

Pastor Ron Case
9/18/16

“Fear”

Abraham (Part 14)

“But the LORD of hosts, him you shall regard as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.” (Isaiah 8:13)

Fear Facade

Genesis 20:1-2a – (1) “From there Abraham journeyed toward the territory of the Negeb and lived between Kadesh and Shur; and he sojourned in Gerar. (2) And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, ‘She is my sister...’”

Fear Fallout

Genesis 20:2b-8 – (2) “...And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. (3) But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, ‘Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man’s wife.’ (4) Now Abimelech had not approached her. So he said, ‘Lord, will you kill an innocent people? (5) Did he not himself say to me, ‘She is my sister’? And she herself said, ‘He is my brother.’ In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this.’ (6) Then God said to him in the dream, ‘Yes, I know that you have done this in the integrity of your heart, and it was I who kept you from sinning against me. Therefore I did not let you touch her. (7) Now then, return the man’s wife, for he is a prophet, so that he will pray for you, and you shall live. But if you do not return her, know that you shall surely die, you, and all who are yours.’ (8) So Abimelech rose early in the morning and called all his servants and told them all these things. And the men were very much afraid.”

Fear Facilitator

Genesis 20:9-13 – (9) “Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, ‘What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done.’ (10) And Abimelech said to Abraham, ‘What did you see, that you did this thing?’ (11) Abraham said, ‘I did it because I thought, There is no fear of God at all in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife. (12) Besides, she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father though not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife. (13) And when God caused me to wander from my father’s house, I said to her, ‘This is the kindness you must do me: at every place to which we come, say of me, He is my brother.’”

Fear Captivates/Faith Liberates
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Faith Antidote

Genesis 20:17-18 – (17) “**Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore children.**
(18) **For the LORD had closed all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham’s wife.”**

Fear Fumigation

“The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is safe.”
(Proverbs 29:25)

“I, I am he who comforts you; who are you that you are afraid of man who dies, of the son of man who is made like grass, and have forgotten the LORD, your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth, and you fear continually all the day because of the wrath of the oppressor, when he sets himself to destroy? And where is the wrath of the oppressor?” (Isaiah 51:12-13)

“Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.” (Hebrews 2:14-15)

Questions to Ponder:

- (1) What impacted me most from this message?**
- (2) Who should I fear? (Luke 12:4-5; Rev. 14:7)**
- (3) Have I allowed ungodly, tormenting, limiting fear to impact my life and the lives of those in my sphere of influence? (Numbers 13:32-33, 14:1)**