

# Created to Fear: How Fear Transforms Our Likeness – Keynote #1

Dr. Dale Johnson

## I. Categories of Fear

### A. Modern Psychopathologies:

1. Generalized Anxiety Disorder
2. Panic Disorder
3. Agoraphobia
4. Separation Anxiety Disorder

### B. Phobias:

1. Aerophobia
2. Papyrophobia
3. Acrophobia
4. Nyctophobia

## II. To Fear or Not To Fear

Fear \_\_\_\_\_

Genesis 15:1

Genesis 26:24

Matthew 10:31-40

Luke 12:32

1 Peter 3:14

1 John 4:18

Fear the \_\_\_\_\_

Exodus 1:17-21

Deuteronomy 6:1-2

Exodus 20:18-21

Joshua 24:14

Matthew 10:28

### III. We Worship What We \_\_\_\_\_

#### A. Basic Anthropological Principle

##### 1. Proverbs 1:7

a) The Fear of \_\_\_\_\_ is the beginning of knowledge.

##### 2. Proverbs 9:10

b) The Fear of \_\_\_\_\_ is the beginning of wisdom.

#### B. Luke 4:8 (Deuteronomy 6:13)

1. We serve what we \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_.

### IV. We Become Like What We \_\_\_\_\_

#### A. Psalm 115:1-9

##### 1. The work of man's hands:

- a) Mouths but cannot speak
- b) Eyes but cannot see
- c) Ears but cannot hear
- d) Noses but cannot smell
- e) Hands but cannot feel
- f) Feet but cannot walk

2. We conform ourselves into what we \_\_\_\_\_. In contrast, God transforms us when we trust in \_\_\_\_\_. He rescues us from ourselves. (Psalm 115:9)

#### B. Genesis 20:11

#### C. 2 Corinthians 3:18

#### D. Romans 8:29

E. "What people revere, they resemble, either for ruin or restoration."- G.K. Beale, *We Become What We Worship*, 16

"If what you most value can be taken away or destroyed, then you set yourself up for anxiety." –David Powlison, *Seeing with New Eyes*, 115.

# The Anchor of the Soul – Keynote #2

Hebrews 6:19

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## I. Introduction

A. Matthew 7 – (Foundation of the Soul)

B. Normal difficulties of life:

1. Satan’s temptations
2. Your own corruptions
3. Trials from the world

## II. We Have This \_\_\_\_\_ Of the Soul

1. “The world is like a sea, restless, unstable, and dangerous.” -Charles Spurgeon
  - a. What is your anchor?
  
  - b. What is your anchor made of?
  
  - c. You will live an unhappy life if what anchors you are the circumstances of your life.

## III. The Anchor of Christ is \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Certain, firm, immovable: the compound word meaning “not to make totter, not to baffle”
- B. The anchor is sure because of the faithfulness of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. 1 Corinthians 15:19-23

**IV. The Anchor of Christ Is \_\_\_\_\_**

1. "Sustaining one's steps in going."
2. The result because of the certain hope and stability of the anchor.
3. We travel miles down different roads chasing hope on the winds of \_\_\_\_\_, but in the end we will find it all \_\_\_\_\_.

**V. The Anchor of Christ Is \_\_\_\_\_**

**A. Our anchor is hidden within the veil!**

**B. Hebrews 9:11-14**

**VI. Only For We Who Have Fled For \_\_\_\_\_!**





## Paralysis of Analysis – Keynote #4

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“If what you most value can be taken away or destroyed, then you set yourself up for anxiety.” -David Powlison

“The carnal person fears man, not God. The strong Christian fears God, not man. The weak Christian fears man too much and God too little.”

-John Flavel, *Triumphing Over Sinful Fear*

### I. The Vice Grip of \_\_\_\_\_

a. Proverbs 29:25

b. Philippians 4:6

“When we are gripped with anxiety and fear, we are making an evaluation. Our souls are speaking, and our innermost being is expressing what we believe and whom we do not believe. How do we handle these emotions that can overwhelm us? We put a stranglehold on them with the vice grips of truth.”

-Borgman, *Feelings and Faith*, 128.

### II. The Mind is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Soul

a. Everything we \_\_\_\_\_, everything we \_\_\_\_\_, and everything we \_\_\_\_\_ makes a statement about God.

“So, when I give way to anxiety, I am, in effect believing that God does not care for me and that He will not take care of me in the particular circumstances that triggers my anxiety of the moment... it is a lack of acceptance of God’s providence in our lives.” -Jerry Bridges, *Respectable Sins*, 64.

b. The \_\_\_\_\_ plies deceit to knock out the watchman of your soul: your mind. -Kris Lundgaard, *The Enemy Within*, 55.

1. Hebrews 3:13

2. Ephesians 4:22

“I do not doubt that it is one of the devil’s great designs to keep us in continual fear and alarm, and to puzzle our heads and hearts with a thousand difficulties, which will probably never come upon us (even if they do, they will never prove as fatal as we imagine). He does this to unfit us for the present duties and to destroy our comfort in them.” -Flavel, *Triumphing Over Sinful Fear*

### III. Convincing Case of Circumstances

#### A. Persecution since Acts 7, 1 Peter 1:1, James 1:1, to the dispersed

##### 1. Prosecution

a) \_\_\_\_\_

##### 2. Defense

- a) **Philippians 1:12-13** *“I want you to know brothers, that what has happened to me (circumstances) has really served to advance the gospel. So that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.”*
- b) **Philippians 1:29-30** *“For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him, but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.”*
- c) **Philippians 2:14-15** *“Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.”*
- d) **Rejoice** (written 8 times)
  - (1) **Philippians 1:18 (2x)** *“What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed and in that I **rejoice**. Yes, and I will **rejoice** (χαίρω).”*
  - (2) **Philippians 2:17** *“Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and **rejoice** with you all.”*
  - (3) **Philippians 2:18** *“Likewise you all should be glad and **rejoice** with me.”*
  - (4) **Philippians 2:28** *“I am the more eager to send him so that when you see him again you may **rejoice** and I may be less concerned about you.”*
  - (5) **Philippians 3:1** *“Finally, my brothers, **rejoice** in the Lord.”*

**(6) Philippians 4:4 (2x)** *“Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice.”*

**3. \_\_\_\_\_ for the Soul**

**a) The Lord is Near (Consolation in the Coming of Christ)**

**(1) James 5:8** *“You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.”*

**(2) Titus 2:11-14** *“For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.”*

**(3) Paul’s use in Philippians**

**(4) Philippians 1:6** *“And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”*

**(5) Philippians 1:18b-23** *“Yes, and I will rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.”*

**(6) Philippians 2:9-11** *“Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*

**(7) Philippians 3:7-10** *“But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes*

*from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.”*

**(8) Philippians 3:18-21** *“For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.”*

#### 4. Due \_\_\_\_\_

a) **Be Anxious for Nothing (You do not get to the \_\_\_\_\_ without the \_\_\_\_\_ that come before)**

**(9) Philippians 3:3** *“For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh.”*

**(a)** *“To Trust in any creature as if it had God’s power to help us, or to fear any creature as if it had God’s power to hurt us, is exceedingly sinful.” -Flavel, *Triumphing Over Sinful Fear**

**(b)** *“Fear consults with flesh and blood, while faith engages God to supply strength to endure the siege.” -Flavel, *Triumphing Over Sinful Fear**

**(10) Matthew 6:30** *“But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?”*

**(11)** Do not get caught up in the things of this world.

**(a) Matthew 6:19-21** *“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

**(12)** Be not constantly thinking of the needs of this mortal life.

(a) **Colossians 3:1-4** *“If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.”*

(13) The danger of fretting about the future, as Matthew 6:34 points out, is that tomorrow has enough trouble of its own. God does not provide grace for tomorrow, only for today. **Matthew 6:25-34**

b) **Prayer: Turning of Your \_\_\_\_\_ to God:**

(1) Matthew 6:33

(2) Colossians 3

(c) \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Parable of the persistent widow

(2) **Luke 18:6-8** *“And the Lord said, ‘Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?’”*

(d) **Thanksgiving**

(1) Christ models this in the Lord’s Prayer: “Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name.”

(2) Looking Back at the Faithfulness of God

(a) **Psalm 18:** reminds us of the great character of God. Strong tower and rock.

(b) **Psalm 106**

(c) **Psalm 145 and 78**

(3) Looking forward to the promises of God!

“If we thoroughly understood and believe what power is in God’s hand to defend us, what tenderness is in His heart to help us, and what faithfulness is in His promises, our hearts will be calm—our courage will grow stronger and our fear will grow weaker.” -Flavel, *Triumphing Over Sinful Fear*

#### **IV. Changing of the Guard**

##### **a. Peace of God**

1. When one sees that He is no longer at war with God. This can only happen as a person is in Christ Jesus, because without Christ, no one’s conscience could be clear.
2. Ephesians 2:14-18
3. Isaiah 9:6

##### **b. Guard your \_\_\_\_\_**

1. **Proverbs 4:23** “*Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.*”

##### **c. Guard your \_\_\_\_\_**

1. “Our consciences’ peace is directly proportionate to the degree to which the fear of God prevails in our hearts.” -Flavel, *Triumphing Over Sinful Fear*
2. “How highly does it become us, both as creatures and as sinners, to submit to the appointments of our Maker! and how necessary is it to our peace! – John Newton, *The Letters of John Newton*, 137.

# God Is Our Refuge – Keynote #5

Psalm 46:1-3

Dr. T. Dale Johnson

## I. God Is Our \_\_\_\_\_

### a. Old Testament passages:

- i. **Proverbs 18:10** *“The name of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous run into it and they are safe.”*
- ii. **Psalm 61:1-4** *“Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer, from the end of the earth I will call to you when my heart is faint. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I, for you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy. Let me dwell in your tent forever! Let me take refuge under the shelter of your wings!”*
- iii. **Psalm 62:6-8** *“He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. On God rests my salvation and glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God.”*

b. Our true \_\_\_\_\_ is in God, not God plus something else.

c. We will be found hiding \_\_\_\_\_, or we will be found hiding \_\_\_\_\_.

i. Hiding from him:

1. **Genesis 3**

2. **Revelation 6:15-16**

ii. Hiding in him:

1. **Colossians 3:1-3-**

2. “Clothed in our shame, crowned with our thorns, and exposed to the judgment of God that we deserve—Jesus is our hiding place. Outside of Christ, there is no safe place to hide, but being found in Christ there is peace and safety” -Eric Watkins, Ligonier

3. “God is sufficiently able to protect his own people.” – Calvin

## II. God Is Our \_\_\_\_\_

### a. Old Testament:

- i. **Psalm 28:8** *“The Lord is the strength of his people.”*
- ii. **Psalm 59:9** *“O my Strength, I will watch for you, for you, O God, are my fortress.”*
- iii. **Psalm 118:13-14** *“I was pushed hard, so that I was falling, but the LORD helped me. The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.”*
- iv. **Psalm 81:1** *“Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.”*
- v. **Psalm 20:7** *“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.”*

### b. New Testament:

- i. **2 Corinthians 12:9-10**
  
- ii. **Ephesians 3:16-20**

## III. God Is Our \_\_\_\_\_ In Troubles

- a. Abundantly available for help!
- b. HE will be \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Isaiah 55:6, Psalm 34:18
- d. IN TROUBLES
  - i. Distresses of all kinds
  - ii. Tight places
- e. George Swinnock – “God’s justice seeks a worthy object, God’s grace seeks an unworthy object, but God’s mercy seeks a needy object.”

## IV. We Will Not \_\_\_\_\_

- a. What we see by our senses and what we know by faith?
- b. **Psalm 93:4** *“Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty.”*

**V. Though The \_\_\_\_\_ Give Way**

- a. The curses of evil are inherent instability.
- b. Of the things that have been made, these elements—earth and mountains—are most unchanging. (Psalm 104:5-9, Psalm 102:25ff)
- c. These fixed elements of the earth shift and change like shadows, they are moved. They provide no certain security. The final security of God's people is made clear. He is the only thing unchanging that cannot be thwarted. This is why he is our refuge and strength. This is why he is our help in trouble.