

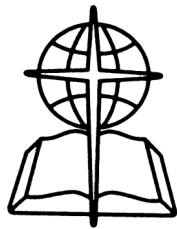
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Thursday, April 27, 2023
Local Edition of the Alabama Baptist



BIBB BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

"I have the daily burden of how the churches are getting along." 2 Cor. 11: 28b

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"How to Conquer Fear"

Please read Psalm 27:1-14: Fear is a real thing. God created us to fear Him. God gave us the emotion of fear to keep us from danger. The Devil and this world system uses God's good and helpful emotions to keep us from being all the LORD calls us to be. False fear will keep us from the abundant life Jesus came to give.

David's enemies tried to scare him. They wanted to stop him from doing God's work. Our enemies want to instill fear in us to control us. The 27th psalm deals with overcoming fear. David had experienced fear but had learned that he didn't have to live in fear. God showed David a way to overcome false fear. This left us a pattern of how to conquer the fears that would keep us from God and His plan for our lives. Let's discover what David learned that will help us to conquer and overcome the false fears that will steal our joy, peace, and confidence in the LORD.

David overcame fear by setting the right priority for his life. David's priority according to verse four was "To dwell in the house of the LORD." David wanted to be with God. David was intentional and was willing to pay whatever it would cost to be in the presence of God. It was like Jesus said, "First seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness". That is the right priority. It enabled David to have victory over the fear that would rob him of walking in God's will, fulfilling God's purpose for his life. To have victory over fear we need to set our priority to intentionally desire to be in the presence of God. To abide in Him and let Him abide in us.

David overcame fear by Staying in the right places. Notice where David wanted to live. Read verse 4.

He wanted to live in the house of the LORD. That's the meeting place where he could be with God, and God's people. He wanted to dwell in the temple of the LORD. He wanted to be in God's pavilion which is in God's Shelter. There is no place safer than the center of God's will. He wanted to dwell in His tabernacle (v. 5). That's the place of fellowship with God. David wanted his life to be on the "Rock". These are the places we must stay if we are to have freedom from false fears. For a proper perspective about our fear, we must dwell in the right places.

David overcame fear by Singing the Right Praises. Read verse 6. Praise is very important, and David learned that truth while ministering to Saul who had an evil spirit. That evil spirit caused Saul to fear when he should have had courage and to have courage when he should have feared. David knew how to worship God and David's praise of God even helped Saul. Please read 1 Samuel 16. Some recent studies link motivation for evangelism, and outreach, to the praise and worship life of individuals and churches. Praise is what is missing in so many lives and in so many churches. We spend too much time listening to the various voices that promote fear. Biblically sound and theologically correct praise of the Savior will bring a proper personal courage to follow God's word and will. Freedom from fear brings praise to a person's life, and praise in a person's life also brings courage to follow God.

David overcame fear by Saying the Right Prayers. Notice how David prayed. David prayed for mercy in verse 7. David prayed for God's presence in verse 9. He prayed for God's instruction in verse 11. He prayed for God's deliverance in verse 12. He prayed for God's patience in verse 14. He prayed for God's courage in 12-14. David prayed with confidence that God would answer. We need to pray believing that God will answer our prayers with yes, no, wait, or better than we imagined. Prayer is central to conquering fear. Even an atheist knows that.

David overcame fear by Seeking the Right Person. David sought the LORD. (v. 8). There is great courage and proper courage when a person seeks the LORD. Why? God's promise is that if will draw near to Him He will draw near to us. When God is by us, we know the next step to take. Hebrews 11:6 says God will reward those who seek Him. A blind man found courage to call on Jesus and receive his sight. See Mark 10:46-52.

The thing we need most is courage to fear God and not man. Fear God and let Him control you and you will be blessed. Fear man and let him control you and you will regret it. David found victory! You can too!

LÔÔK

May 3 - "Speak Tour"
at Bibb Wellness Center
5:30 - 8:00pm with games,
food, worship, evangelism

May 14 - Mother's Day

May 15 - BCHS
Graduation at 7pm

May 16 - WBHS
Graduation at 7pm

May 25 - Last day of school

WHEN YOU SAID,
"SEEK MY FACE,"
MY HEART SAID TO
YOU,
"YOUR FACE, O
LORD, I WILL SEEK."
PSALM 27:8

**Executive
Committee Meeting
June 6, 2023
Emphasis:
Disaster Relief**

Samford MTI

Classes begin at Bibb County
Correctional Facility in June. You can
support this ministry with a monetary
donation sent to the BBA office
noted "MTI at prison"

THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS
the beginning of knowledge,
BUT FOOLS DESPISE
wisdom and instruction

Proverbs 1:7

Let's pray together for all our churches!
This month...

Rehobeth - Searching for a pastor

Randolph - Rev. Tony Reynolds

Pondville - Rev. David Grisham

Pineview - Rev. Mark Lovett