

# Fear Not

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## **I. On Wednesday, I preached “Fear Forasmuch”—So, are we to fear or not to fear?**

**1Pe 1:17-18** ...if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning *here* in **fear: Forasmuch...**

**Heb 10:30** For we know him that hath said, Vengeance *belongeth* unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

**Heb 10:31** *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

## **II. The angel’s words around the time of the birth of Christ**

### **A. To Mary**

**Luk 1:31** And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

**Luk 1:32** He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

**Luk 1:33** And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

### **B. To Joseph**

**Mat 1:20** But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

**Mat 1:21** And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

### **C. To the shepherds**

**Luk 2:8** And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

Luk 2:9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

Luk 2:10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

Luk 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Luk 2:12 And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

Luk 2:13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Luk 2:14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

### III. Charles Shultz: *Charlie Brown Christmas*

#### A. The cartoon opens with the children ice skating and the theme song

“Christmas time is here—Happiness and cheer”

#### B. Then the depressed Charlie is talking to Linus about the sadness of Christmas

“I think there’s something wrong with me, Linus.  
Christmas has come but I’m not happy...”

#### C. In Charlie’s search for the meaning of Christmas—He ends up with a dead tree

#### D. In the despair of a messed-up world, Charlie throws up his hands and yells

“Isn’t there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about?”

#### E. It closes with Linus telling Charlie about the meaning of Christmas (Luke 2:8-14)

Something very subtle (but very meaningful) happens during Linus’ monologue  
At the angel’s words, “fear not” — Linus drops his security blanket

### IV. Fear not

Luk 2:10 And the angel said unto them, **Fear not**: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

Luk 1:30 And the angel said unto her, **Fear not**, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

Mat 1:20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, **fear not** to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

Luk 12:6 Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God?

Luk 12:7 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. **Fear not** therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.

**Mat 28:5** And the angel answered and said unto the women, **Fear not** ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

**Mat 28:6** He is not here: for he is risen...

**Rev 1:17** And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, **Fear not**; I am the first and the last:

## **V. The very idea of the real God becoming a man gives us a sense of fearful wonder**

### **A. The miracle of the way God came**

#### **1. The God who is without beginning started from nothing—Conceived in a womb**

**1Ti 1:17** Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, *be* honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

#### **2. The God who filled the universe—Confined to a womb!**

**Jer 23:24** ...Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD.

#### **3. The Creator of all—Made of a woman!**

**Joh 1:1** In the beginning was the Word...and the Word was God...

**Joh 1:3** All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

### **B. The miracle of God as a real man**

#### **1. The Almighty who has limitless strength grew weary!**

**Joh 4:6** ...Jesus...being wearied with *his* journey, sat thus on the well...

#### **2. The God who does as He pleases, when He pleases, all He pleases was troubled!**

**Joh 12:27** Now is my soul troubled...

#### **3. Sovereignty sighed!**

**Mar 7:34** And looking up to heaven, he sighed...

#### **4. Omnipotence cried!**

**Heb 5:7** ...offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears...

### **C. The miracle of God on a cross**

#### **1. A manmade nail held the hand that none could stay!**

**Dan 4:35** ...none can stay his hand...

#### **2. Eternity died!**

**Joh 1:1** In the beginning was the Word...and the Word was God.

**Rom 5:6** ...when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

## **VI. To know the wonder that God sent His Son is to be able to face life with “fear not”**

**Luk 2:10** And the angel said unto them, **Fear not**: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy...

**1Jn 5:5** Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

**1Jn 4:9** In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

**Rom 8:31** ...If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us?

**Rom 8:32** He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

**Isa 43:1** But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called *thee* by thy name; thou *art* mine.

**Isa 43:2** When thou passest through the waters, I *will be* with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.

## **VII. To know what Jesus accomplished is to be able to face God with “fear not”**

**Luk 2:10** And the angel said unto them, **Fear not**: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy...

**2Co 5:18** And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ...

**Rom 5:10** For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

**2Co 5:18** ...God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

**2Co 5:19** To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

**2Co 5:20** Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

**Luk 1:79** ...to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Rom 10:15** ...How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

**Rom 8:35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

**Rom 8:36** As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

Rom 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Rom 8:38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

Rom 8:39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Luk 2:10 And the angel said unto them, **Fear not**: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy...