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THE POWER OF THE FEAR OF GOD

1 – The Beginning of Wisdom

Proverbs 1:7 (NKJV)

7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Psalms 14:1

14 The fool has said in his heart,
“There is no God.” They are corrupt, they have done abominable works,
there is none who does good.

The fear or deepest respect and awareness of God forms the base from which everything else in the believer's life develops, including knowing Him and the power that comes with that knowledge. Contrast this with one who does not even acknowledge the existence of God. Scripture calls such person a fool, and they are naturally prone to doing abominable works and no good. The fear of God instills obedience. It also creates a deep desire to obey and please God. It is not a fear of being punished for not obeying but one of awe and reverence.

2 – Fear and Faith

2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV)

15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Colossians 3:17 (NKJV)

17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

The fear of God leads to diligently presenting oneself approved to Him always. It leads to a desire to form a relationship with God out of admiration and reverence, and a burning desire to do everything, in word or deed, to honor God, and always give Him thanks for the opportunity to do so. This fear makes us confident and unafraid to approach God because of our desire to live a life that reflects the truth of His word as shown to us by Christ. Let us cultivate that fear daily and grow in awe and delight over the gospel and the will of God. There is power and blessing in fearing God. It is the foundation of our faith, and without that faith, it is impossible to please God and be rewarded by Him.

3 - Take Away

May we desire to fear God more. This is not a fear of punishment but one of reverence and awe. This will lead us to be approved by Him. This fear makes us confident and unafraid to approach God because of our desire to live a life that reflects the truth of His word as shown to us by Christ. Let us cultivate that fear daily and experience the power and blessings that come with this. Amen!