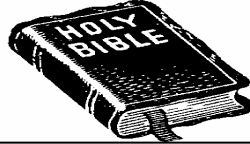


CLASS

LESSON NUMBER

253 A

THOUGHT PROVOKING BIBLE STUDIES



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SCARED TO DEATH? WHEN DO I NEED GOD?

- Why This Title?** *Several years ago your editor watched a TV show hosted by John Stossel of ABC entitled Are We Scaring Ourselves To Death? It was impressive and gave statistical odds that the things we fear and worry about most are much less likely to happen than things that skip across our minds and are quickly forgotten. Jesus said (Mt 10:28) to “fear him which is _____ to _____ both _____ and _____ in hell.” We should regularly assess and prioritize our worries and fears. Don’t we place far too much emphasis on superficial and immaterial things? _____*
- Phobias** Look in a good dictionary under *phobias* and you will find scores of fears that human beings allow to influence them emotionally and physically. The prophet (Jer 13:10) warned of evil people who “walk in the _____ of their heart.” What happened to the timely admonition that “We have nothing to fear but fear itself?” If you are truly afraid of something, it is very real to you. Until you overcome fear it sticks in your mind and controlling and restricting your behavior. God told the remnant of the Israelites (Zec 8:13) to “fear _____, but let your _____ be _____.”
- Which Is The Most Important – Body Or Soul?** Paul said (1 Tim 4:8) that “bodily exercise profiteth _____: but _____ is profitable unto _____ things.” Jesus asked (Mk 8:37), “What shall a man _____ in _____ for his soul?” Many people flock to the doctor for the least little ailments, fret about their diets, love to talk about the latest fads for “staying healthy,” and seem to believe they are experts physical health. Most of these same people rarely, if ever, read the Bible, attend a church service, or contemplate the well-being of their souls.
- “And Fears Shall Be In The Way”** This statement comes from (Eccl 12:5) in Solomon’s delineation of old age. It applies to the natural progression of aging. We suggest that the scope of human “fears” is much more complex in our 21st Century environment. Back then they worried primarily about simple survival with life’s minimal necessities. Today even many of our very young worry about always “feeling good,” cosmetic surgery, enhancing their sex life, looking good and “beating the odds” by dodging any over-exertion unless it is recreational. What should occupy our primary attention? (Col 3:2) “Set your _____ on things above, not on things on the earth.”
- When Do I Need God?** The answer depends on the one asking. Sadly, few ever think of needing God until they lose good health, develop personal, family, or financial problems, and everything begins to “fall apart” for them. They seem to have a plan, but they would never admit it. When I get “down and out” then I can always turn to God. (Mal 3:8) “Will a man _____ God?” The answer is YES! They may reply, “Wherein have we _____ thee?” It may not be in “_____ and offerings” but just as surely as one plans to deprive God of the best, most fruitful, years of his life, he is trying to perpetrate fraud on The Almighty. (Mal 1:8) “If ye _____ the _____ for sacrifice, is it not _____? and if ye offer the _____ and _____, is it not evil?”