

The Torment of Fear

by David Wilkerson

David Wilkerson's sermon addresses the torment of fear in the life of believers and emphasizes the power of Christ's blood and faith in overcoming it.

Duration: 47:54

Scripture: Romans 8:1

Topics: "Fear"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher addresses the fear and uncertainty that many people in America are currently experiencing. He emphasizes that the shaking and turmoil prophesied in the Bible is now happening. The preacher encourages the congregation to confess their sins and seek forgiveness through Jesus Christ. He emphasizes the security and love that believers have in Christ, and how this should cast out all fear. The sermon concludes with a reminder that despite the fear of future events, believers can find deliverance and security in God's grace.

Transcript

...that you live every day in fear. There is deliverance and we're going to be delivered this morning, but don't be surprised when it comes from some unexpected source and you are suddenly cast into another experience of trembling and fearfulness such as David is describing here in this 55th chapter psalm. Now I want you to know that as far as I'm concerned and the Bible is concerned, all darkness is expelled by the light.

You shine the light, the darkness flees according to the scripture. Let's look at this and see if we can get some light in this dark corner of fear. I'm going to give you some of the causes, I believe, of the fear that lingers in our spirits.

The first cause, I believe, of fear in many Christians is the taunting, accusing voice of the enemy. The taunting, teasing, accusing voice of the enemy. Look at verse 3, Psalm 55 verse 3, "...because of the voice of the enemy, because of the oppression of the wicked, for they've cast iniquity upon me and in wrath they hate me." In the original Hebrew, David says, verse 3, "...they charged me with wickedness, they violently accused me with malicious slander." Now David is going through a period in his kingship where certain people have risen up in Israel, in Judah, and they're going about the walls, spreading strife, they're going everywhere, casting all kinds of questions and gossip and slanderous reports against his name.

The Bible says, Paul said, or David said, "...because they oppressed the wicked, they cast iniquity upon me and in wrath they hate me. My heart has sore pain within me and the terrors of death are falling upon me." Satan rose up against David and possessed the hearts of those that were nearest to him. In fact, David, before this is over, names the ringleader of it.

He knows who's causing his fearfulness and pain, but it is spread throughout his kingdom now, and these vicious words of wrath and hatred were coming forth from an evil spirit that had come upon those that David least expected would be capable of such things. There was a movie a number of years ago. I didn't see it.

It was called *The Exorcist*, and they had a radio advertisement. I'm sure they did on television, but I didn't have television. I was driving down the road one day, and they had an advertisement for *The Exorcist* movie, and it's about a girl that was possessed of the devil, and the devil would speak, and in the advertisement, this guttural voice came forth from this girl, and it was horrible guttural sound of a deep man's voice.

It sounded like just thunder out of hell, and this was supposedly the voice of the devil having possessed this little girl. But folks, that's not how the devil speaks. That's not how he speaks.

He uses the voice of human beings. He takes the minds and the hearts of human beings, and he speaks sometimes so tenderly, so sweetly. In fact, David said those enemies of his, the voice of the enemy that came against him was smoother than butter and softer than oil.

Well, read it there. Verse 21, the words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart. His words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords, and in the Hebrew, it means that it says smoother than butter.

It means a voice, a slander of half-truths mixed with flattery, and when it says softer than oil, it means spoken with false tenderness, and here's what was appalling David. Here is what was the cause of the fearfulness and trembling. He said, I can't fight this.

I can't do anything about it because there's an enemy that's risen, and they are speaking against me in slander, and they flatter me while they poison me, and not only that, they are telling people that I am so concerned about David, and it's coming forth as soft as oil, and it's mixed with the false tenderness. We are only concerned about David for his own good, and David is appalled. He said, how do I fight that? How do I answer people who come in such sweetness and such tenderness, and they speak a mixture of flattery and half-truths? And this is what he's talking about in verse 21.

David said, this is so terrifying to me because people believe that when it sounds as though someone is coming forth with such concern on my behalf, when David said they don't know that these people are out to absolutely destroy the kingdom. David went before the Lord, and he mourned with grief, and he went about his work with an aching heart. It was not just because there was an enemy speaking half-truths and lies and slander about him.

It was not just that. It was the ringleader behind it. It was the people.

It was, finally, he boils it down to one single individual who was the perpetrator of all of this. I want you to look at, if you will, at verse 10-11. It says, they're going about the walls, causing strife, spreading mischief and sorrow.

Now, who is it that David's talking about that is speaking smoother than butter and words softer than oil, but they were poisonous slander that could destroy David and the kingdom, and it caused him fearfulness and trembling. Now, David wasn't afraid of the slander. David wasn't afraid of gossip.

He wasn't afraid of the people, but there was a dread in his bosom. He was dreading because he said, this is so unnecessary, and it's caused my body such pain. There's no need for mine to have to be destroyed like this.

Absolutely unnecessary. And most Bible scholars believe that David is referring to his dear counselor Hithephil. Hithephil was his very best friend.

Hithephil sat with him for days and weeks. They talked about the things of God. They discussed the work of the kingdom.

Hithephil was a very wise man. He set with him a table. He put his feet under the same table with David, and Hithephil saw the blessing of God on David.

He marveled that, and the scripture says, everywhere David turned, the Lord was with him. The Lord blessed everything that he touched. There was something about David, and Hithephil saw the workings, and David exposed his heart.

In fact, David said, if I had known what was in this man, if I'd have known he was going to turn against me, David said, I would have hidden my heart. I would have not, I would have not exposed myself and my deepest feelings to this man, because now Hithephil is in a whole group of rebellious people, and Hithephil is now Absalom's advisor. He runs from David, knowing David's secret heart, and going with Absalom, who has risen up against his own flesh and blood.

Now David's got his own flesh and blood against him, trying to destroy him, and now the greatest wound of all, his dearest friend, his dearest counselor, Hithephil, has suddenly turned against David, and not only turned against David, rather than go quietly and just fade away, he goes to the enemy camp, and he begins to build opposition against David all through Judah, turned all of Israel against David, to Hithephil. And here is David, absolutely fearful and trembling upon me, and horror hath overwhelmed me. And he said, oh, that I had wings like a dove, for then I would fly away and be at rest.

I would wander far off and remain in the wilderness. I would escape this storm. And David, I think, is thinking about his shepherd days, those nice quiet days when he could just play his harp and write songs and pet the sheep, and once in a while lie in a bear, but that was nothing to David.

It was the solitude, and I believe David was yearning against... I think David said, I wish I didn't know anybody. I don't want all of this. It's been pain ever since I've been through it.

Oh, if I could just go back and be an unknown shepherd. How many have ever wanted to escape a storm? You say, well, Brother Wilkerson, are you talking about yourself, or are you talking about me? I'm talking about all of us. Let me, I want to tell you something.

Now listen, I'm gonna make a statement, and hear it in your spirit. The greatest enemy to a spiritual man or a spiritual woman is a carnal Christian. The greatest enemy is not on the street, not a drug addict, not a gambler, not some gossip on the street.

Is God perfect? He came as man and lived perfect. And he was crucified perfect. He was buried as the perfect man.

And he was raised as the perfect man. And that perfect man is the only form of God. He has an arm as long as he's perfect.

And God looked on his son. God looked on his son. He's the only man who can dance in perfect from now on.

He took his own blood. He took his own blood. Fully satisfied the justice of God.

The demands of the law. Fully satisfied. And now he goes to the Father with his own blood.

But before he was ascended to the Father, he gathered up every believer in himself. And we in his own heart went with him to glory. And we with Christ are seated at the right hand of the Father.

Perfect. Perfect. I am perfected under the blood of Jesus Christ.

God only deals with one man. He doesn't deal with that old man. The old man is not transformed.

The old man is not redeemed. The old man is done away with. He is crucified.

Dead, buried, gone. God doesn't deal with him. You say, well, I'm going to deal with God with the old man.

God says, I don't have anything to do with him. He's dead and gone. I deal with Christ.

I deal with my son. Folks, it's a leap of faith. It's saying, oh God, I can never.

I have no plea. Folks, when you stand before the judgment seat, what are you going to plead? Oh folks, when I pray in my secret closet, all I do, I walk around and say, oh Lord, I have no plea. Nothing but the blood.

Nothing but the blood. No goodness in me. No righteousness in me.

Nothing that I can give to you. I give you the blood. I give you Jesus.

My faith, my confidence in him. I am perfected in Jesus Christ. When you walk in faith in Christ, gee, God, my father says that I am accepted in the beloved.

Fully accepted. God is not mad at me. He's not mad at you.

When you fully trust in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, that he finished the work, that God says, I'm satisfied. All who are in Christ Jesus, there's one man, there is one body, and that's the body of Jesus Christ. He's the head, we are the arms, the feet, the eyes.

We are his body. And right now, if you'll appropriate it, it's a step of faith. You and I are seated right now, positionally, before the Father, in full favor, full blessing, and God looks on me as he looks on his own son.

Accepted in the beloved. Oh, hallelujah. Let me ask you a question.

Which sins did Jesus die for you? Your past? I'm going to believe all your past sins are forgiven. Raise your hand. All your past sins are under the blood.

I'm going to believe your present sins are under the blood, if you confess them. What about your future sins? The blood. See, it's not just what I see of the blood, it's what God sees of the blood.

What God sees of the blood. Do you remember the blood being applied to the door post? Here's a family, and he just put the blood on the door, and his son comes to him and says, Father, are we safe tonight? Am I going to live? I'm the firstborn. He said, oh, yes, you're going to live.

The blood's on the door. Next door there's a man who's applied the blood to the door. This is the end of side one.

You may now turn the tape over to side two. When the Savior calls, I will answer. When the Savior calls, I will hear.

When the Savior calls, I will answer. I'll do my best to listen for my name. Look through the night.

He says, oh, I hope so. Son, I hope so. And he holds on to him and full of anxiety.

There's fear in his heart. Now, let me ask you a question. Over here is a man who's fully trusting, and over here is another.

These are types of Christians because they were Israelites, and this man over here is full of anxiety and trepidation. Which one of those houses are safest? They're both safe because the blood's on the door. Folks, at times you don't understand.

Sometimes the devil tries to bring fear. He'll bring condemnation and guilt and everything else. You stand up and say, I believe in the blood of Jesus Christ.

I believe I'm safe. Paul preached like that, and his enemies came and said, you preach like that and people will take his excuse to sin. No, folks, when you see how secure you are in Christ and when you believe in the finished work of Jesus Christ, he wants that to cast out all fear.

He wants you to know that he loved you. He loved you so he sent his son to die for you. Folks, God's in the business of reconciliation and redemption.

That's his work. That's the work of Jesus Christ. That's the work of the church of Jesus Christ.

And, folks, because of that, because I know I'm secure in the Lord, the Holy Ghost comes upon me and empowers me to live for him and convicts me of my sin, and I run quickly to the Father, I run quickly to the blood of Jesus Christ, and he gives me power. And then when I realize what Jesus has done, suddenly I realize that sin is losing its grip. It's losing its dominion over me.

I'm no longer bent toward sin. I'm bent toward my place in Christ, and I follow that bent of my spirit. Hallelujah.

I'm just touching on it, but, folks, I want you to know the Lord wants you to know security in his work. Hallelujah. Some of you are constantly living in fear that you're not going to make it, that God, somehow, after all this struggle and everything else, is going to cast you aside.

Not if you look to him who has paid the price in full. Hallelujah. In closing, I want to... Ephesians 1.6. To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the Beloved.

Are you accepted right now before God? Even with your fears? Even with your faults? You go to him and say, Oh, Jesus, I believe in the power of your blood. Cleanse me. Sanctify me by the blood.

Hallelujah. Finally, there's a fear about the things that are soon to come upon the earth. Things that are coming upon the earth.

Men's hearts fading then for fear and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth. The scripture says, For the powers of heaven shall be shaken. Folks, look at me, please.

There's such tormenting fear of the future sweeping over America, especially right now. A shaking has begun that's been prophesied in the Bible. Everything to be shaken is now shaking.

The blood of Christ has been uplifted from the body of Christ. Hallelujah. I speak your word.

I come again in the first spirit of fear. And in the spirit of my heart, my soul, and in the first place of order. I speak your- I command your word.

I command your first spirit to be lifted up from his body. Lift his body. Lift his body.

Lift his house. Lift them. Go.

Go. Go to AbBA. Go where Jesus is.

And he cannot touch that wall. Loose me. Loose me.

Come on. Come on. The spirit of the soul.

Loose me. Just one. You have no power.

You have no right. You have no right. The fear is great.

I am going to be delivered this morning. I lay my fear at your feet, O God. Hallelujah.

Break the chains now, Lord. Break the chains. Break every chain that binds.

Hallelujah. I want you, I want you in your own words, everybody came, I want you in your own words to confess everything that needs to be confessed and say, Jesus, I confess my sins. I confess everything I've done against you and I bring it to the blood.

Jesus, I know that I'm received before the Father through Christ my Lord. Take a stand of faith right now and say, Lord, accept me in the Beloved. Father, accept me in Christ.

Accept me in the Beloved because I come to the blood. Cleanse me. Purify me by the blood of the Lamb.

Hallelujah. All glory be to God, redeemed by the precious blood of the Lamb. Now thank Him in your own words.

Just give Him thanks. Lord, I thank you. I thank you.

I praise you. I give you glory. I give you praise.

Hallelujah. Blessed be the name of the Lord. This is the conclusion of the tape.

Hallelujah. Lord, we love you. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Oh, Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit come. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. We worship you, oh Lord. We worship you, Lord.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Holy Spirit.

Holy, Holy Spirit. Holy, Holy, Holy. Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit. We worship you. We worship.

We lift our hearts and our hands in worship to you, oh Lord. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah, Lord. We worship. Worship His name.

We worship you, Lord. Lift your voice in worship. We lift our voices in worship and praise to you, oh Lord.

For you are worthy. You are worthy, oh Lord, of honor and glory and praise. You are worthy, worthy, worthy, precious lamb of God.

We adore you, Lord. We magnify your holy name. You are worthy.

You are worthy of honor. You are worthy of praise. Hallelujah.

Let's worship Him. He's here. Lord, you're here to be worshiped.

You're here to be praised, oh Lord. You're here to be worshiped. You're here to be praised, oh Lord, and we give you honor.

We give glory to your name. We exalt. We exalt thee, oh Lord.

We exalt thee. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

We worship. We worship you, oh Lord. You are worthy.

You are worthy. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

He's worthy of glory. He is worthy of honor and worthy of glory and worthy of praise and sing. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Holy Spirit! Holy Spirit! Holy Spirit! We welcome you in this house! We welcome you, Holy Spirit! We welcome you, Holy Spirit, come in our midst! Oh, Holy Spirit, we give glory and honor and praise! Let your glory be on this house! Let your glory be on this house! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! He is worthy, worthy of praises! He is worthy of glory and worthy of honor, worthy of praises! He has redeemed us by the blood of the Lamb, set my spirit free! Worthy of glory and worthy of honor and worthy of praises! Worthy of glory and worthy of honor and worthy of praises! He

is worthy of glory and worthy of honor and worthy of praises! He is worthy of glory and worthy of honor and worthy of praises! He has redeemed us by the blood of the Lamb, set my spirit free! And worthy of honor and worthy of praises! He has redeemed us by the blood of the Lamb, set my spirit free! Worthy of glory and worthy of honor and worthy of praises! is he worthy of glory and worthy of honor and worthy of

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