The Joy of Fearing God

May 18, 2024

Read Chapter 4 – *Beyond Measure, Beyond Compare*

1. Read Exodus 14:10-31. Based on a scale of 1-10 (1 being great fear or panic and 10 being absolute trust in God) rank the following passages and discuss.

Verses 19-20

Verse 22

Verse 23

Verse 27

What is the response of the Israelites in verse 31?

1. Discuss the following statement by the author “As we become convinced of His (God’s) greatness, we will fear Him – stand in awe of Him – and also trust Him. We cannot separate trust in God from the fear of God. We will trust Him only to the extent that we genuinely stand in awe of Him.”
2. What reasons for both fearing and trusting God are given in Psalm 33:16-19?
3. Read Isaiah 40:12-31. What do you see in this passage that emphasizes God’s greatness?

How do these verses stimulate fear of God?

How do these verses stimulate praise for God?

1. What can tend to diminish our fear of and praise for God’s greatness?
2. Meditate on Jeremia 10:1-16. What major points does the world tend to understand the least?
3. Looking again at Isaiah 40:25-28, what answer is God looking for and from it how can we give praise in response to God?

From verse 27, what is the attitude that God speaks against?

What is the truth from verse 28 that we learn. What does that say about the greatness of God and stimulate our standing in awe of Him?

1. The author writes: “God wants us to see and understand that He is inconceivably great, that nothing or no one can possibly compare with Him. The fact is, we do compare God to our circumstances, our problems, and the issues of society around us. We compare – and these circumstances and problems often seem bigger than God.” Discuss whether you agree with him.
2. Read Psalm 145:3 and discuss how we learn to see the greatness of God in comparison to our circumstances.

What other verses or examples from Scripture speak about the greatness of God and our need to trust Him?

What are some examples from Scripture of people who failed to trust in the greatness of God and what was the result?

How does knowing His greatness help you trust Him more?

1. What lessons from this chapter can you share that help you see more of the greatness of God?

Next month – Chapter 5 – *Transcendent Majesty* – June 15, 2024