

God is a Big, Bad Bully; Right?

*(How to face and overcome your irrational
fear of God)*
(SERIES: Fear Less; Live More; 02 of 08)
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"Let everyone in all the world--men, women and children--fear the
Lord and stand in awe of him." (Psa 33:8)

Why We Fear God

What is God like?

"The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice. Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. Fire goes before him and consumes his foes on every side. His lightning lights up the world; the earth sees and trembles. The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth. The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all peoples see his glory. All who worship images are put to shame, those who boast in idols—worship him, all you gods!" (Psalm 97)

What does God want?

What does God want from me?

"And remember that your heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites when he judges. He will judge you with perfect justice for everything you do; so act in reverent fear of him from now on until you get to heaven." (1 Pet 1:17)

3 Portraits of God

God Is Our Creator.

God Is Our Lord.

"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments." (Exodus 20)

God Is Our Lover.

The 3 levels of fear

1; The fear of what God might do to me.

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." (2 Pet 3:9)

2; The fear of what God might do with me.

"Yes, be bold and strong! Banish fear and doubt! For remember, the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Josh 1:9)

3; The fear of what God might do without me.

"Send home any of your men who are timid and frightened." So twenty-two thousand of them left, and only ten thousand remained who were willing to fight. But the Lord told Gideon, 'There are still too many! Bring them down to the spring and I'll show you which ones shall go with you and which ones shall not.' So Gideon assembled them at the water. There the Lord told him, 'Divide them into two groups decided by the way they drink. In Group 1 will be all the men who cup the water in their hands to get it to their mouths and lap it like dogs. In Group 2 will be those who kneel, with their mouths in the stream.' Only three hundred of the men drank from their hands; all the others drank with their mouths to the stream. 'I'll conquer the Midianites with these three hundred!' the Lord told Gideon. 'Send all the others home'" (Judg 7:3-7)