The Big Picture

*Finding God’s Purposes in 1 Peter*

Pastor Toby • Week 14 • 10/2/2022

**Reasons to Fear God**

1 Peter 1:17-21

Why Should I Take God Seriously?

* We will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to God for our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 17a)
* We live behind \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 17b; also 2:11, 5:8-9)
* We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to God. (vs. 18-20)
* We are totally \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on God. (vs. 21b)

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Debrief Plan: 10/2/2022

**Icebreakers**:

1. What is the worst storm (rain or snow) you remember ever going through?
2. Who is someone (excluding your parents) you had a ***healthy*** fear of when you were growing up? How did that “fear” affect your relationship with them?

**Sermon Summary**: When God asks us to pursue the actions of holiness (consecration) with the proper attitude for holiness (fear), He has his reasons. He expects us to pursue holiness with fear because we know that we will answer to God for our actions, because we are living in the Enemy’s territory, and because we belong to a God upon whom we are totally dependent. It’s up to us to decide if these reasons satisfy.

**Discussion Questions**:

1. Is it okay to ask God to explain Himself? If you think so, then why is it okay? When, if ever, does questioning God go too far?
2. When God disciplines his children in Scripture (focus in on the New Testament, for now), what methods does he use?
3. **Read 2 Chronicles 19:4-7.** In this passage, King Jehoshaphat is teaching judges how to judge properly, in a way that would please the Lord. How is “the fear of the Lord” connected to being a good judge? Why would a good judge need to fear the Lord?
4. What methods does Satan use to “devour” Christians today in America? Around the world?
5. It seems that one of Satan’s biggest strategies is to get us to forget about Jesus and His death on the Cross on our behalf. But why? Why would it be in Satan’s best interest for us to forget about Jesus and His death for us?
6. **Read John 6:66** (sorry about the numbers…haha). Have you ever had a moment in time like Peter did here, to realize you had nowhere else you could go for life but to Jesus? If so, tell your group about it- also, was it a scary realization or a relief?
7. Are these “reasons” that God gives for fearing Him in this whole passage (1 Peter 1:17-21) satisfying enough or do you wish there was more clarity, more explanations?