

LIVING FAITH... IX
Fears No One but God
Hebrews 11:23; Exodus 1:15ff

INTRODUCTION

- A. In the 1933 inaugural address, Franklin Delano Roosevelt said, *“The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.”*
1. Who has not, at one time or another, been afraid?
 - a. The dark, loud noise at night, thunder clap, snakes, mice.
 - b. The first day of school, expectations on a new job?
 2. Fear that occupies our entire lives are recognized as “phobias”:
 - a. Agoraphobia – fear of being in open spaces.
 - b. Claustrophobia – fear of closed or narrow spaces.
 - c. Hydrophobia – fear of water.
 - d. Acrophobia – fear of heights.
 3. Anthrophobia – fear of man.
 - a. Fear of being a little different, persecuted, losing friends.
 - b. Society today calls for tolerance:
 - i. Lesbian, gay, transgender movement.
 - ii. Society tolerates anything and everyone except those who do not believe as they do.
 - c. Religion:
 - i. Ways of worship.
 - ii. Requirements of salvation.
 - iii. Acceptance of other beliefs.
 - d. This fear of man has led to:
 - i. an erosion of the authority of God.
 - ii. and a fear of offending others.
- B. Living faith fears no one but God.
1. Fear of God is respect for God’s power.
 - a. Proverbs 9:10
 - b. Proverbs 16:6
 - c. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14
 2. But it is more than just respect.
 - a. Some translations have substituted the word “respect” for “fear”.
 - b. It may be easier to accept, but it isn’t accurate.
 - c. Psalm 119:120
 - d. Example of Belshazzar, Daniel 5:5-6

I. THE FAITH OF AMRAM AND JOCHABED. Exodus 1 & 2

- A. Pharaoh’s Command.
1. Some 300 years after the passing of Joseph.
 2. Exodus 1:8, a new king arose who did not know Joseph.
 3. He was concerned about the might of Israel. 1:8-22
 - a. The Egyptians oppressed Israel – Israel multiplied.
 - b. Pharaoh commanded the Hebrew midwives to kill the male children.

- i. Midwives couldn't be on time.
 - c. Pharaoh required all newborn Hebrew boys thrown into the river.
- B. Amram and Jochabed's Response. 2:1-5
 - 1. A Levite and his wife of the tribe of Levi.
 - 2. Had a son who was beautiful.
 - 3. Hid him for 3 months – not an easy task.
 - a. The obvious concern of a noisy baby.
 - b. Possible threat of Egyptians in Goshen.
 - 4. Put him in a basket and into the Nile – Miriam watched over.
 - 5. Heb. 11:23, "...and they were not afraid of the king's edict [by faith]."

II. FEAR NO ONE BUT GOD.

- A. If God Be For Us...
 - 1. Romans 8:31, "*If God is for us, who is against us?*"
 - 2. Romans 8:35-39, "*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?...*"
- B. Fear the Lord Your God.
 - 1. Isa. 51:12
 - 2. 1 Pet. 3:13-15
 - 3. Isa. 8:12-13
- C. Developing the Proper Fear of God.
 - 1. Resist familiarity.
 - a. Uzzah struck dead, mishandled the ark of God, 2 Sam. 6:6-7.
 - b. We can take God's word for granted.
 - c. We can take the church for granted.
 - d. And, yes, we can take God for granted.
 - 2. Read the Word regularly and respectfully.
 - a. Deuteronomy 17:18-20, for future kings.
 - 3. Ask God to give you a larger vision of Himself.
 - a. Exodus 3:1-6
 - b. Matthew 17:5-6
 - c. Revelation 1:17

CLOSING

- A. If We Fear God...
 - 1. We will put His will above man's will. Matthew 10:28
 - 2. We will serve the Almighty God. Psalm 86:11