

**HEALING STREAM MINISTRIES presents...**

**THE UNDILUTED, FULL STRENGTH, THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES  
with enough power to...**

- **cleanse from all sin**
- **set us free from all bondage**
- **break all the power of the enemy over us**
- **restore us to total spiritual health**
- **develop immunity to all last-day deceptions**

### **#19 – How to Fear God and Not Be Afraid**

*“Fear God and give glory to Him”* (Revelation 14:7). On the surface this text sounds so negative, but when you look at it from the totality of all of Scripture, this is a most positive injunction. You can actually fear God and not be afraid. Why? Because the fear of God draws us into a close, heart-to-heart relationship with Him. Though this to some may seem like a paradox, yet the fear of God is actually a “good” fear. Look for a moment at these Scriptures:

- *“And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me. Yea, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul”* (Jeremiah 32:40,4).
- *“O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!”* (Deuteronomy 5:29).
- *“I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. Oh, fear the Lord, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him. Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you”* (Psalm 34:4,9,11)

And yet we cannot ignore texts such as these (for all Scripture is inspired by God).

- *“With promises like these made to us, dear brethren, let us wash off all that can soil either body or spirit, to reach perfection of holiness in the fear of God* (2 Corinthians 7:1 – Jerusalem).
- *“It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God”* (Hebrews 10:31 KJV).
- *“Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men”* (2 Corinthians 10:31).

Would you as a believer be willing to live with a paradox, in which two apparently mutually exclusive statements are still true. This is what Mike Yaconelli, the late founder of *Youth Specialties*, did when he convincingly wrote about the two sides of fear:

“The tragedy of modern faith is that we no longer are capable of being terrified. We aren’t afraid of God, we aren’t afraid of Jesus, we aren’t afraid of the Holy Spirit. As a result, we have ended up with a need-centered gospel that attracts thousands...but transforms no one. “I would like to suggest that the church become a place of terror again; a place where God continually has to tell us, ‘Fear not;’ a place where our relationship with God is not a simple belief or a doctrine or theology, but it is God’s burning presence in our lives. I am suggesting that the tame God of relevance be replaced by the God whose very presence shatters our egos into dust, burns our sin into ashes, and strips us naked to reveal the real person within....The church needs to become a gloriously dangerous place where nothing is safe in God’s presence except us. Nothing – including our plans, our agendas, our priorities, our politics, our money, our security, our comfort, our possessions, our needs...Our world is longing to see people whose God is big and holy and frightening and gentle and tender...and ours; a God whose love frightens us into His strong and powerful arms where He longs to whisper those terrifying words, ‘I love you.’”

<http://www.youthspecialties.com/articles/Yaconelli/fear.php>

In C.S. Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, Mr. Beaver describes the might and majesty of Aslan, the Lion-God. When he finishes, Lucy asks, "Is...is he safe?" Replies Mr. Beaver: "Safe? Who said anything about safe? 'Course he isn't safe. But he's good. He's the King I tell you." This is our God: hardly safe but thoroughly good. We cling to the King in fear, but much too afraid to let go.

John Newton, author of *Amazing Grace*, put it this way, “ ‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.”