

Afraid

When we are afraid, we should place our trust in the Lord. He has the ability (though not always the obligation) to make the object of our fears disappear.

- Exodus 14:13 **HCSB** But Moses said to the people, "Don't be afraid. Stand firm and see the LORD's salvation He will provide for you today; for the Egyptians you see today, you will never see again.
- Isaiah 12:2 **HCSB** Indeed, God is my salvation. I will trust *Him* and not be afraid. Because Yah, the LORD, is my strength and my song, He has become my salvation."



The Lord God is perfectly willing to fight for His people. We needn't be afraid of anyone.

- Deuteronomy 1:29-31 **HCSB** "So I said to you: Don't be terrified or afraid of them! The LORD your God who goes before you will fight for you, just as you saw Him do for you in Egypt. And you saw in the wilderness how the LORD your God carried you as a man carries his son all along the way you traveled until you reached this place.
- Deuteronomy 20:1-4 **HCSB** "When you go out to war against your enemies and see horses, chariots, and an army larger than yours, do not be afraid of them, for the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, is with you. When you are about to engage in battle, the priest is to come forward and address the army. He is to say to them: 'Listen, Israel: Today you are about to engage in battle with your enemies. Do not be fainthearted. Do not be afraid, alarmed, or terrified because of them. For the LORD your God is the One who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies to give you victory.'

God's ability to save us doesn't necessarily mean that He will keep us from ever struggling. Evildoers may come and go, armies may deploy and disintegrate, but when they all disappear, the Lord and His people will remain standing.

- Psalm 27 **HCSB** Davidic. The LORD is my light and my salvation--whom should I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life--of whom should I be afraid? When evildoers came against me to devour my flesh, my foes and my enemies stumbled and fell. Though an army deploy against me, my heart is not afraid; though war break out against me, still I am confident. I have asked one thing from the LORD; it is what I desire: to dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, gazing on the beauty of the LORD and seeking *Him* in His temple. For He will conceal me in His shelter in the day of adversity; He will hide me under the cover of His tent; He will set me high on a rock. Then my head will be high above my enemies around me; I will offer sacrifices in His tent with shouts of joy. I will sing and make music to the LORD. LORD, hear my voice when I call; be gracious to me and answer me. In Your behalf my heart says, "Seek My face." LORD, I will seek Your face. Do not hide Your face from me; do not turn Your servant away in anger. You have been my help; do not leave me or abandon me, God of my salvation. Even if my father and mother abandon me, the LORD cares for me. Because of my adversaries, show me Your way, LORD, and lead me on a level path. Do not give me over to the will of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, breathing violence. I am certain that I will see the LORD's goodness in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be courageous and let your heart be strong. Wait for the LORD.

We may ask “But how can this promise be? He says we will see pestilence and danger with our eyes but it will not reach us? How can that be true?” It is because God has the ability to resurrect His people to eternal life. Though our flesh may turn to dust, one day we will see our Redeemer in our flesh. Not a hair on our head will be lost. We will look around and everything we previously feared will have gone by the wayside.

- Psalm 91 [HCSB](#) The one who lives under the protection of the Most High dwells in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." He Himself will deliver you from the hunter's net, from the destructive plague. He will cover you with His feathers; you will take refuge under His wings. His faithfulness will be a protective shield. You will not fear the terror of the night, the arrow that flies by day, the plague that stalks in darkness, or the pestilence that ravages at noon. Though a thousand fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, the pestilence will not reach you. You will only see it with your eyes and witness the punishment of the wicked. Because you have made the LORD--my refuge, the Most High--your dwelling place, no harm will come to you; no plague will come near your tent. For He will give His angels orders concerning you, to protect you in all your ways. They will support you with their hands so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the young lion and the serpent. Because he is lovingly devoted to Me, I will deliver him; I will exalt him because he knows My name. When he calls out to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble. I will rescue him and give him honor. I will satisfy him with a long life and show him My salvation.
- [Job 19:25-27 HCSB](#) But I know my living Redeemer, and He will stand on the dust at last. (26) Even after my skin has been destroyed, yet I will see God in my flesh. (27) I will see Him myself; my eyes will look at *Him*, and not as a stranger. My heart longs within me.

Competence and discretion will eliminate much that we fear. We must constantly strive to be the best that we can be. That will remove the fear of being revealed as incompetents, losing our jobs or losing our relationships. Discretion will keep us from sin and tactless words. This will save us from the fear of being revealed as fools.

- Proverbs 3:21-24 [HCSB](#) Maintain *your* competence and discretion. My son, don't lose sight of them. They will be life for you and adornment for your neck. Then you will go safely on your way; your foot will not stumble. When you lie down, you will not be afraid; you will lie down, and your sleep will be pleasant.

People who place their trust in idols will soon discover that their fears are not revealed by their false gods. There is no one more fearful than an idolater. But when we place our trust in Yah, He will strengthen us and all who are enraged against us will end up ashamed and disgraced.

- Isaiah 41:5-13 [HCSB](#) The islands see and are afraid, the ends of the earth tremble. They approach and arrive. Each one helps the other, and says to another, "Take courage!" The craftsman encourages the metalworker; the one who flattens with the hammer *supports* the one who strikes the anvil, saying of the soldering, "It is good." He fastens it with nails so that it will not fall over. But you, Israel, My servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, descendant of Abraham, My friend-- I brought you from the ends of the earth and called you from its farthest corners. I said to you: You are My servant; I have chosen you and not rejected you. Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will hold on to you with

My righteous right hand. Be sure that all who are enraged against you will be ashamed and disgraced; those who contend with you will become as nothing and will perish. You will look for those who contend with you, but you will not find them. Those who war against you will become absolutely nothing. For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand and say to you: Do not fear, I will help you.

One of the worst and most deceitful of idolatries is the worship of money as a source of security. Anyone leaning on money will soon discover they are leaning on a rotten stick.

- Hebrews 13:5-6 **HCSB** Your life should be free from the love of money. Be satisfied with what you have, for He Himself has said, **I will never leave you or forsake you.** Therefore, we may boldly say: **The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?**



Often, when either God Himself or one of His messengers have intruded into the lives of His people, those people have been terrified by the power and majesty revealed by the encounter. But we never have anything to fear from either God or His holy angels. If we are obeying what we know, we never need to fear that God is not listening to our petitions. The only thing that could ever keep Him from heeding our prayers is ourselves.

- Daniel 10:12 **HCSB** "Don't be afraid, Daniel," he said to me, "for from the first day that you purposed to understand and to humble yourself before your God, your prayers were heard. I have come because of your prayers."

We do not need to fear the onslaughts of the universe. Our King is in control of the very elements. Even if it suits Him to allow them to kill us – so what? We'll end up in heaven in the presence of our King. This life's pains and miseries will be over. Our nomadic wanderings through these lowlands will be finished and we will truly be Highlanders.

- Mark 4:35-41 **HCSB** On that day, when evening had come, He told them, **"Let's cross over to the other side of the lake."** So they left the crowd and took Him along since He was *already* in the boat. And other boats were with Him. A fierce windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking over the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But He was in the stern, sleeping on the cushion. So they woke Him up and said to Him, "Teacher! Don't you care that we're going to die?" He got up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, **"Silence! Be still!"** The wind ceased, and there was a great calm. Then He said to them, **"Why are you fearful? Do you still have no faith?"** And they were terrified and asked one another, "Who then is this? Even the wind and the sea obey Him!"

Nothing this world can dispense should truly trouble our hearts because we know that there will soon be an end to it. Our King is coming back and when He does, He will dispense justice from His throne.

- John 14:1-4 **HCSB** **"Your heart must not be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if not, I would have told you. I am going away to prepare a place for you. If I go away and prepare a place for you, I will come back and receive you to Myself, so that where I am you may be also. You know the way where I am going."**

When we are struggling with fear, we need to turn to the Holy Spirit, our Comforter and Counselor. The Spirit will bring peace and direction.

- John 14:25-27 **HCSB** "I have spoken these things to you while I remain with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit--the Father will send Him in My name--will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you. "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Your heart must not be troubled or fearful.

We should not allow the persecution that often comes with speaking the truth cause us to be afraid of our persecutors. All they can touch is our bodies. Neither our minds nor our spirits are within their grasp. We need to reach out to and unite with other believers so that in our unity we will find a superior strength and peace.

- Acts 18:9-10 **HCSB** Then the Lord said to Paul in a night vision, "Don't be afraid, but keep on speaking and don't be silent. For I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to hurt you, because I have many people in this city."

We must constantly perfect our love for Adonai. The purer and more powerful the d'vekut, the weaker and more ephemeral our fears.

- 1 John 4:13-18 **HCSB** This is how we know that we remain in Him and He in us: He has given to us from His Spirit. And we have seen and we testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God--God remains in him and he in God. And we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and the one who remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him. In this, love is perfected with us so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; for we are as He is in this world. There is no fear in love; instead, perfect love drives out fear, because fear involves punishment. So the one who fears has not reached perfection in love.

