

Pastor Ron Case  
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## **“The Gift of Godly Fear”**

*“The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, that one may turn away from the snares of death.” (Proverbs 14:27)*

### **Gift from God**

**Jeremiah 32:39-40** – (39) **“I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for their own good and the good of their children after them.**

**(40) I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them. And I will put the fear of me in their hearts, that they may not turn from me.”**

### **Ignoring the Gift**

**Genesis 3:1-6** – (1) **“Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God actually say, You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’ (2) And the woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, (3) but God said, You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’ (4) But the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not surely die. (5) For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’ (6) So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.”**

### **The Heart of the Matter**

**Acts 5:1-5, 11** – (1) **“But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, (2) and with his wife’s knowledge he kept back for himself some of the proceeds and brought only a part of it and laid it at the apostles’ feet. (3) But Peter said, ‘Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? (4) While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.’ (5) When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last... (11) And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things.”**

<b>Key Point: Remove Godly Fear – Death is Near</b>
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## **Response:**

### **Stay Sensitive to the Holy Spirit**

“Were they ashamed when they committed abomination? No, they were not at all ashamed; they did not know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; at the time that I punish them, they shall be overthrown,” says the LORD.” (Jeremiah 6:15)

### **Be on High Alert Regarding the Hardening Process**

“Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today,’ that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.” (Hebrews 3:12-13)

### **Watch out for Worldly Wishful Thinking**

“As she glorified herself and lived in luxury, so give her a like measure of torment and mourning, since in her heart she says, ‘*I sit as a queen, I am no widow, and mourning I shall never see.*’ For this reason her plagues will come in a single day, death and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for mighty is the Lord God who has judged her.” (Revelation 18:7-8)

## **Questions:**

What impacted me the most in this message?

Are there sins that I have “kept back”, that I have come to peace with?  
(2 Cor. 7:1; 1 John 1:9)

Do I have difficulty with connecting Godly fear with grace?  
(Romans 2:4-5; Psalm 19:9a)