

# Is Being Fearful A Sin Against God

**Bible Studies, Volume 8**

Leslie Rendell

Published by Leslie Rendell, 2023.



# Copyright

Copyright © 2023 by Leslie Rendell

Visit the Author's website at [www.leslierendell.com](http://www.leslierendell.com)

All rights reserved.

edition one, license notes

This book is licensed for your personal enjoyment only. This Ebook may not be re-sold or given away to other people. If you would like to share this book with another person, please purchase an additional copy for each recipient. If you are reading this book and did not purchase it, or if it was not purchased for your use only, then please return to your favourite book retailer and purchase your own copy.

Thank you for respecting the hard work of this author.

Book Cover by Leslie Rendell

Published by Leslie Rendell at Draught2Digital

first edition 2022

All scripture is from the World English Bible unless otherwise stated.

The World English Bible (WEB) is a Public Domain (no copyright) Modern English translation of the Holy Bible. That means that you may freely copy it in any form, including electronic and print formats. The World English Bible is based on the American Standard Version of the Holy Bible first published in 1901, the Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia Old Testament, and the Greek Majority Text New Testament.



# Introduction

Fear is something we all face almost every day. Sometimes it is just a small fear, and at other times it is almost a paralysing fear. The fear I want to discuss in this book is the fear we have for God, and not so much fearing how we are going to live and provide for our families.

There are two different kinds of fear for God. There is the fear that wants us to keep our distance from God, to not come into his presence unless we are harmed in some way. Our consciences tell us we are not worthy to approach our God. This type of fear will always drive us away from God.

Then there is the Godly fear we must all have. This fear is not terror or panic, but is reverence and awe at who he is. This type of fear should draw us closer to him and wanting to be in his presence. Listen to how the bible describes how we should approach God.

*Heb 4:14 Having therefore a great High Priest, Who has passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, we should hold fast the confession of our faith.*

*Heb 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot empathize with our weaknesses, but One Who was tempted in all things according to the likeness of our own temptations; yet He was without sin.*

*Heb 4:16 Therefore, we should come with boldness to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

Keep this thought in mind as you read the rest of this book.



# Is Being Fearful A Sin Against God

I believe we are residing in an extremely hazardous and changing world.. A world where fear is ever increasing, where we fear for losing our jobs, our families, our homes and even our lives. We are going through a pandemic with the COVID-19 virus. Our communities and families are being divided and we do not know where these changes will lead.

Governments are restricting people and causing worry as they try to control the population. Workers are being forced to get the Covid vaccine or risk losing their jobs, homes, families, and friends. Everyone feels fear for their families' futures. To worry about your future, and the future of your family, is understandable. We should be concerned and trying to help them achieve the best outcome for them in all areas of their lives.

But if a Christian cannot stand up for his religious convictions, this is a sin against God. It is, in fact, a great sin against God, as I will now explain to you. When you listen to Rev 21:7-8, you will hear being fearful is the first one listed before other sins, sins which we may regard as greater offences to God. Listen to this passage of scripture from.

*Rev 21:7 He who overcomes will inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he will be My son.*

*Rev 21:8 But the fearful, and the unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, will have their part in the Lake burning with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.*

In verse 7, we perceive the reward of those who have overcome. They are the sons and daughters of God.

Then in verse 8 the fearful are mentioned first even before murderers. These fearful are not those who are worried about their families

The ones who could not conquer their fears are listed even before the murderers, showing that fear is deemed a greater weakness than murder. To prevent embarrassment and rejection, they conform to the world's ways and reject God. They resist the goodness of God rather than rejecting fear and bad influences, no matter where they come from.

The sins following that of being fearful may seem to us to be greater sins. Sins such as murder, lies and whoremongering. These are in our eyes greater sins than being cowardly. So why does God list being fearful first in this list, and make it punishable by the second death? Anything deserving the second death has to be an extremely serious sin against God.

These fearful people do not show loyalty to their sovereign God. They will put their own desires and welfare before the will of God. They violate the first of the commandments by not putting God first. Therefore, it is not surprising the first sin listed here violates the first and greatest commandment as told to us in Mat 22:36-37.

*Mat 22:36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"*

*Mat 22:37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."*

If we have this type of love for our God, a true and strong love, it will make us fearless and give us the strength we need to resist Satan. It showed this to us in.

*1Jn 4:18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.*

This type of fear is not the same as the natural fear I mentioned earlier, like losing your job. This fear will put one's own interests well before those of God, as a person puts self and their own safety before Jesus. What did Jesus demand from his followers to do in Mat 10:37-39?

*Mat 10:37 "Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me."*



*Mat 10:38 Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me.*

*Mat 10:39 Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.*

I hope you can understand just how damaging it is to reject Jesus because you fear for your own welfare. Many people throughout the ages have suffered great pain and death because of their faith and trust in God. Satan is always in the shadows, trying to steal our faith and have us conform to the ways of this world. But our faith must drive out all fear as we earnestly cling to Jesus.

We see here that fear will cause us to reject God in favour of caring for ourselves. If we are to love God with our whole heart, soul and mind, we will fear no-one, or anything that may cause us to doubt the goodness of God. This fearfulness comes about from a lack of faith. Genuine faith will never be fearful of the future with God. Study Mat chapter 10:26-28 to envisage who you must fear the most.

*Mat 10:26 Therefore do not fear them, for there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed, and nothing hidden which shall not be known.*

*Mat 10:27 What I tell you in darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear, proclaim on the housetops.*

*Mat 10:28 And do not fear those who kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul. But rather fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.*

Therefore, do not be fearful for matters of your faith. And do not shrink away from God. We must trust our Almighty Creator and reject any thoughts of fear of being intimidated or bullied because we put Him first in our lives. One important thing I need to point out is the meaning behind verse 28. Read carefully the last part of this verse and observe that God can destroy both body and soul in the fires of hell. This disproves the commonly held idea by many churches that we have an immortal soul that lives forever. If God can destroy it, then it is not immortal. For more information on this topic, please watch my video titled "Do We Have Immortality".

God expects his children to live by faith. We cannot foresee our futures, so we must accept all that God has recorded in his Bible by faith. Faith in God is vital if we are going to please him as we can behold see in.

*Heb 10:38 And, "But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back."*

*Heb 10:39 But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved.*

We are not of those who shrink back, those who are fearful, or those who are fearful because of the word of God. Verse 38 explains Jesus will take no pleasure in those who shrink back, those who are fearful because of his calling. We must learn to rely on God for everything, as we see in Pro 3:3-6.

*Pro 3:3 Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.*

*Pro 3:4 Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.*

*Pro 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;*

*Pro 3:6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.*

This is the best advice I can give to anyone who is seeking God. Seek him with your whole heart and do not be fearful about what any man can do to you. Do not be afraid to speak the truth whenever the occasion arises. Lean not on your own understanding. This means to rely upon God.

When are you being fearful because of your faith? When you are too afraid to speak the truth in love whenever you have the opportunity. Or when you refuse to answer a question honestly in case you offend. This is when you are being fearful. Whenever you cannot keep God's laws due to what other people may think of you, and this includes family and friends, you are committing a sin against God. It is better to offend those who disagree with you than to offend God.

We are rapidly approaching a time of trouble that the world has never experienced before.. Seven years known as the tribulation. A time when Christians will need to rely upon God for everything. When they can expect to be persecuted, and some will even experience death at the hands of those who hate Christians.

As I do not believe in a pre-tribulation rapture, I can foresee this time of trouble as being a dangerous time for Christians and Jews alike. A time when we are going to need God, and his indwelling Holy Spirit, for the ability to withstand the forces of evil that will be against us. Remember the following scriptures to help strengthen you during this time starting in:

*2Ti 1:7 For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.*

Also

*Deu 31:6 Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."*

And

*1Jn 4:18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.*

God's spirit will give us power, love, and self-discipline. He will never leave nor forsake us, and his love will overcome our fear if we remain in him. Beautiful promises we can depend upon, even when our situation may seem hopeless. To enter God's Kingdom is worth far more than what other people may think of you now. Keep your eyes on this remarkable future and never be fearful about matters of God.

Thank you for reading this book, and may our Almighty God bless you and your family.

Thank You.



## Old Testament

In the old testament Nehemiah the prophet was threatened, told there were assassins coming to kill him. They were attempting to intimidate him and cause him to fear what men were coming to do to him. Notice Nehemiah's response and why they were not successful.

*Neh 6:10 One day I went to the house of Shemaiah son of Delaiah, the son of Mehetabel, who was shut in at his home. He said, "Let us meet in the house of God, inside the temple, and let us close the temple doors, because men are coming to kill you—by night they are coming to kill you."*

*Neh 6:11 But I said, "Should a man like me run away? Or should someone like me go into the temple to save his life? I will not go!"*

*Neh 6:12 I realized that God had not sent him, but that he had prophesied against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him.*

*Neh 6:13 He had been hired to intimidate me so that I would commit a sin by doing this, and then they would give me a bad name to discredit me.*

*Neh 6:14 Remember Tobiah and Sanballat, my God, because of what they have done; remember also the prophet Noadiah and how she and the rest of the prophets have been trying to intimidate me.*

Verse 13 is the vital part to understand. They hired Shemaiah to intimidate Nehemiah, make him doubt God, to make him fearful of what would happen to him. Make him fear for his own life and not trust God, and therefore, to sin. Listen to the advice of King Solomon in Proverbs 14 verse 32

*Pro 14:32 When calamity comes, the wicked are brought down, but even in death the righteous seek refuge in God.*

So always trust God to have your best interests at heart and do not be fearful because of your faith. It is much better to die for Jesus than to live your life as a coward and be rejected by our Lord.

Please take the advice of King Solomon and be faithful even in death. Thank you for reading and may God bless you and keep you from all harm.



## About The Author

Leslie Rendell has been studying the bible for most of his life. When he is researching a topic, he looks at what other people have said in their books, or on the world wide web. He believes it is important to see opinions from every angle of a subject to be able to give his own informed decision. But still the most important reference is always the bible. There is no other authority when it comes to matters of what God expects from those He has created in His own image. If there is a conflict between the bible and man's thoughts, The bible will win every time.

All though he has not had any formal bible education, he believes the bible can be understood by the average bible reader. Otherwise how could they ever understand what God's will is for their lives?

Apart from bible studies, Leslie loves to spend time with his family watching his daughter grow into a wonderful woman and mother. His grand children starting on their life journeys, and now some great grand children to watch growing up. It is a special time in his life to see his family grow.

He is retired and now lives in the South West of Western Australia. Apart from his love of the Bible and his family, his other hobby is photography, where he loves to photograph God's creation.

If you have read one of Leslie's books, he would appreciate you leaving a comment on his website ([www.lesliarendell.com](http://www.lesliarendell.com))





## **Don't miss out!**

Visit the website below and you can sign up to receive emails whenever Leslie Rendell publishes a new book. There's no charge and no obligation.

<https://books2read.com/r/B-A-VDUV-FNYMC>

**BOOKS  READ**

Connecting independent readers to independent writers.

## Also by Leslie Rendell

### **Bible Studies**

Three Days and Three Nights  
According To Your Faith  
Do Not Conform  
How Long Was Jesus Christ in the Tomb  
The Law of Moses  
Abraham, Jesus and the Cross  
Do We Have Immortal Souls  
Be Holy  
Is Being Fearful A Sin Against God  
Mockers and the Return of Jesus Christ  
Teachers During The Tribulation  
Tearing of The Curtain in The Temple  
The Thief On The Cross Alongside Jesus Christ  
What Is The Rapture  
The Imminence of the Rapture is a False Teaching.  
Why The Pre-Tribulation Rapture Theory Is False  
Are You Hindered By Satan  
Satan is Targeting Man's Free Will  
Why Is There So Much Suffering In Our World  
The Sign of Jonah  
Evil Is The Rejection Of God  
Satan, Spirit Being With Many Names  
Have Faith In God  
Only One Sign  
The Lord's Passover

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ  
Jesus The Christ  
The Purpose of Jesus The Christ  
The Family Of Our Lord  
The Law Of Christ  
Christ's Sacrifice Is Sufficient  
Palm Saturday  
Why We Should Fast And Pray

Watch for more at <https://www.lesliendell.com>.



