

# THE FEARFUL and UNBELIEVING

Revelation 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

This is a bad neighborhood to hangout in!  
“Fearful”: *deilos*. Those experiencing a feeling of alarm or disquiet caused by awareness or expectation of danger.

“Unbelieving”: *apistos*. Without trust (in God).  
[Faith: *pistis*.]

Fear and unbelieving are closely associated in the Scriptures.

Matthew 8:26 And he saith unto them, **Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?** Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

# I. FAITH HAS ALWAYS HAD A FEARFUL ASPECT.

1. Abraham's journey to offer Isaac.
2. When Moses' parents placed him into the Nile.
3. When the priest of Israel stepped into the overflowing Jordan.
4. When Israel saw the giants and walled cities in the Land of Promise.
5. When the apostles came out of hiding to proclaim Jesus.

[Every step of faith can be fearful, but being fearful is an indication of unbelief.]

## II. FAITH TODAY RETAINS ITS FEARFUL ASPECT.

### WIVES

1 Peter 3:1-6 **Likewise**, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; <sup>2</sup> While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.

<sup>3</sup> Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; <sup>4</sup> But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. <sup>5</sup> For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:

<sup>6</sup> Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, **as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.**

“Afraid”: *phobeō*. To fear, be afraid, to be struck with fear, to be seized with alarm.

“Amazement”: *ptoēsis*. To be afraid of with terror.

## CHILDREN

Ephesians 6:1-3 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. <sup>2</sup> Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; <sup>3</sup> That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

## HUSBANDS

Ephesians 5:23,25 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.....<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

## PARENTS

Ephesians 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

## BELIEVERS

Matthew 6:30-33 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, **O ye of little faith?** <sup>31</sup> Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? <sup>32</sup> (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. <sup>33</sup> **But seek ye first the kingdom of God**, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Fearfulness is associated with and is an indication of unbelief; dead faith.

James 2:14-26 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?.....<sup>17</sup> Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.....<sup>20</sup> But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?.....<sup>24</sup> Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.....<sup>26</sup> For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

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