

Fear Not

by Warren Wiersbe

We can overcome fear by looking to the Lord for help and strength, and trusting in His sovereignty.

Scripture: Deuteronomy 20:8, Psalm 33:10, Isaiah 41:10, Matthew 8:26

Topics: "Overcoming Fear", "Faith And Trust"

Description

Warren Wiersbe delivers a sermon on overcoming fear by emphasizing the detrimental effects of fear, such as paralysis and discouragement. He draws parallels from President Franklin D. Roosevelt's famous quote and highlights the importance of faith over fear, citing Matthew 8:26. Wiersbe uses Nehemiah's leadership as an example, showing how preparedness, unity, and trust in the Lord can dispel fear and deter the enemy. By focusing on God's strength and sovereignty, Wiersbe encourages listeners to stand firm without fear, knowing that God's plans will prevail, as seen in Psalms 33:10-11.

Transcript

In his First Inaugural Address, on March 4, 1933, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt said to a nation in the grip of an economic depression, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." Why? Because fear paralyzes you, and fear is contagious and paralyzes others. Fear and faith cannot live together in the same heart. "Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?" (Matt. 8:26) Frightened people discourage others and help bring defeat (Deut. 20:8).

Nehemiah's first step was to post guards at the most conspicuous and vulnerable places on the wall. The enemy could then see that the Jews were prepared to fight. He armed entire families, knowing that they would stand together and encourage one another.

After looking the situation over, Nehemiah encouraged the people not to be afraid but to look to the Lord for help. If we fear the Lord, we need not fear the enemy. Nehemiah's heart was captivated by the "great and terrible" God of Israel (4:14; see 1:5), and he knew that God was strong enough to meet the challenge. He also reminded the people that they were fighting for their nation, their city, and their families. When the enemy learned that Jerusalem was armed and ready, they backed off (4:15). God had frustrated their plot. "The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect. The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations" (Ps. 33:10-11). It is good to remind ourselves that the will of God comes from the heart of God and that we need not be afraid.

A promise: "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand" (Isa. 41:10, niv).

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/warren-wiersbe/fear-not/>

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