

THINGS ASSOCIATED WITH FEAR OF GOD

Found in 87 passages (95 verses) from our list.

Some of these passages are *statements* about people fearing God and (at the same time) doing certain other things. Some are *commands* in which several things are to be done at the same time. Whatever the nature of the statement (or command), one or more things are mentioned as occurring, existing, or required at the same time as fear of God.

This does not necessarily imply a direct cause-effect relationship between the items mentioned. (The context of each passage should be examined to determine what relationship exists.) Even so, certain things have a constant tendency to be associated with fear of God, while certain other things (normally the *opposites*) tend to *not* be associated with it. This should be instructive, and should influence our attitude toward fear of God, as well as toward the other things mentioned in the context.

In these passages, the concept of "fear" has various meanings, depending on the context. One passage may focus on a reverent fear that a follower of God will have, while another may focus on the terror that God's enemies will have. Take this into consideration when evaluating this concept. Consider this outline a worksheet that can be used to help develop one's "fear concept," rather than the final conclusion.

Since the concept of "fear" can be translated several ways (including words such as "afraid" and "reverence"), it is put in italics, where present in the verses listed below. Verses are summarized; check the Bible for a better understanding of the context.

1. AWARENESS OF GOD - his attributes and what he does.

a. Who God is / knowledge of God.

1 Kings 8:43 - ... that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and *fear* you.
2 Chron. 6:33 - ... that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and *fear* you.
Proverbs 2:5 - You will understand the *fear* of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.
Proverbs 9:10 - The *fear* of the Lord ... and knowledge of the Holy One ...

b. God's greatness (above all else).

1 Chron. 16:25 - The Lord is great and most worthy of praise; he is to be *feared* above all gods.
Psalm 89:6-8 - Who (even among the angels) can compare with the Lord? God is greatly *feared*. He is... awesome... mighty... surrounded by faithfulness.
Psalm 96:4 - The Lord is great and most worthy of praise; he is to be *feared* above all gods.

c. What God has done / his power.

Psalm 64:9 - All mankind will *fear* (when they see the judgment against the wicked); they will talk about God's works and think about what he has done.

d. God's holiness.

Isaiah 8:13 - You are to regard the Lord Almighty as holy, you are to *fear* him, you are to dread him.

- e. God's anger against sin.
Deut. 9:19 - I was *afraid* of God's anger and wrath. He was angry enough with you to destroy you.
- f. Fear of God *and* fear of his judgments/ordinances.
Psalm 119:120 - My flesh trembles in *fear* of you. I stand in *fear* of your judgments.
- g. God's blessings given to us (others will fear God).
Psalm 67:7 - God will bless us; all the ends of the earth will *fear* him.
- h. (Old Testament) God's name (presence) associated with his house (the temple).
1 Kings 8:43 - (that they may...) *fear* you ... and know that this house (temple) bears your Name.
2 Chron. 6:33 - (that they may...) *fear* you ... and know that this house (temple) bears your Name.

2. **RESPONSE toward God.**

- a. Trusting God.
Exodus 14:31 - The Israelites ... *feared* the Lord and put their trust in him.
- b. Taking refuge in God.
Psalm 31:19 - ... those who *fear* you, ... (=) those who take refuge in you.
- c. Loyalty / holding fast to God.
Deut. 10:20 - *Fear* the Lord your God ... hold fast to him.
Deut. 13:4 - You must follow and *fear* the Lord your God. ... Hold fast to him.
Acts 10:2 - Cornelius, a devout and God-*fearing* man ...
- d. Serving only God.
Deut. 6:13 - *Fear* the Lord your God, serve him only.
Deut. 10:12 - What the Lord your God asks of you: *fear* the Lord your God, ... and serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.
Deut. 10:20 - *Fear* the Lord your God and serve him.
Deut. 13:4 - You must *fear* the Lord your God. ... Serve him.
Joshua 24:14 - *Fear* the Lord and serve him with integrity and faithfulness. ... Serve the Lord.
1 Samuel 12:14 - If you *fear* the Lord and serve him ... good!
1 Samuel 12:24 - *Fear* the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart.
Psalm 2:11 - Serve the Lord with *fear*.
- e. Honor / glory / respect for God.
Isaiah 25:3 - ... peoples will honor (glorify) you; cities ... will *revere* you.
Malachi 3:16 - ...those who *feared* the Lord and had respect for his name.
Rev. 14:7 - The angel said with a loud voice, "*Fear* God, and give Him glory..."
Rev. 15:4 - Who will not *fear* you, O Lord, and glorify your name?
- f. Praying.
Acts 10:2 - Cornelius (and his household) ... who *feared* God ... and prayed to God regularly.

- g. Worship.
 - Psalm 5:7 - At your holy temple I will bow in *reverence* for you.
 - Hebrews 12:28 - Let us be thankful, and (in doing this) worship God in an acceptable way: with *reverence* and awe.
 - Rev. 14:7 - The angel said with a loud voice, "*Fear* God, ... and worship him (who created everything)."
 - Rev. 15:4 - Who will not *fear* you, O Lord ... and worship before you?
- h. Thankfulness.
 - Hebrews 12:28 - Let us be thankful, and (in doing this) worship God in an acceptable way: with *reverence* and awe.
- i. Seeking God's favor.
 - Jeremiah 26:19 - Hezekiah *feared* the Lord and sought his favor.
- j. Loving God.
 - Deut. 10:12 - What the Lord your God asks of you: *fear* the Lord your God, ... love him.
- k. Anticipating his love.
 - Psalm 33:18 - ... those who *fear* him, those whose hope is in his unfailing love.
 - Psalm 147:11 - ... those who *fear* him, those who put their hope in his unfailing love.
- l. Rejoicing in God.
 - Psalm 2:11 - Serve the Lord with *fear*; rejoice with trembling.
- m. Paying attention to what the Lord says (or does).
 - Micah 6:9 - To *fear* your name is wisdom. So listen to the Lord's call to the city: "Heed the rod (of discipline) / (heed) the One who appointed it."
- n. Trembling, dread, awe, etc. - concepts similar to "fear."
 - Jeremiah 5:22 - Should you not *fear* me? Should you not tremble in my presence?
 - Malachi 2:5 - He *revered* Me, and stood in awe of My name.
 - Philip. 2:12 - Work out your salvation with *fear* and trembling. (The power for you to do this is from God - v. 13.)
 - Hebrews 12:28 - We must worship God in an acceptable manner, with *reverence* and awe.
 - [This is just a sampling. More verses exist that contain concepts similar to "fear," but are not placed in subcategories in this outline.]

3. Response to GOD'S WORD.

- a. Obeying God's Word / walking in his ways / following him.
 - Deut. 5:29 - Oh, that they would be inclined to *fear* me and keep all my commands always!
 - Deut. 6:24 - The Lord commanded us to obey all these decrees and to *fear* the Lord our God.
 - Deut. 8:6 - Obey the commands of the Lord your God. Walk in his ways and *fear* him.
 - Deut. 10:12 - What the Lord your God asks of you: *fear* the Lord your God, ... walk in all his ways.

Deut. 13:4 - You must follow and *fear* the Lord your God. Keep his commands and obey him.

Deut. 17:19-20 - (A leader must...) learn to *fear* the Lord his God, follow carefully all the words of this law and these decrees, and not ... turn from the law to the right or to the left.

Deut. 28:58 - If you do not carefully follow all the words of this law, and do not *fear* his glorious and awesome name... (there will be consequences).

Deut. 31:12 - Assemble the people so they can listen (to the law) and learn to *fear* the Lord your God and follow carefully all the words written in it.

1 Samuel 12:14 - If you *fear* the Lord and obey him and do not rebel against his commands, ... good!

2 Chron. 6:31 - ... they will *fear* you and walk in your ways.

Psalms 86:11 - I will walk in your truth... I will *fear* your name.

Psalms 103:17-18 - ... those who *fear* him ... those who keep his covenant and obey his precepts.

Psalms 111:10 - The *fear* of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding.

Psalms 112:1 - Blessed is the man who *fears* the Lord, and finds great delight in his commands.

Psalms 119:63 - I am a friend to everyone who *fears* you, everyone who follows your precepts.

Psalms 119:79 - ... those who *fear* you ... those who understand your decrees.

Psalms 128:1 - ... all who *fear* the Lord, ...who walk in his ways.

Isaiah 50:10 - ... those who *fear* the Lord and obey the word of his servant...

Jeremiah 44:10 - They have not ... shown *reverence*, nor followed my law and decrees.

Zeph. 3:7 - I said, "Surely you will *fear* me and accept instruction." [But they refused.]

Haggai 1:12 - (The leaders and) the people, obeyed the voice of the Lord their God and the words of Haggai the prophet... And the people *feared* the Lord.

b. Speaking God's words (the prophet's reaction).

Amos 3:8 - The lion has roared! Who will not *fear*? The Sovereign Lord has spoken!
Who can keep from prophesying?

c. Not going against God's words.

Deut. 17:19-20 - (A leader must...) learn to *fear* the Lord his God, follow carefully all the words of this law and these decrees, and not ... turn from the law to the right or to the left.

1 Samuel 12:14 - If you *fear* the Lord and obey him and do not rebel against his commands, ... good!

4. Misc. things related to SALVATION and SPIRITUAL GROWTH.

a. Many passages listed in other sections of the outline could also fit here.

b. Salvation is at hand.

Psalms 85:9 - God's salvation is near to those who *fear* him. [This verse may have a focus on physical deliverance of Israel (from enemies or judgment). In this case, it is a *picture* of what spiritual salvation is all about.]

- c. "Working out" one's salvation.
Philip. 2:12 - Work out your salvation with *fear* and trembling. (The power to do this comes from God - v. 13.) [This is not the same as "working for" your salvation, in which the power would come from yourself. This is utterly impossible to accomplish!]
- d. As a group (the church): being built up, growth in numbers, etc.
Acts 9:31 - The church ... enjoyed peace and was built up. And living in the *fear* of the Lord and with the encouragement of the Holy Spirit, it continued to increase in numbers.

5. PERSONAL CHARACTER - attitude and life.

- a. Humility.
Proverbs 22:4 - Humility and the *fear* of the Lord...
Jeremiah 44:10 - They have not humbled themselves or shown *reverence*.
Micah 7:17 - (After judgment...) They will lick the dust like a serpent. Like animals that crawl on the ground, they will come out of their hiding places, trembling. They will come in dread to the Lord our God; they will be *afraid* in your presence.
- b. Righteous living / doing what is right.
Acts 10:22 - Cornelius, a righteous and God-*fearing* man ...
Acts 10:35 - God accepts people from every nation who *fear* him and do what is right.
- c. Integrity / trustworthy / blameless / upright.
Exodus 18:21 - Men who *fear* God, trustworthy men ...
Neh. 7:2 - He was a trustworthy man and *feared* God more than most men do.
Job 1:1 - Job, a man who was blameless, upright, and who *feared* God.
Job 1:8 - Job, a man who is blameless and upright, and who *fears* God.
Job 2:3 - Job, a man who is blameless and upright, who *fears* God, ... and maintains his integrity.
- d. Sincerity of heart (a reference to pure motives).
Col. 3:22 - Slaves, obey your earthly masters ... with sincerity of heart and *reverence* for the Lord.
- e. Wisdom
Job 28:28 - The *fear* of the Lord is wisdom!
- f. Potential long life.
Deut. 6:1-2 - (Learning God's decrees/laws...) so that you, your children and grandchildren (etc.) may *fear* the Lord your God ... and so that you may enjoy long life.

6. INTERACTION with other people.

- a. Fearing those in authority.
Proverbs 24:21 - *Fear* the Lord and the king.

- b. Trusting God's leaders.
Exodus 14:31 - The Israelites ... *feared* the Lord and put their trust in ... Moses his servant.
- c. Honor and respect for others.
Leviticus 19:32 - Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly; *revere* your God.
1 Peter 2:17 - Honor all men; love the brotherhood (others who follow Christ), *fear* God, honor the king.
- d. Generous in helping others.
Acts 10:2 - Cornelius (and his household) ... *feared* God, and contributed generously to those in need...
- e. Speaking truthfully "in God's name" (i.e., because of who God is).
Deut. 6:13 - *Fear* the Lord your God, ... take your oaths in his name.
Deut. 10:20 - *Fear* the Lord your God ... take your oaths in his name.
- f. Teaching God's Word to one's children.
Deut. 4:10 - ... that they may learn to *revere* me (God) ... and may teach my words to their children.
- g. (Leaders) Considering themselves equal with the people.
Deut. 17:19-20 - (He must...) learn to *fear* the Lord his God (etc.) and not consider himself better than his brothers.
- h. (Leaders) Ruling and judging in righteousness.
2 Samuel 23:3 - He who rules righteously, who rules in the *fear* of God...
Isaiah 11:3-5 - He (the Lord's servant = Jesus) will delight in the *fear* of the Lord... and will judge with righteousness.
- i. (Others) The God-fearing person - respected by others.
Acts 10:22 - Cornelius, ... a God-*fearing* man well spoken of by the entire Jewish nation...
- j. (Others) Acknowledging God's power.
Joshua 4:24 - He dried up the Jordan ... so that all people everywhere would know his mighty power, and so that you might always *fear* the Lord your God.

7. Attitude toward SIN, EVIL, anything false.

- a. Abandoning false gods.
Joshua 24:14 - *Fear* the Lord. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped beyond the River (Euphrates) and in Egypt.
- b. Opposed to sinful conduct / hating evil.
Exodus 18:21 - Men who *fear* God, ... who hate dishonest gain...
Job 1:1 - Job, a man who *feared* God and shunned evil.
Job 1:8 - Job, a man who *fears* God and shuns evil.
Job 2:3 - Job, a man who *fears* God and shuns evil.

Job 28:28 - To *fear* the Lord is wisdom; to shun evil is understanding.

Proverbs 3:7 - *Fear* the Lord and shun evil.

Proverbs 8:13 - To *fear* the Lord is to hate evil. I hate pride, arrogance, evil behavior and perverted speech.

Proverbs 14:16 - A wise man *fears* [the Lord] and shuns evil.

Proverbs 16:6 - By the *fear* of the Lord a man avoids evil.

c. NOT sinning against others.

Leviticus 19:14 - Do not curse the deaf; do not put a stumbling block in front of the blind. *Fear* your God.

Leviticus 25:17 - Do not take advantage of each other, but *fear* your God.

Leviticus 25:36 - Do not take interest of any kind from your countrymen, but *fear* your God.

Leviticus 25:43 - Do not rule over your countrymen ruthlessly, but *fear* your God. [This is a warning to masters/employers (see the context).]

d. NOT envying sinners.

Proverbs 23:17 - Don't envy sinners, but *fear* the Lord all the time.

e. NOT being "self-wise."

Proverbs 3:7 - Don't be wise in your own eyes; *fear* the Lord.

f. NOT having an arrogant attitude (over those who are unsaved).

Romans 11:20 - (Context - contrasting the Jews who were rejected to the non-Jews who were offered salvation.) They were broken off the "tree" because of their unbelief, and you stand by faith. So do not be arrogant, but be *afraid*. (God can break you off just as easily.)

g. NOT being afraid of those who can kill only the body.

Matthew 10:28 - Do not *fear* those who kill the body, but are unable to kill the soul. *Fear* him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Luke 12:5 - This is whom you should *fear*: *Fear* him who has power to throw you into hell, after the body is killed. Yes, I tell you, *fear* him.

87 passages (95 verses): Exodus 14:31; 18:21; Leviticus 19:14, 32; 25:17, 36; Leviticus 25:43; Deut. 4:10; 5:29; 6:1-2, 13, 24; 8:6; 9:19; 10:12, 20; 13:4; 17:19-20; 28:58; 31:12; Joshua 4:24; 24:14; 1 Samuel 12:14, 24; 2 Samuel 23:3; 1 Kings 8:43; 1 Chron. 16:25; 2 Chron. 6:31, 33; Neh. 7:2; Job 1:1, 8; 2:3; 28:28; Psalm 2:11; 5:7; 31:19; 33:18; 64:9; 67:7; 85:9; 86:11; 89:6-8; 96:4; 103:17-18; 111:10-112:1; 119:63, 79, 120; 128:1; 147:11; Proverbs 2:5; 3:7; 8:13; 9:10; 14:16; 16:6; 22:4; 23:17; 24:21; Isaiah 8:13; 11:3-5; 25:3; 50:10; Jeremiah 5:22; 26:19; 44:10; Amos 3:8; Micah 6:9; 7:17; Zeph. 3:7; Haggai 1:12; Malachi 2:5; 3:16; Matthew 10:28; Luke 12:5; Acts 9:31; 10:2, 22, 35; Romans 11:20; Philip. 2:12; Col. 3:22; Hebrews 12:28; 1 Peter 2:17; Rev. 14:7; 15:4