

Fear Not

Single Message

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By Dr. Mark Aitkenhead

"Scripture quotations taken from the Amplified Bible."

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Luke 1:10-14

Amplified Bible (AMP)

2 For the law of the Spirit of life [which is] in Christ Jesus [the law of our new being] has freed me from the law of sin and of death.

This verse of scripture sets out the two basic spiritual laws at work in the world: *the law of the Spirit of life* (in Christ Jesus) and *the law of sin and death* (in Satan). Webster's dictionary defines a law as "an established principle." You can depend on a law to work the same way every time.

The two laws in Romans 8:2 are reciprocals. There is a spiritual law of reciprocals. The word *reciprocal* means "corresponding, but reversed or inverted." Let me give you an illustration of this: North and south are reciprocals. They correspond to one another because they are both directions on a compass, but south is the reciprocal of north. They are exact opposites.

Faith Perverted

Understanding the principle of reciprocals gives insight into how Satan operates. Satan is a fallen angel. Like all angelic beings, he has no creative power. He cannot create; he can only destroy. He can only work with things already created. He is limited to the forces in this world. Had he ever come up with anything original, that thing would be a truth.

But Jesus said that there is no truth in him (John 8:44). He is a counterfeiter, a deceiver.

Satan became the illegitimate stepfather of mankind through Adam's high treason in the Garden of Eden. He received Adam's authority over the spiritual laws in the earth. He did not put spiritual law into motion. He just perverted the laws that were already there. Sin was not a new law. It was righteousness perverted. Death was life perverted. Hate was love perverted. Fear was faith perverted.

The faith that God gave Adam was meant to sustain his life. When Satan gained control, that force of faith was perverted. Satan then used that perverted spiritual force of fear to kill, steal and destroy.

After Adam sinned in the Garden, fear became the dominant force in his life. The first words he spoke to God were, "I was afraid" (Genesis 3:10). The faith he had in his heart was turned into fear. This is why faith and fear are so closely related. They are almost identical. They work the same, but they produce opposite results.

The law of reciprocals works in every area. God's Word is true, but there is no truth in Satan. Satan is a counterfeit of God in every situation. At the opposite end of south is always north. At the opposite end of love is always hate. If Satan can come to you with hate, then you know God has love. If Satan comes to you with fear, then you know there is faith available to you in Jesus. Fear is the counterfeit of faith.

If you will put faith to work, it will always overcome fear. Love always overcomes hate. Prosperity always overcomes poverty. The counterfeit *never* is as powerful as the real thing.

There is a promise in God's Word that will overcome every opportunity to fail that Satan can throw your way. There is not one thing in Satan's bag of tricks that the Word cannot overcome.

By knowing the spiritual law of reciprocals and how it operates, you can keep Satan out of your life.

The force we know in this earth as fear was originally Adam's faith. When he bowed his knee to Satan, he put into motion the law of sin and death. Until then, Adam didn't know how to die. All he knew was how to live. All he knew was God's Word. When he went against God's Word, he received spiritual death into his spirit. He received the law of sin and death, and it separated him from God.

When you separate yourself from God and from His Word, you separate yourself from life. Adam separated himself from life, and what happened? He died spiritually first and then began dying physically.

Again, we see the law of reciprocals in motion. As long as Adam obeyed God, he lived. But when he disobeyed God's law, he turned and went the other way. Death took the place of life. He began moving under the power of death and the forces that death brings. Manifestations of sickness and disease didn't come into the earth until the law of sin and death was put into motion.

When Adam acted on something other than the Word of God, he severed the supply line between heaven and earth. When he did that, the law of life in this earth was perverted and became the law of sin and death. In the hands of God, it was the law of life. In the hands of Satan, it became the law of death. The same thing that happened to Adam happened to Jesus.

Philippians 2:8

Amplified Bible (AMP)

8 And after He had appeared in human form, He abased and humbled Himself [still further] and carried His obedience to the extreme of death, even the death of the cross!

Death vs. Life

In Romans 8:2, we see the two spiritual laws of life and death in operation. The following charts show each law and its results. As you can see, they are complete opposites. The boundary line between them was crossed only one time—when Jesus offered Himself as the supreme sacrifice to purchase our freedom from every part of the curse.

The price that Jesus paid was two fold. He came, not only to destroy the works of the devil, but also to deliver us from the fear of death and the bondage it brings.

Hebrews 12:14-15

Amplified Bible (AMP)

14 Since, therefore, [these His] children share in flesh and blood [in the physical nature of human beings], He [Himself] in a similar manner partook of the same [nature], that by [going through] death He might bring to nought and make of no effect him who had the power of death—that is, the devil—

15 And also that He might deliver and completely set free all those who through the [haunting] fear of death were held in bondage throughout the whole course of their lives.

The phrase *fear of death* is a result of the law of sin and death. The word *destroy* in the original text means “to paralyze.” Jesus came for two reasons:

to *completely paralyze* Satan who had the power of death

to *deliver* us who through fear of death were held subject to bondage

We have not been given *the spirit of bondage again to fear*. Fear produces bondage. Jesus came to break the power of that bondage! How? By stopping the force of fear. Praise God!

In order for the power of death to ever be broken, Jesus had to absorb all the curse of the law, both in the spiritual realm and in the physical realm. He bore all the physical curse at Calvary. All the demons of hell came against Him to annihilate Him. They wanted to torment Jesus forever and keep Him in bondage forever, thereby keeping God from ever having contact with mankind again. Satan could then rule and reign on this earth as he pleased with no restrictions or qualifications whatsoever. But God had something else in mind! Hebrews 2:14 says through death He (Jesus) destroyed him (Satan) that had the power of death.

When the price was paid, God breathed the breath of life into Jesus, and the law of the Spirit of life was set into motion for mankind. Because He did all that for you and me, we can live free! We can know beyond doubt that the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made *us* free from the law of sin and death!

Fear—Satan's Main Weapon

Romans 8:15

Amplified Bible (AMP)

15 For [the Spirit which] you have now received [is] not a spirit of slavery to put you once more in bondage to fear, but you have

received the Spirit of adoption [the Spirit producing sonship] in [the bliss of] which we cry, Abba (Father)! Father!

When you were born again, your human spirit was completely re created. You received all the qualities, all the spiritual forces, all the things of God that Adam had in him when God created him in the Garden of Eden, plus all the things in Jesus when God raised Him from the dead.

I want you to notice these words:

You have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear. Fear is not a natural force to the bornagain believer. It was natural to you before you were reborn. But your spirit man was recreated, and eternal life erupted in your heart when you made Jesus the Lord of your life. The reborn human spirit cannot produce fear. It can receive it and act on it and be choked by it, but it cannot produce it.

God is revealing by His Word that Satan has lost his authority and power. The Name of Jesus will always defeat him. The counterfeit will never win. Faith will always overcome fear. Love will always overcome hate. Prosperity will always overcome poverty.

Fear is a spiritual force, just as faith is a spiritual force. When you apply faith and operate in it by keeping the Word of God in your heart, that faith of God will flow through your body to keep it well and whole. When you apply fear and operate in it, the force of fear will work against you to make you sick. Fear works in the spirit world the same as faith.

Fear activates Satan the way faith activates God. Fear is totally destructive. It will cripple the mind, stop the heart and even change the color of your hair.

Fear is a satanic force that works against you at every opportunity.

Faith is a creative force that God uses to build and uplift.

Faith helps; fear hurts.

Whenever faith is in operation, you will always benefit from it.

Whenever fear is in operation, you will be subject to bondage and torment.

You are in contact with Satan in this earth as long as you have five physical senses and a workable mind. He is a thief, a liar and a killer. He will do his best to destroy you and your testimony as a believer. His goal is to successfully remove you from the field of action. His main weapon in reaching that goal is fear. He wants you to take the opportunity to fear so that you will fail.

Satan challenges the promises of God with fear. He tries to make it look as if those promises won't work for you. He wants desperately to convince you that faith won't work and that Jesus' sacrifice at Calvary wasn't good enough. He challenges the faith-filled promises of God's Word with fear filled lies of his own.

Faith—God's Source of Power

Satan knows that he cannot do any thing to you apart or separate from fear, just as God cannot do anything for you apart or separate from faith. Satan can't touch you as long as you stand on the Word of God. Fear is Satan's source of power the way faith is God's source of power. Satan has people operating in fear and they don't even know it.

God, on the other hand, is a good God. He will do His absolute best to see that you are blessed in every area of your life. Faith is the upholding force of God. He upholds all things by the Word of His power (Hebrews 1:3). By acting in faith on the Word, you can expect the blessings of God to be upon you. By acting on the fear of sickness and disease, you can expect to be sick. Both faith and fear will produce results.

Romans 8:15

Amplified Bible (AMP)

13 These people all died controlled and sustained by their faith, but not having received the tangible fulfillment of [God's] promises, only having seen it and greeted it from a great distance by faith, and all the while acknowledging and confessing that they were strangers and temporary residents and exiles upon the earth.

According to Hebrews 11:13, there are three basic characteristics that we should know about faith:

1. It is a spiritual force.
2. It is God's creative power.
3. It is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not yet seen with the physical eye.

Faith power is not produced in your head; it is produced in your heart.

It is produced by the Word of God being fed into your spirit.

You will never get any power out of your car by pouring water into the gas tank.

Your spirit life derives its power from God's Word the way your car derives its power from gasoline. If you operate in fear and feed fear down into your spirit, you will never produce the kind of faith power it takes to rule over the circumstances of this life.

God's Way vs. Satan's Way

The whole world flows in a negative, downhill, destructive stream. We have been trained by Satan to operate in the negative. We talk fear all the time and, for the most part, are totally unaware

of it. By giving thought, speech and action to it, the force of fear will work

proficiently. It will work in you as long as you allow it to. But you can also put a stop to it and its effect in your spirit, your soul and your body.

Some people think a little fear is healthy, but that's a lie! There is no such thing as healthy fear! There is no such thing as a combination of God's way and Satan's way. There is only one method of operation and one set of laws: God's way and God's Word!

Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not yet seen with the physical eye. It is the force that reaches out into the unreality of things you need, into the world of the spirit (heaven's supply) and brings those things into physical manifestation.

Because faith and fear work the same way, we can understand fear by looking at faith. How does faith work?

"Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17). Galatians 5:6 says faith works by love.

Faith is developed by meditating in God's Word and by acting on that Word. Meditating in the Word causes the capacity for faith to increase. By meditating in it and practicing it, the Word will produce the results of faith, love, healing, prosperity, wisdom and wellbeing in every area— spirit, soul and body.

Meditating in God's Word doesn't actually build faith. It builds the capacity for faith. Faith is strengthened when it is put to use. It is like a muscle. It must be exercised to be effective. If you tied your right arm to your side and didn't use it for several years, you would lose your strength in that arm. The muscles would go limp and become useless to you.

Faith comes by hearing the Word of God. Fear comes by hearing the word of the world—the lies of Satan. Faith is developed by

meditating on God's Word. Fear is developed by meditating and acting on Satan's lies. The name of this is worry.