

FREEDOM FROM FEAR

(Sample Excerpt)

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**Foreword by
Dr. Bill Basansky**

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Unless otherwise stated, all Scripture quotations in this book are from the King James Version of the Bible.

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Foundational Scriptures

“For God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind” (2 Timothy 1:7).

“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. He who fears has not been made perfect in love” (1 John 4:18).

“Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage” (Hebrews 2: 14-15).

“And in nothing be terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God” (Philippians 1:28).

“And do not for a moment be frightened or intimidated in anything by your opponents and adversary. For such consistency and fearlessness will be a clear sign and proof and seal to them of their impending destruction, but a sure token and evidence of your deliverance and salvation, and that from God” (Philippians 1:28 AMP).

Chapter 1

Two Kinds Of Fear

Two kinds of fear are mentioned in the Bible. One fear has torment but the other does not. The good kind of fear is the fear of the LORD. The bad kind of fear is the fear of Satan. Fear is reverence, high respect and honor.

“...the fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction, for that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD. They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices” (Proverbs 1: 7, 29-31).

In the Book of Proverbs, God offered His children knowledge and wisdom, but they rejected it. They did not have the fear of the LORD. The absence of the fear of the LORD is the same as the presence of the fear of the devil. Evil is the opposite of good. There is no middle ground. You are either on the good side (the God side) or on the side of evil. If you do not have reverence, respect and honor for God, then it means you have reverence, respect and honor for the devil. In other words, if you do not have the fear of the LORD (the good fear), then you have the fear of the devil (the bad kind).

In Proverbs Chapter 1, instead of “reverence, respect and honor” for God, these people turned their reverence, respect and honor towards the devil. Instead of having “the fear of the LORD”, they had “the fear of the devil.” This is the bad kind of fear. The “fear of the devil” brings torment. When you have reverence, respect and honor toward your enemy, you will live a life of torment. The aim of this book is to expose the bad kind of fear – the fear of the devil. We will learn from scripture that God has delivered us from the bad kind of fear.

Unless otherwise qualified, when we use the word “fear” in this book, we are referring to the fear of the devil – the bad kind of fear. You may notice that some statements and Bible verses are repeated several times throughout the book. This is done on purpose to emphasize the importance of those statements and Bible references as they relate to our topic of fear.

This book is not designed to be a medical or psycho-analytical discussion on the topic of fear. The primary aim of the author is to expose the effects of the unhealthy fear of Satan in the lives of believers and non-believers alike.

Chapter 2

We Have Been Delivered From Fear

God has already delivered us from fear. The foundational verse in Hebrews 2 says that Jesus went through death, so that He might deliver them who were bound by the fear of death all through their lifetime.

Notice in **2 Timothy 1:7** that fear is a spirit. This verse does not simply refer to a spirit of fear but the spirit of fear. Fear is a personality. Fear doesn't just come by itself. There is a design behind fear. There is a source and master plan behind fear. Fear comes from only one source. The scripture says God is not the source of fear. God is a Spirit but not the spirit of fear. **2 Timothy 1:7** says God has given us the spirit of power, the spirit of love and the spirit of a sound mind. **Galatians 5:22** lists the fruit of the re-created spirit as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Fear is not included in this list. Fear is not a part of the fruit of the spirit.

We know from scripture (**1 John 4:8**) that God is love. **1 John 4:18** says perfect love casts out fear. Light and darkness cannot co-exist in the same place at the same time. Perfect love and fear cannot dwell together in the same house. If God is love and love casts out fear, then fear must not be from God. Since the spirit of fear does not come from God, we must conclude that the

personality and the source behind fear is the devil.

The good news in **Hebrews 2: 14-15** is that Jesus went through death so that He might destroy the devil and release us from bondage to fear. The devil had the power of death until Jesus took that power away from him. After we become born again, we need to realize that we are no longer in bondage to fear or to Satan. However, it is possible for us to remain in ignorance and not claim the freedom that has been provided for us through the death, burial and resurrection of our LORD Jesus Christ. The devil still has the power of death over those who are not born again.

Satan cannot get into our lives and overcome us unless we give him permission. The Bible says in **Ephesians 4:27** that we should not give any place to the devil. This means that the devil cannot have any place in us unless we give him that place. When the spirit of fear tries to attach itself to us and succeeds, then it means we have given him access or an open door in our lives. The devil cannot do anything in our lives unless we allow him to do it. The surprising truth is that even if someone is not born again, the devil still cannot do anything in that person's life unless he finds an open door.

Do you know that even God cannot do anything in our lives unless we give him permission? If it was all left to God, then all of us Christians will be prosperous and healthy because that is God's will for us. It is God's will

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for us to be healed (**3 John 2**). The reason God sent His son to die on the cross was that we would be saved and healed. The Bible says, “*By His stripes, we are healed*” (**Isaiah 53:5**). God wants to come into our lives and be a blessing to us but He chooses to wait until we give Him permission. See what God says in the Book of Revelation:

“Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him” (**Revelation 3:20**).

So, neither God nor Satan can work in our lives without our permission. God is a good God. He only brings good things into your life. God wants to save you, deliver you, heal you and prosper you. But His hands are tied until you allow Him. The devil, on the other hand, wants to steal from you. He wants to kill you. He wants to destroy you. God tells us in **John 10:10** that “*the thief (the devil) does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I (God) have come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly.*”

Remember that neither God nor the devil can do anything in our lives unless we allow them. If it was all left to Satan, he would have destroyed all of us. Satan has absolutely no love for humanity. But he does not have free access into our lives unless we give it to him.

We learn from several scriptures that the way we allow God into our lives is through faith.

We Have Been Delivered From Fear

Faith comes to us by sowing the Word of God into our lives and watering that Word on a daily basis.

“Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God” (Romans 10:17).

The more we develop our faith in God, the more we allow Him to show Himself strong in our lives. We let God into our lives through the door of faith.

The opposite of faith is fear. We let Satan into our lives through the door of fear. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God and fear comes by hearing the word of the devil. Fear is the door or path through which the devil enters into our lives and our affairs. We are going to see from the Bible that there is a way for us to shut the devil out. We will learn how to open the door for God to manifest Himself in our lives. We will also learn how to shut the door to fear and to Satan.

Everything doesn't just happen to us because we are in this world. We have more control than we realize over the things which happen in our lives. Our own choices determine how much good or bad things happen in our lives. We hold the keys that can open or lock the door to either God or Satan. A lot of Christians go through life asking “why?” Through our discussions in this book, we will get a better understanding and get the “whys” out of our lives.

Chapter 3

The Nature of Fear

I would like you to consider the following important facts about fear:

1. **Fear separates us from God.**

We established earlier the fact that fear and perfect love cannot dwell together in the same house. Since God is love, fear and God cannot dwell together in our lives

2. **Fear causes disobedience.**

As believers, we don't just disobey God. There is a reason for our disobedience. Fear is that reason.

3. **Fear is the path of Satan.**

If you want to travel to a certain destination, you must have a path or road to get there. There is no way for the devil to get into your life unless he has a road. Fear is that road. Fear is the bridge that Satan travels on to get into your life. I will show you how to blow up that bridge and close that road. You will learn how to get rid of all the phobias in your life. You will not be afraid of heights. You can go up to any floor of any tall building without being afraid. You will be free from the fear of terrorism. You can fly on any airplane without the fear of being high-jacked or the plane crashing.

One old preacher was asked if he was going to fly to a certain destination. He said, "Oh, No, I'm going to obey the scripture." When they asked him what scripture, he said, God said, "Low, I will be with you always." Of course, we realize that this was meant to be a joke but it is misinterpreting the Bible and just an excuse for not dealing with this preacher's fear of flying. Some people are afraid of the dark, cats, dogs, snakes, rivers, the sea, rain, lightning, thunder and many different things. All these fears open the door and provide a path to Satan to enter our lives.

The devil will not come unless you invite him. After learning the facts from this book and discovering God's Word from the Bible, if you still invite the devil into your life, your business and your affairs, then you must blame yourself. There is a difference between ignorance and stupidity. If we do something wrong because we did not have the right information, then that is ignorance. But if we did that wrong thing after having the right information, then that is stupidity. I hope we will not be stupid after reading this book.

We need to realize also that the devil doesn't just wait patiently to be invited. He entices us in the areas he knows we are vulnerable in. He plays tricks on our minds to cause us to open the door. Sometimes, if we are not careful, we might not even remember when we opened that door. The devil is smart enough not to show up on the very same day that we allowed some fear into our lives.

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We may be blaming God for allowing Satan into our lives when, in fact, it was our own fault.

If we discover that the devil has already entered into certain areas of our lives, we should admit that it is our fault and learn how to get rid of him. If you discover any such area in your life, please don't let pride prevent you from admitting it. All of us believers have failed at one time or another. The good news is that we do not have to just lie down and die in our failures. The Bible says in **Proverbs 24:16** that "*A righteous man may fall seven times, but he will rise again.*" We are the righteousness of God in Christ. So we may fall seven times, but we will rise again.

4. **Fear is the root of all failures.**

I heard God speak to me in my spirit that fear is the root of all our failures! Yes, "all" our failures. Fear is the reason we fail in any area of our lives.

Fear is the root of all failures even in the lives of the unsaved world. Even though we understand that the unsaved world is being ruled by Satan, he really does not have as much right and power as we sometimes think he has. If Satan had unlimited power, he would have killed us in our sins to prevent us from coming to Jesus.

In fact, if Satan had his way with everyone, he would have killed all of us before we were born. He is killing a lot of babies today in their mothers' wombs. You or I could have been one of them. Abortion is killing millions of innocent babies.

The Nature of Fear

Think about the devilish procedure in America called partial-birth abortion. Babies that are almost full term (and sometimes full term) are literally murdered before their whole body comes out of the mother's womb. Some devil-possessed and twisted minds think that if the full body does not come out, then that is not a live human being. Those babies have no way of defending themselves. Most of us in the world sit back and watch these poor babies murdered.

I want you to know today that the devil is a killer. He has twisted the minds of the world to think that a baby is not a baby until he or she comes out of the womb. How did the devil get the path or permission to commit all these murders? I can show you that it is through fear. Do you know why we have used the pronoun "it" for babies all through the ages? It is because in the past, we did not have any sonograms to enable us determine the sex of babies. We didn't know whether to call them boys or girls. So we settled on the pronoun "it." Today, we are able to determine very early whether the baby is a boy or girl. So we should change our pronoun. Referring to an unborn baby as an "it", de-humanizes the baby. We should refer to an unborn baby as "he" or "she."

5. **Acting on fear is acting on the word of the devil.**

You wouldn't be afraid if the devil had not planted a seed of fear in your mind. The devil said something to you that made you afraid. God's Word will never put fear in us. God's Word can

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only put faith in us. Acting in faith is acting on God's Word. Conversely, acting in fear is acting on the Word of the devil.