

## More Than Gold

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The “Madison Avenue” appeal in our nation is to be material. Look at the Home Shopping Network. It’s all about buying the gold. God is not opposed to us having gold (see Exodus 25; 1 Kings 6). But, gold itself is not important. Having Jesus in our life is all important!

Some people use gold as a standard to judge whether or not a person or a thing is important. In Bible times, gold was found among the worldly (Revelation 18:12,16), among the Jews (Matthew 23:16-17), and among Christians (James 2:1-2).

We may not have much gold, but if we have Jesus, we have all we need (Acts 3:6). Do you know that there are lots of things that are more precious than gold? Let’s take a look at some of them.

God’s word is more precious than gold (Psalm 19:7-11; 119:72,127). God’s wisdom is more precious than gold (Job 28:1,6,12-19; Proverbs 3:14-15; 8:10-11,19; 16:16; 20:15). A good name or reputation is more precious than gold (Proverbs 22:1). An enduring faith is more precious than gold (1 Peter 1:7). The blood of Jesus Christ is more precious than gold (1 Peter 1:18). A meek and quiet spirit is more precious than gold (1 Peter 3:3-4).

It is true, gold alone does not bring happiness (Ecclesiastes 2:8-11) and it does not last forever (Lamentations 4:1-2; James 5:1-6). God or gold, the choice is yours (2 Chronicles 25:5ff). - *Chris Reeves*

## Up-Coming Events

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- We will have a VBS workday and card distribution starting at 9 AM on June 3.
- Plan now to attend our up-coming VBS, June 5-9, 2017.

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ  
290 Warfield Blvd.  
Clarksville, TN 37043

Website  
WBCOC.org

Assembly Times  
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm  
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!  
For More Information Call  
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## THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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May 28, 2017



For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Fear often keeps a person from doing what he or she is supposed to do. When asked, "What are you afraid of?", people will respond in a number of different ways. Some are afraid of nuclear war, dying, failing in school, having a car accident, getting cancer, or not having a job. Others are afraid of rejection, being lonely, not having a boyfriend, girlfriend, or spouse, and disappointing a loved-one.

It was President Roosevelt who said, "The only thing we have to fear, is fear itself" (March, 4, 1933). He may have borrowed the thought from Henry David Thoreau who wrote in his journal of 1851, "Nothing is so much to be feared as fear."

In the Bible, there are a number of people who feared to do what was right and we can learn from them. In the Old Testament, there were the eight spies who told the Israelites that they were not able to conquer the Canaanites because the Israelites were too small. They feared the Canaanites and said: "...we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight" (Numbers 13:33).

There were the 22,000 of Gideon's army. They were fearful and did not want to fight the Midianites (Judges 7:3). There was King Saul. He did not obey the Lord and utterly destroy the Amalekites. His excuse for his disobedience was: "... because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice" (1 Samuel 15:24).

In the New Testament, there was the one talent man who would not do what his master told him to do. He said, "I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the earth" (Matthew 25:25). Peter was afraid. When he was walking on the water with Jesus, "... he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink, he cried out, saying Lord, save me" (Matthew 14:30).

There were the parents of the blind man. When they knew that Jesus had healed their son, they would not confess it because they "feared the Jews" and did not want to be rejected by them (John 9:22).

The chief religious rulers of the day also would not confess Jesus because they feared being cast out of the synagogue (John 12:42). Pilate was afraid when he heard the accusations against Jesus from the Jews (John 19:8). Felix was afraid when Paul preached about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come (Acts 24:25).

What are people afraid of today? Some are afraid to **STUDY THE SCRIPTURES**. They might learn that their family religion and training were wrong (Acts 26:9). They might learn that the church they are associated with is man-made and not found in the Bible; not a part of the "one body" of Christ (Ephesians 4:4). They might learn that those who call themselves by the Bible term, "Christian" (Acts 11:26) or "churches of Christ" (Romans 16:16) are right.

Some are afraid to **OBEY THE GOSPEL**. They are afraid that their parents might

object (Luke 14:26), or that the cost is too high to pay (Luke 14:28-33). They are afraid that their friends might reject them (Galatians 1:10). They are afraid to give up their sinful lifestyle (Acts 2:38).

Some are afraid to **LIVE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE**. They are afraid to be faithful in their living and so they err and fall away. Erring Christians will be lost if they do not repent (James 5:19-20). Erring Christians have an advocate in Jesus if they will confess their sins and forsake them (1 John 1:9-2:2).

Some are afraid to **STAND FOR THE TRUTH**. The Lord's church is the pillar and ground of the truth (1 Timothy 3:15), but some are afraid to stand for truth. Some are afraid to take the gospel to the lost (Matthew 28:18-20).

Friend, fear will cripple you and keep you from doing what God wants you to do. Will you let fear keep you out of heaven? There are two New Testament scriptures worth remembering concerning fear.

The first scripture is 2 Timothy 1:7: "*For God gave us not a spirit of fearfulness; but of power and love and discipline.*"

The second scripture is Revelation 21:8: "*But for the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, their part shall be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone; which is the second death.*" - Chris Reeves