are not spiritual unless you feel spiritual. Such views produce a constant fear and insecurity, and are in direct contradiction to the PPOG.

Emotional arrogance converts reality into illusion and hallucination. As we have noted, emotions are wonderful when subordinate to doctrine, but they are a disaster when they control your soul. The sign of such control is the existence of the emotional complex of sins: fear, worry, anxiety, and insecurity. Thus, under the PPOG for the Church-age, emotion is not an adequate source of motives, thoughts, decisions, or actions. The Church-age believer must learn to distinguish between the perception, metabolization and application of Bible

been enlarged [by learning more doctrine]. Therefore, you have not been hindered by us [Paul, Apollos, Timothy]; you have been hindered by your own emotions (2Co 6:11-12).

3. Such a believer makes a god out of his emotions. When emotion becomes your god, you're fragmented and ripe for such things like the tongues movement. **Many [cosmic] believers keep walking, concerning whom I have communicated to you many times, and now continue communicating even though weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ, whose destiny is destruction, whose god is their emotion, whose fame is by means of dishonor [whose glory is their shame], who keep on thinking about earthly things [wrong priorities from a fragmented life] (Phi 3:18-19) (authors corrected translation).**

4. Such a believer's unrestrained or uncontrolled emotional pattern is the basis for criminality, violence, hatred, anger, total involvement in the arrogance complex, which means bitterness, vindictiveness, jealousy, implacability, self-pity, and guilt reaction.

Applying the emotional sins of fear, worry, anger, and anxiety to the problems of life not only fails to solve them, it makes them worse. When you add nothing (emotion) to your problems, the problems remain unchanged. Fear removes all ability to think, courage, on the other hand, is the ability to think under pressure.

are slaves because they are unstable in their system of thinking. The Jews faced extermination from the pursuing chariot army of Pharaoh. They were not trained in war and they carried no weapons to speak of. They were in a hopeless situation, and they were helpless to do anything about it with their own power. However, Moses told the Jews, **"Do not fear."**

How could Moses, who was well trained in the art of war, give such a command in this situation? It was because Moses knew that God had given the Jews a promise. God had promised that He would bring them to the Promise Land. The Jews needed to recall this promise, and recall the great omnipotence displayed by God when He freed them from Egypt. In other words, they had to think recall the doctrine of the faithfulness of God, and the doctrine of the character and nature of God, with special emphasis on His omnipotence.

Though most of us will probably never face an entire army, the same principle applies to us in every situation of pressure. When you're in a seemingly hopeless situation that's when you need to remember that the Lord will fight for you while you keep your mouth shut. David said the same thing when he faced Goliath, a seemingly hopeless situation. **"And that all this assembly may know that the Lord does not deliver by sword or by spear; for the battle is the Lord's and He will give you into our hands." (1Sa 17:47)** In the Church-age, it's the same thing, Rom 8:31 says, **"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us [and He is; says the first class condition], who is against us?" (Rom 8:31).** This is the whole concept of the faith rest drill, one of our 10 problem solving devices. The Lord wants us to have faith, and to rest and wait on His deliverance which will always come in His perfect timing. When you are afraid of anything, you give that thing power over you. When you're

afraid of a person, you give that person power over you. Fear is also a manifestation of a degenerate, self-absorbed mind. The first thing Adam did after he sinned was to hide himself from the Lord. Adam was occupied with his nakedness before he sought the Lord's solution. **"I heard the sound of Thee in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself."** (Gen 3:10)

The greater your capacity for fear, the greater your capacity for arrogance and becoming a loser, for fear causes you to become totally preoccupied with yourself. Once you begin to operate in the arrogance complex of sins, all the rest of the mental attitude sins will quickly follow. This combination of fear and arrogance causes many people to become mentally ill, psychotic and neurotic. The more things that acquire the power to promote fear in your life, the more punitive suffering and self-induced misery you bring on yourself. The more things that acquire the power of fear in your life, the greater your capacity for fragmentation of the soul which results in you becoming a loser in the Christian life. As a loser, your capacity for life, love, and happiness is completely destroyed.

tested for its content of doctrine and its control of the emotions. **"And all the churches will know that I am He who investigates the emotions and the right lobes [hearts]"** (Rev 2:23). God is constantly investigating your heart for doctrine, without doctrine a vacuum is created, causing your emotions to dominate. This results in emotional revolt of the soul. **"My son, if your right lobe [heart] is wise, my own right lobe [heart] will be glad; and my emotions will rejoice when your lips speak what is right. Do not let your right lobe [heart] envy sinners, but live in respect for the Lord all the day"** (Pro 23:15-17). When you hear truth, you have a norm and standard for truth from doctrine in your heart (right lobe), and therefore, you respond emotionally. When you live in respect for the Lord all day, your right lobe controls your emotions and is occupied with the person of Jesus Christ.

Even normal emotion is not the criteria by which you are to evaluate your spiritual life. Your spiritual life is what you think, not what you feel. Believers who make emotion the criterion for their spiritual life generally have four basic problems:

1. Such a believer's emotional pattern distracts him from the execution of the PPOG. **Now I urge you, brethren, be alert for those who are causing dissensions and apostasies contrary to the doctrine which you have learned. For such believers do not obey our Lord Jesus Christ, but they obey their own emotions, serving themselves; and by their smooth and flattering speech, they deceive the hearts [right lobes] of the stupid** (Rom 16:17-18).
2. Emotion hinders the perception, metabolization, and application of Bible doctrine. **O you Corinthians, our mouth [means of communicating doctrine] has been open face to face with you [in doctrinal teaching]; our right lobes have**

or activity when excited or nervous. **For such men are slaves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own emotions; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting (Rom 16:18). Whose end is destruction, whose god is their emotions (Phi 3:19).**

These words for emotion are different from the Greek word “kardia” which is translated as heart. Kardia refers to the intellect or the right lobe of the soul where there is no emotion. The emotions should be under control of the right lobe of the soul, where the doctrine that gives you momentum and wisdom is located. That's why the Bible distinguishes between the right lobe and the emotions. Jeremiah describes our Lord Jesus Christ as, **The Lord of the armies who judges righteously, who tests the emotions and the right lobes (Jer 11:20).** In Jer 17:11 the verse literally says, **“I, the Lord, search the right lobe, and I test the emotions in order to give to every man according to his modus operandi.”** All spiritual momentum, growth and application come from epignosis (metabolized) doctrine in the right lobe of the soul. The Lord’s judgment, or evaluation, of you will depend on what dominated your soul. Was it Bible doctrine or emotion that dominated your life? You must have epignosis (metabolized doctrine) and “Sophia” (wisdom or applied doctrine).

Note that the Lord searches the heart, but He tests the emotions. He searches the heart for doctrine, and He tests the emotions to see if they are subordinate to the heart, or if they control the heart. If the emotions dominate the heart, then the modus operandi of the believer is heretical, as it is with many believers who give prominence and dominance to the emotions. **“Examine me, O Lord, and test me; test my emotions and test my heart” (Psa 26:2).** The heart must be

4 Fear of Death

The greater your mindset as a loser-believer while living, the greater will be the intensification of your fear when dying. You will be afraid of death rather than rejoicing in the excited expectancy of coming face to face with your Lord forever. Fear of death destroys capacity for life; this is a sign that you are still in spiritual childhood. Death is the last thing in the world that should concern you, for you have no control over either the manner or time of your death. When you realize your death is strictly in the Lord's hands, the one time when the Lord's wisdom will prevail over your volition, there is no excuse for fearing death. When you understand there is nothing to fear in death, you begin to realize there is nothing to fear in life.

Fear causes two categories of punishment. First, you punish yourself through self-induced misery. Secondly, when your fear produces arrogance, divine punishment will follow. Mature believers are not afraid; they apply the great problem-solving devices, reach spiritual adulthood and eliminate fear. Many people spend so much time being afraid of death, or of dying, that they do not enjoy life. They have no zest for life; no capacity for life.

There are four key reasons why a believer should not fear death:

- 1. The believer’s death is a matter for the sovereignty of God.** Once you firmly believe that God decides perfectly the time and manner of your death, and the time and manner of the death of a loved one, including a child, you will no longer

have a problem with it. You may have sorrow for a short period of time but ultimately, if you trust in the character and nature of God, you will know that whatever He does or allows there is a justified reason for it.

“Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I shall return there. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.” (Job 1:21)

Dying is the one part of the Christian’s life that does not depend upon the individual’s free will or his volition; it depends entirely on the sovereignty of God. The timing and manner of death is not a matter for us to decide; nothing will prolong or shorten a believer’s life beyond God’s timing for his death.

"God is to us a God of deliverances, and to God the Lord belongs escape from death. (Psa 68:20)

The believer has no control over the time, place or manner of his death; it is a matter of God’s sovereignty, wisdom and integrity. Until the Lord is ready to take us home to be with Him, we are going to continue to live on this earth. Mankind has no authority or choice over when or how he will die.

No man has authority to restrain the wind with the wind, or authority over the day of death; (Ecc 8:8a)

The dying stage of a Christian’s life may be short or it may be prolonged, it may be a period of suffering or it may be pain free. Whatever it is, it will be perfect because God is

learn. A true student of the word of God learns all the doctrines of the Bible, whether they appeal to his emotions or not.

Since fear is a sin of emotion, it is necessary to understand emotion. A believer, who thinks in terms of metabolized doctrine, and the ten problem-solving devices, can put fear in its proper place and then experience legitimate emotion. When emotion is out of line it results in irrationality and its accompanying sins of fear, worry, anxiety, and anger. When doctrine is in your intellect, emotions can become legitimate if they are subordinate to that doctrine. Abnormal emotions will tear you apart. In a believer’s life there must be a balance between emotions and doctrinal thinking in the right lobe of the soul.

The Bible has a great deal to say about the emotions of the soul, often using physiological nomenclature to express the concept of emotion. The Hebrew word “kiljah” refers to the fat pads of the kidneys, but it is used figuratively for the emotions. **"O let the evil of the wicked come to an end, but establish the righteous; For the righteous God tries the hearts and emotions." (Psa 7:9). "But, O Lord of hosts, who judges righteously, Who tries the feelings and the heart" (Jer 11:20).**

The Greek word “nephros” is used in the New Testament for emotions, **"And I will kill her children with pestilence; and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds." (Rev 2:23).** The Greek word “splanchnon” is literally translated guts or entrails. It is used for emotions in 2Co 6:12. The Greek word “koilia” is used for emotions in Rom 16:18; Phi 3:19. It actually refers to the solar plexus, the nerve center where you feel those butterflies

give to each man according to his ways, According to the results of his deeds.” (Jer 17:5-10)

God will test your emotions. In fact, the Lord Jesus Christ says, **“And all the churches will know that I am He who investigates the emotions and the hearts [right lobes]” (Rev 2:23)**. This is why we all need to solve our problems with thought and courage, not with our feelings. Courage is thinking doctrine, and functioning under pressure as if there were no abnormal circumstances. Courage is claiming promises in adversity; using the ten problem-solving devices; and functioning under the privacy of your royal priesthood to think, and to apply Bible doctrine with your own intellect. However, fear destroys this process with the result that you become a loser believer.

Reaching the first stage of spiritual adulthood, spiritual self-esteem, begins the grace function of self-confidence, thinking in terms of metabolized doctrine in your own right lobe. The Church-age believer cannot think doctrine, apply doctrine, or solve problems through fear, or by seeking the counsel of another. Every believer has been designed by God to be spiritually self sustained; able to conquer fear and problems with doctrine circulating in his own soul. The spiritual adult believer eliminates emotion as a criterion for Christianity. Knowing that that how you feel is not important, whereas what you think at any moment is of supreme importance.

The adult believer strives to think, apply Bible doctrine, the problem solving devices, and continually replenishes his doctrinal reserves through his daily doctrinal intake. Since emotion cannot think, it therefore can neither learn, nor apply doctrine. If you are the type that has to feel good, or be entertained when in Bible class, you are using emotions that cannot

perfect and all of His decisions are perfect. He is never wrong, unfair or unjust. Anytime you become critical or upset, blaming God for a decision He has made concerning death, take a step back and remember: He is never wrong, He can never make a mistake, and everything that He has ordained is perfect and right. Since the omniscience of God knows all of the facts in each individual case, the matter of the physical death of a believer is always a wise decision.

2. Death has lost its power over the believer. The greatest encouragement in the world that each and every believer should take to heart is the absolute truth that death has lost its power over him.

He will swallow up death for all time, and the Lord God will wipe tears away from all faces, (Isa 25:8a)

For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied. But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ’s at His coming, then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy that

will be abolished is death. (1Co 15:16-26)

But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, “Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the Law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through Our Lord Jesus Christ.

(1Co 15:54-57)

Death is simply a shadow and a valley that we must pass through to enter the eternal state.

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me." (Psa 23:4)

Once the believer understands that he is eternally united to the One who has gained the victory over death, the Lord Jesus Christ, he can live in confidence, free from the bondage and slavery that the fear of death causes.

Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. (Heb 2:14-15)

9 Emotions of the Soul

As we have noted many times, emotion cannot think, apply doctrine, or function in a crisis. This is because emotion has no doctrinal content. Emotion is not sinful in its right place as a responder to thought, but it is sinful when it becomes the aggressor. Therefore, there are two categories of emotion: normal and abnormal. In normal emotion, the emotions respond to the authority and thinking of the soul. In abnormal emotion, the emotion controls the soul and blocks out all rational thinking. Abnormal emotion produces fear, worry, anxiety, anger, and hatred, resulting in violence. Fear cannot think when under pressure and a believer living in fear cannot apply Bible doctrine to handle life's problems. So, when emotion takes over, doctrinal thought is cut off. If abnormal emotion takes over your soul for a long enough period of time, doctrinal thought will be erased.

Thus says the Lord, “Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind And makes flesh his strength, And whose heart turns away from the Lord. For he will be like a bush in the desert And will not see when prosperity comes, But will live in stony wastes in the wilderness, A land of salt without inhabitant. Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord And whose trust is the Lord. For he will be like a tree planted by the water, That extends its roots by a stream And will not fear when the heat comes; But its leaves will be green, And it will not be anxious in a year of drought Nor cease to yield fruit. The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it? I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the emotions, Even to

tance to fear and mastery of fear, but it is not the absence of fear. The brave man is not the one who never feels fear. That would be unrealistic and irrational. The brave man is the one who masters his fears; the one who is willing to face problems head on. We all need the strength to endure the things which we cannot change. However, we also need the courage to change the things which should be changed. Most of all we need the wisdom to know one from the other. Every time fear comes into your life, you know you are not living the Christian way of life. The Christian life was designed by God to be the way of virtue-love, which is personal love for God the Father, impersonal love for all mankind, and occupation with Christ. True courage is the result of virtue-love. True courage means sound judgment, thinking under pressure, and good judgment at all times. Sound judgment comes from Bible doctrine, not from emotion. The person with real courage is the person with doctrine in their soul. When David faced Goliath, he had doctrinal courage which was far superior to Goliath's loud-mouthed macho courage.

Living in the PPOG is a life of courage. As we execute the PPOG we learn what true courage is and how to apply it. In the world, what passes for courage is often not courage at all, but simply arrogance and stupidity. It is virtue-love developed in the PPOG that casts out fear and replaces it with courage. **Fear does not exist in virtue-love, but virtue-love drives out fear; for fear causes punishment. In fact, the person who is afraid has not been matured by virtue-love (1Jo 4:18).** If you have personal love for God the Father, and you understand His integrity you can rest on the entire essence and integrity of God. If you love God, then you know God. Understanding God's integrity gives you the confidence to depend on Him. If you are dependent upon God and His integrity, then having fear not only insults God.

3. The believer's death is precious in the eyes of the Lord. The death of every believer, winner or loser, is always valuable and precious in the eyes of the Lord. Even though some will die as losers, all believers go to Heaven, and this is a triumph over Satan. Any time a person makes a decision to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, God is glorified, and when that person is brought home there is joy in Heaven.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His godly ones. (Psa 116:15)

4. Death means being face to face with the Lord in a state of perfect happiness. At the moment of death, the believer is immediately transported into the presence of the Lord. He leaves behind his physical body, which is no longer needed, and enters into Heaven with his soul, spirit and interim body.

Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord – for we walk by faith, not by sight – we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord. (2Co 5:6-8)

Heaven will be a place of perfect happiness and contentment. None of the problems and pressures we face here on earth will follow us there. Our interim bodies will suffer nothing unpleasant; there will be no mourning, no crying, and no pain. **And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."** (Rev 21:3-4)

The apostle Paul, in the book of Philippians, stated the attitude we should all have toward death:

"According to my earnest expectation and hope, that I will not be put to shame in anything, but that with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain." (Phi 1:20-21)

Paul knew that he was a spiritual winner. He knew that Christ Jesus had everything under control, and that the future would be extraordinary. Paul knew that God saves the best for last, lavishing blessings in dying and death, while making the final preparations for life in Heaven throughout all eternity. Why did Paul have such peace and confidence? Through metabolized Bible doctrine and advancement to spiritual maturity, he came to the realization that God had everything under control, and was saving the best for last. Paul had lived a wonderful life, absorbed with his relationship and service to the Lord. He was a man in a state of contentment as he stared death in the face; he knew that dying was actually the beginning of a life that would last and endure forever.

The loser believer, on the other hand, will face dying as a time of anxiety, worry and fear. There will be no dying grace, and no tranquility of soul or peace of mind. The cosmic Christian is a loser in both life and death. However, the day he dies is still better than the day he was born. He will meet the Lord Jesus Christ face to face, and he will live with Him for eternity. However, as the cosmic Christian was a loser in living and dying, he is also a loser in the eternal state, for any greater blessings and rewards will be lost to him forever.

8

The Solution to Fear

The PPOG has been designed to remove all the cobwebs of fear from your soul replacing them with confidence in Bible doctrine. This leads to confidence in the Lord. That is the only true basis for spiritual self-esteem, which is confidence in yourself, and your relationship with God through Bible doctrine in your soul. Doctrine in your soul reminds you of the promise and encouragement of Rom 8:31, **"If God is for us, who is against us?"** This inevitably results in the greatest courage in life. It's more than physical or moral courage; it is mental attitude courage in all relationships, and in all circumstances of life. Fear is met and destroyed with courage. When you face your fear with courage, most of the time you will discover that it was not such a big threat after all. Paul stated this to Timothy who was intimidated by his congregation. It is a command which is given to anyone living in the PPOG.

For God has not given to us a lifestyle of fear, but of power, and of virtue-love, and of sound judgment. (2Ti 1:7)

Whenever we're afraid it's because we don't have enough knowledge to make a sound decision. One of the biggest fears in life is fear of the unknown. If you know enough about something, you can deal with it. Every time you really stop to look fear in the face, and face it with the truth from God you gain strength, courage and confidence. **"I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people Who have set themselves against me round about" (Psa 3:6).** Courage is resis-

Far too many people never understand until it is too late that the more you fear suffering and seek to avoid it, the more you will suffer. In proportion to your fear of being hurt, ever smaller and more insignificant things begin to torture you. Fear shackles those who could do great things and keeps them from attempting many things which they could actually achieve. The tragedy of life doesn't lie in not reaching your goal, the tragedy lies in not having a goal to reach for.

Did is a Word of Achievement.

Won't is a Word of Retreat.

Can't is a Word of Defeat.

Ought is a Word of Duty.

Will is a Word of Beauty.

Can is a Word of Power.

5 Fear is an Emotional Sin

Many people make decisions based upon how they feel. They will say, "I have a gut feeling about this." What people don't understand is that emotions were designed by God to be responders to thought, not the source of thought itself. Emotions cannot think. In a given situation you may not feel good, but you still can think and apply doctrine. Courage is defined as the ability to think under pressure. We have already noted the calm rational thinking of Moses at the Red Sea. Emotion only produces a smoke screen of courage, not the real thing. Thinking and applying Bible doctrine under pressure is what produces true and lasting courage.

Fear is irrational and irresponsible. The cowardice it produces leads to irrational decisions as it did in Isaac's life when he feared the king and his men. **When the men of the place asked about his wife, he said, "She is my sister," for he was afraid to say, "my wife," {thinking,} "the men of the place might kill me on account of Rebekah, for she is beautiful" (Gen 26:7).** Fear not only prevents Bible doctrine from being your number one priority, but it fragments and destroys the function of your spiritual life, and then moves you into the eight stages of reversionism. The last three stages of reversionism (blackout of the soul, scar tissue of the soul, and reverse process reversionism) destroy all previously learned Bible doctrine, and hinders any use of problem solving devices.

Fear is also a function of self-absorption. You are ab-

sorbed with yourself and your problems. You want the world to center around you. You want everyone to stop what they're doing and help you. Meanwhile you are filled with fears and very emotional. Emotion is not a criterion for the spiritual life, despite what many emotional Christians say. How you feel at any given moment is never the issue in the spiritual life, but rather the issue is always what you think. To make emotion the criterion for the spiritual life is to marry the arrogance skills to the emotional revolt of the soul. This is not to say that emotion is not a part of the spiritual life, but that emotion should always be responding to the thinking of Bible doctrine. Therefore normal emotional activity in the soul functions in subordination to the absolutes of Bible doctrine circulating in the soul.

Emotion can be normal or abnormal, good or evil. However, regardless of what it is, emotion is never a tool of cognition. You do not learn by emotion. God gave us emotion to enjoy the truth, but emotion is not a criterion for the spiritual life, nor was it ever designed to be a substitute for the problem solving devices. Sinful emotional activity such as fear, worry, anxiety, hatred, anger, revenge, and guilt are reactions which are totally rejected by the absolutes of Bible doctrine. Emotional reactions, such as false spirituality, or emotional revolt of the soul are a distraction to the execution of the PPOG. Given a situation of testing, the loser believer under emotional revolt of the soul will scream, blame, and fall apart under the pressure of unrealistic expectation, illusion, denial, projection and even hallucination. So the believer must distinguish between normal emotional response, like enjoying a good movie, or excitement over the understanding of a doctrine, and the abnormal emotional reaction to life in the form of the emotional revolt of the soul (making decisions based on how you feel, falling apart under pressure, substance abuse etc.).

just like with Israel, the believer can bring on defeat by his own lack of understanding and faith in the mystery doctrine of the Church-age. Even though David was smaller, younger, without armor, and had only stones and a sling as weapons, he defeated his enemy because he believed God's word.

Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted. This day the Lord will deliver you up into my hands, and I will strike you down and remove your head from you. And I will give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the sky and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the Lord does not deliver by sword or by spear; for the battle is the Lord's and He will give you into our hands." Then it happened when the Philistine rose and came and drew near to meet David, that David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. And David put his hand into his bag and took from it a stone and slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead. And the stone sank into his forehead, so that he fell on his face to the ground. Thus David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and he struck the Philistine and killed him; but there was no sword in David's hand. Then David ran and stood over the Philistine and took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him, and cut off his head with it. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled. And the men of Israel and Judah arose and shouted and pursued the Philistines as far as the valley, and to the gates of Ekron. And the slain Philistines lay along the way to Shaaraim, even to Gath and Ekron. (1Sa 17:45-52)

Notice in the next verse that Israel's thinking still has not changed. Unless human viewpoint is replaced by Divine viewpoint, fear will continue day after day and will, in fact, get stronger with time.

When all the men of Israel saw the man, they fled from him and were greatly afraid. (1Sa 17:24)

This is what happens in your life every time you let fear (that thing or person, the Goliath in your life) take over your soul it is taunting the people of the living God, which is you! It is an insult to your Father, just as Israel insulted God on the battlefield, when you allow the circumstances of life to cause you to live in fear. You wouldn't want your children to live in fear, nor does God desire it for you.

"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him! (Mat 7:11)

Then David spoke to the men who were standing by him, saying, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine, and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should taunt the armies of the living God?" (1Sa 17:26)

David had unshakable faith that no one could defeat God's army. It was only through the soldiers' collective fear from a lack of faith in the promises of God that it was ever defeated. In the same way, nothing in this world can defeat the Church-age believer. **You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world (1Jo 4:4).** Yet,

Fear as an emotional sin results in zero application of doctrine to life, and results in stress. Stress in the soul is always self-induced misery, which results in further suffering and additional stress. Soon you are spiraling out of control, heading for the inevitable crackup. However, this need not be the case for any believer's life. The emotional roller-coaster ride of fear can be stopped or avoided entirely by learning and applying Bible doctrine. The Bible says that fear does not exist in virtue-love.

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love. (1Jo 4:18)

Virtue-love is acquired by the believer through positive volition towards doctrine. Continued negative volition towards doctrine only contributes to increased fear and eventually the sin unto death, **"There is a sin face-to-face with death" (1Jo 5:16b).** The practice of worry and anxiety in living leads inevitably to the experience of great fear in dying. This fear and the accompanying reaction of bitterness to the fact one is dying is a sin. This is a sin that loser believers can't help but commit as they travel through their very own death-shadowed valley. Not so for the mature believer however: **"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for Thou art with me;" (Psa 23:4).**

6

Fear Generates Sins of Arrogance

If your fear is not corrected with Bible doctrine, it will generate a chain of arrogance sins that flow one into the other. For example, if you're afraid of losing someone, you become jealous. If they show any favoritism toward anyone else you become bitter toward them. Next you develop a strong antagonism toward the person as you become self-righteous about their unjust treatment of you. Now you are implacable, you can no longer be consoled as you become a hurt little child in your thinking. The final step is to plot your revenge while remaining numb to the hurt that you inflict. Jealousy, bitterness, antagonism, self-righteousness, implacability, and vindictiveness destroy any capacity for life, and make you indistinguishable from the unbeliever, sadly, all too often they make you far worse.

Fear and the function of your spiritual life are mutually exclusive. Living in fear causes it to grow like a cancer, swelling and metastasizing into different areas until the individual is afraid of so many things he is completely intimidated by life. Only the consistent, daily intake of Bible doctrine will overcome the problem of fear, and in so doing release one's ability to go into action, like David did when he faced Goliath. While fear of death will hinder your living, it will never prevent your dying. You have no control over the time or manner of your death, and it is arrogant to think otherwise. Those details are totally in God's hands, chosen by Him in eternity past as a part of His perfect plan for each of us; it is part of our personal sense of destiny. Fear eliminates the humility needed to understand and embrace that destiny, leaving

Goliath stood and shouted to the soldiers of Israel, and said to them, "Why do you come out to draw up in battle array? Am I not the Philistine and you servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will become your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall become our servants and serve us." Again the Philistine said, "I defy the ranks of Israel this day; give me a man that we may fight together." When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid. (1Sa 17:8-11)

In this passage we see the difference between those who think with Bible doctrine and have faith in God's promises, and those who think with human viewpoint and fail at faith perception. Saul and all of Israel were greatly afraid. Saul's cowardice was infecting the entire camp of Israel and they were defeated before they even stepped onto the battlefield. It was David's faith in the promises of God and resulting ability to face the giant Philistine bully with only a few stones that inspired all the rest of them.

So David arose early in the morning and left the flock with a keeper and took the supplies and went as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the circle of the camp while the army was going out in battle array shouting the war cry. And Israel and the Philistines drew up in battle array, army against army. Then David left his baggage in the care of the baggage keeper, and ran to the battle line and entered in order to greet his brothers. As he was talking with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine from Gath named Goliath, was coming up from the army of the Philistines, and he spoke these same words; and David heard them. (1Sa 17:20-23)

strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement and who at the worst, if he fails, fails while daring greatly. Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat." - Teddy Roosevelt

Abraham Lincoln's life was a testimony to the ability to press on despite past failure:

In 1831 he failed miserably in business.

In 1832 he was defeated for legislature.

In 1833 he failed again in business.

In 1834 he was elected to legislature.

In 1835 his sweetheart died.

In 1836 he had a nervous breakdown.

In 1838 he was defeated for speaker of the house.

In 1840 he was defeated for elector.

In 1843 he was defeated for congress.

In 1846 he was defeated for senate.

In 1848 he was again defeated for congress.

In 1855 he was defeated for senate.

In 1856 he was defeated for vice-president.

In 1858 he was defeated for senate.

In 1860 he was elected president.

He said "I do the very best I know how, the very best I can, and I mean to keep doing so" -Abraham Lincoln.

One man with courage can affect the majority in a great way, as David did when he stood his ground against Goliath.

us at the mercy of emotional sins like worry, anxiety, guilt, denial, projection, and of course ever increasing fear. We are overcome by our problems, slaves to the disasters that befall us rather than meeting them head on with the promises of God. Succumbing to disaster destroys the spiritual life, while application of your personal sense of destiny, gained through the persistent intake of Bible doctrine, advances the spiritual life as designed by God:

**"When I am afraid, I will put my trust in Thee. In God, whose word I praise, In God I have put my trust; I shall not be afraid. What can {mere} man do to me?"
(Psa 56:3-4)**

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and a sound mind." (2Ti 1:7)

Arrogance causes loss of personality. Because of arrogance, you do not know who or what you are, for you cannot see your soul in the mirror of the word of God. You form your views of life, and yourself, by what other people tell you. Desiring to feel wanted and loved, you do what others want rather than what God wants. Arrogance deceives you into thinking they really do love and want you, when they only want to use you to fulfill their own desires. People, who live in bondage to their own desires to be loved and wanted by others, develop a great capacity for unhappiness, constantly complaining and grumbling about life.

As with fear, the more you develop your capacity for unhappiness, the more things make you unhappy, and the smaller grow your chances of having any happiness in this life. With increasing capacity for fear and unhappiness, you eventually retreat from any form of reality, becoming psycho-

pathic or neurotic. The only hope of escape is for you to function under the perception, metabolization and application of Bible doctrine while you're still partially normal and able to think rationally. Cognition of Bible doctrine inside the PPOG can remove the fear, arrogance, self-deception, and retreat from reality. Ignorance of doctrine makes it impossible for God's grace to be utilized in your life. With no understanding of God's grace, you will be totally miserable, burdened by fear, arrogance and other mental attitude sins, unable to escape them. The saddest part is that you do it to yourself.

7 Fear of Failure - Human Viewpoint

Fear of adversity destroys capacity for prosperity. When prosperity comes, you're so afraid of losing it that you have absolutely no capacity to enjoy it. You hoard it, you guard it and you worry about it. You stash it all away for a rainy day, and all of that is a manifestation of no capacity for life. Therefore, you do not enjoy prosperity when it comes.

Fear is the enemy of the PPOG since it is evidence of a lack of virtue-love. Fear makes you depend on others. Yet the Church-age believer cannot think, apply doctrine, or solve problems through the mind of another believer. You must have the doctrine in your own soul, and solve your own problems. To the extent that you depend upon others for your spiritual application to life, you are not executing the PPOG. People are simply afraid of too many things. The fear of being wrong, of making a mistake, or being criticized is the prime inhibitor of the creative process in all of us. Winners are those people who make a habit of doing the things losers are uncomfortable doing. Fear of failure must never be a reason not to try something. To live in fear of failure means you never take any chances. Only when we are no longer afraid do we begin to live. The greatest test of courage is to endure defeat without losing heart.

Teddy Roosevelt said it best: "It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who