The Fear of the Lord

Deuteronomy 10:12-13 commands us to fear, love, obey and serve the Lord. It suggests the question: *how can we both fear and enjoy the Lord?* In order to answer that question, consider the different ways in which we might fear the Lord.

**1. We may fear the *consuming fire***

Hebrews 10:26-31; 12:25-29

**2. We may fear the *Father’s discipline***

Hebrews 12:5-11

**3. We may fear the *loss of reward***

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

**4. We may fear the *presence of God***

Luke 1:11-12; 2:9; 9:34

**5. We may fear the *loss of fellowship***

1 John 1:3-9; Song of Solomon 5:2-8

**6. We may fear *dishonoring God***

Psalm 23:3; Ezekiel 36:20-23

**Conclusion** 1 John 3:24, 4:12-19

The Love that casts out fear is the *Holy Spirit*

The perfection of Love is the *fullness of the Spirit*

Full enjoyment of God lies in the *perfection of Love*

**For Personal Reflection or Family Discussion**

1. What was the most important or helpful thing you heard in the sermon?

2. What questions did the sermon raise in your mind?

 What was the most convicting part of the message?

3. The first three aspects of fear relate to what God might do to us. The last three relate to the nearness of God to us. Which aspects of the fear of the Lord have you experienced?

4. How might you move toward the perfect love that casts out fear?

5. The godly sorrow and repentance of the Corinthians for tolerating sin included fear (2 Corinthians 7:8-11). What aspects of fear might have been involved in their repentance?

6. How did Moses show his deep concern for God’s honor in Exodus 32:7-14?

**Summary of 1 John 3:24; 4:12-19**

1) God abides in us = the Spirit of God abides in us =
Love abides in us.

2) We abide in God = we abide in Love.

3) Therefore, the Spirit of God is the Love of God.