

Fear of God – Luke 12:1-10

In the meantime, when an innumerable multitude of people had gathered together, so that they trampled one another, [Jesus] began to say to His disciples first *of all*, “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. ²For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known. ³Therefore whatever you have spoken in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have spoken in the ear in inner rooms will be proclaimed on the housetops.

⁴“And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. ⁵But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!

⁶“Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. ⁷But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

⁸“Also I say to you, whoever confesses Me before men, him the Son of Man also will confess before the angels of God. ⁹But he who denies Me before men will be denied before the angels of God.

¹⁰“And anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but to him who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven.

Open: What is something that everyone should be afraid of?

→What words in the passage need to be explained for you?

1. Who are the main people involved in this story?
2. What is going on as the story begins?
3. What does Jesus say will happen to things that are hidden? (v. 2)
4. What should we be afraid of, according to Jesus? (v. 5)
5. Jesus says “Do not fear” in v. 7. What should take away the fear mentioned in v. 5?
6. What happens to someone who denies Jesus before others? (v. 9)
7. What will be forgiven in v. 10? What will not be forgiven?

Apply

- What things do you fear more than you fear God?
- Do you see yourself as valuable to God?

God’s goodness makes his presence dreadful to us. When a poor sinful creature sees this great God, his great goodness of heart, and the mercy he gives to him, this makes his presence all the more frightening.

John Bunyan (1628-1688)