

I WILL TEACH YOU THE FEAR OF THE LORD Psalm 34:11-16

THE LEARNING PART WITH REGARDS TO THE FEAR OF THE LORD

1. A time of learning
 - a. As David reflected on his experience with King Achish (1 Sam. 21:10-15)
 - b. As he learnt to grow spiritually from this incident
 - c. He developed his trust in the Lord.

2. Different strands with regards to learning
 - a. The strand of praising God (Psalm 34:1-3)
 - b. The strand of testimonies (Psalm 34:4-7)
 - i. Personal testimony
 - ii. People's testimonies
 - iii. A poor man's testimony
 - iv. The reality of protection from angels
 - c. The strand of brokenness (Psalm 34:18)

THE TEACHING PART WITH REGARDS TO THE FEAR OF THE LORD

"Come, you children, listen to me;

I will teach you the fear of the Lord." Psalm 34:11

1. This is the didactic part of Psalm 34

2. The people who are called to learn
 - a. Children
 - i. This is not a reference to literal children
 - ii. This is a reference to anyone who is willing to learn
 - b. The kind of people who will learn
 - i. The humble will hear and be glad
 - ii. They are willing to discover God further

3. The motivation to fear the Lord
 - a. The Lord's promise of blessings
 - i. Having a good long life

*"Who is the man who desires life, And loves many days, that he may see good?"
Psalm 34:12*
 - ii. Experiencing God's constant help

*"The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry...."
Psalm 34:15*
 - b. The Lord's punitive judgment

"The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth." Psalm 34:16
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4. The practice of the fear of the Lord
 - a. Being a person of righteousness

"The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous." Psalm 34:15
 - b. Doing acts of righteousness

*"Keep your tongue from evil,
And your lips from speaking deceit.
Depart from evil and do good;
Seek peace and pursue it." Psalm 34:13-14*

THE APPLICATION PART WITH REGARDS TO THE FEAR OF THE LORD

"Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing. For

*"He who would love life
And see good days,
Let him refrain his tongue from evil,
And his lips from speaking deceit.
Let him turn away from evil and do good;
Let him seek peace and pursue it.
For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
And His ears are open to their prayers;
But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." 1 Peter 3:8-12*

1. Peter applied the didactic part of Psalm 34
2. The context of going through suffering

3. Learning to fear the Lord by living righteously
 - a. To be one with others
 - b. To care for others
 - c. Not retaliating when reviled

PERSONAL APPLICATION

1. Learn to fear the Lord more than man
 - a. From personal experience
 - b. From testimonies
 - c. Through blessing the Lord at all times

2. Teach others about the fear of the Lord
 - a. The motivation
 - i. The Lord's blessings
 - ii. The Lord's judgment
 - b. The practice of the fear of the Lord

3. Applying the fear of the Lord to life
 - a. In caring for others
 - b. In not retaliating