

WEAVER STUDY GUIDES

The Differences Between Faith and Fear

Study Guide

Old Testament Studies

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A lesson-by-lesson companion for reading, discussion, and written responses.

Downloadable classroom edition | 8.5 x 11 inches

Name / group

Date

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Using this guide

Read the corresponding chapter, then work through the themes, arguments, and Scripture references.

Write your responses before discussing the questions with others. Use the application pages to identify a practical next step.

The study material is retained from the existing lecture study guides. Added writing prompts provide space for your own response.

Print at Actual Size / 100% on US Letter paper. Single-sided and double-sided printing are both suitable. Lessons begin on the next available page; no blank pages are inserted.

Reading assignments refer to the September 30, 2026 edition of the companion book. Online lecture links and QR codes are collected at the end.

LESSON 1

The Differences Between Faith and Fear - 1

February 12, 2017

Read Chapter 1 in the companion book, pages 5-20.

Major Themes

Faith vs. Fear

Faith and fear are opposites that cannot coexist; faith brings peace, while fear brings torment.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'Faith and fear cannot coexist. Faith and fear cannot abide together. Fear has torment, and faith does not. Faith rests in peace.'

The Promises of God as the Foundation of Faith

Faith regards and rests on God's promises, while fear disregards and despises them.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Faith regards the promises of God. And fear disregards the promises of God.'

Fear as Rebellion

Fear is the foundation of rebellion because it calls God a liar and despises His promises.

Lecture support: Weaver asserts, 'Fear is the foundation of rebellion.'

The Necessity of Faith for the Believer

Without faith it is impossible to please God; believers are saved, live, and fight by faith.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Hebrews 11:6 and 1 Peter 5:8-9 to show faith is essential.

Whatever Is Not of Faith Is Sin

Romans 14:23 teaches that any action not done in faith is sin, including everyday work for the unbeliever.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'whatsoever is not of faith is sin' and applies it to the plowing of the wicked.

The Old Testament as Example for Believers

Old Testament events, including Israel's unbelief, were written for our learning and admonition.

Lecture support: Weaver references Romans 15:4 and 1 Corinthians 10:6, 11.

Christ as the Confirmation of God's Promises

Jesus Christ confirmed the promises made to the fathers, making them yea and amen for believers.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Romans 15:8 and 2 Corinthians 1:20.

The Word of God as the Source of Faith

Faith comes by hearing the Word of God; without knowing Scripture, one cannot claim God's promises.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'It's impossible to claim a promise that you do not know.'

Key Arguments

Faith regards God's promises; fear disregards them.

The ten spies despised God's promise of a good land, while Joshua and Caleb trusted it.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'Faith regards the promises of God. And fear disregards the promises of God.'

Fear is the foundation of rebellion.

Fear leads to calling God a liar and rebelling against His commands.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'Fear is the foundation of rebellion.'

Faith and fear cannot coexist.

If one is fearful, they are not exercising faith; faith casts out fear.

Lecture support: Weaver quotes Mark 4:40: 'Why are you so fearful? Have you no faith?'

Without faith it is impossible to please God.

Faith is necessary for salvation, living, and fighting spiritual battles.

Lecture support: Weaver cites Hebrews 11:6 and 1 Peter 5:8-9.

Whatever is not of faith is sin.

Even morally neutral actions become sin if not done in faith.

Lecture support: Weaver explains Romans 14:23 and Proverbs 21:4.

The Old Testament was written for our learning.

Israel's example of unbelief and fear serves as a warning for believers today.

Lecture support: Weaver references Romans 15:4 and 1 Corinthians 10:11.

God's promises are confirmed in Christ.

All promises are yea and amen in Christ, providing a sure foundation for faith.

Lecture support: Weaver cites 2 Corinthians 1:20 and Romans 15:8.

Knowing God's promises leads to holiness.

The promises enable believers to escape corruption and perfect holiness.

Lecture support: Weaver references 2 Peter 1:4 and 2 Corinthians 7:1.

Scripture References

Numbers 13:1-3

God commands Moses to send men to search Canaan.

Numbers 13:2

God says the land is one He gives to Israel.

1 John 4:18

Perfect love casts out fear; fear has torment.

Mark 4:40

Jesus asks disciples why they are fearful if they have no faith.

Hebrews 11:6

Without faith it is impossible to please God.

1 Peter 5:8-9

Resist the devil steadfast in the faith.

Romans 14:23

Whatever is not of faith is sin.

Proverbs 21:4

The plowing of the wicked is sin.

Exodus 14:13

Moses tells Israel to fear not and see the salvation of the Lord.

Romans 15:4

Old Testament written for our learning.

1 Corinthians 10:1-11

Israel's experiences are examples for us.

Numbers 13:23-27

Spies bring back fruit showing the land flows with milk and honey.

Exodus 3:8, 17

God promises to bring Israel to a land flowing with milk and honey.

Numbers 13:31-32

Ten spies give an evil report, saying they cannot take the land.

Numbers 14:31, 34

God says the people despised the land and will know His breach of promise.

Numbers 20:1-5

Israel complains again, despising the promised land.

Psalms 106:24

They despised the pleasant land and believed not His word.

Hebrews 11:1

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Malachi 3:8-10

God invites Israel to prove Him by obedience in tithes.

2 Corinthians 1:20

All promises of God in Christ are yea and amen.

Discussion Questions

1. How does fear function as the foundation of rebellion, and what are some modern examples?

Consider: Weaver states that fear is the foundation of rebellion, using Israel's response to the spies' report.

2. In what ways do believers today disregard God's promises and live in fear?

Consider: Weaver says most Christians live in fear rather than faith, like the ten spies.

3. How can we practically add virtue, knowledge, and godliness to our faith as 2 Peter 1 instructs?

Consider: Weaver emphasizes building on the foundation of faith with these qualities.

4. Why is it impossible to have biblical faith apart from the Word of God?

Consider: Weaver explains that faith comes by hearing the Word and that God's promises are the foundation.

5. How does the example of Stonewall Jackson challenge our own fears about death and suffering?

Consider: Weaver recounts Jackson's trust in God's appointed time of death.

Applications

Know God's promises through Scripture

Believers must read and study the Bible to know God's promises, warnings, and dangers.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'It's impossible to claim a promise that you do not know.'

Live by faith, not fear

Instead of being anxious or fearful, trust God's promises and rest in His sovereignty.

Lecture support: Weaver shares his own response to tornado warnings: pray and go to sleep.

Add to your faith

Build upon the foundation of faith by adding virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and charity.

Lecture support: Weaver cites 2 Peter 1:5-7.

Pursue holiness through the promises

Use God's promises to escape corruption and perfect holiness.

Lecture support: Weaver references 2 Peter 1:4 and 2 Corinthians 7:1.

Do nothing without faith

If you cannot do something in good conscience and faith, do not do it, because whatever is not of faith is sin.

Lecture support: Weaver explains Romans 14:23.

Study notes

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

LESSON 2

The Differences Between Faith and Fear - 2

February 19, 2017

Read Chapter 2 in the companion book, pages 21-35.

Major Themes

Faith and Fear as Opposites

Faith and fear are mutually exclusive; exercising one negates the other, as Jesus indicated in Mark 4:40.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'If you are exercising faith, you're not in fear. If you're fearful, then you're not exercising faith.'

Inseparability of God's Promises and Power

Believing God's promises requires believing His power; denying one denies the other, as seen in Abraham's faith and Jeremiah's purchase.

Lecture support: Weaver says, 'God's promises and God's power go together. You cannot have one without the other, and you cannot deny one without denying the other.'

Fear Magnifies Obstacles and Minimizes God

Fear exaggerates enemies and difficulties while diminishing one's own strength and God's ability, leading to a distorted perspective.

Lecture support: The ten spies said the cities were 'walled up to the heaven' and they were 'as grasshoppers' in their own sight.

Fear Leads to Disobedience and Rebellion

Fear causes a person to react in self-protection rather than obey God, which is essentially rebellion and results in missing God's blessings.

Lecture support: Weaver explains, 'When a person is afraid, instead of obeying God... you're disobeying God instead of doing what He tells you to do.'

God's Power as the Antidote to Fear

Recognizing God's omnipotence and trusting in His strength, as David did, enables believers to face giants without fear.

Lecture support: David said, 'God will enable me to kill this uncircumcised Philistine,' demonstrating faith in God's power.

Key Arguments

Faith respects God's power; fear disrespects it

Fear not only disregards God's promises but also distrusts His power, effectively calling God a liar or impotent.

Lecture support: Weaver argues, 'Fear not only disrespects the power of God, but fear also distrusts God and His power... fear, literally, denies the omnipotence of God.'

God's promises and power are inseparable

One cannot believe God's promises without believing His power; examples from Abraham, Sarah, and Jeremiah show God's rhetorical question, 'Is anything too hard for the Lord?'

Lecture support: Weaver cites Genesis 18:14 and Jeremiah 32:27 where God asks, 'Is there anything too hard for me?' to affirm His ability to fulfill promises.

Fear is unreasonable and ignores evidence

Despite seeing the fruit of the land and hearing Caleb's report, the ten spies' fear led them to deny facts and exaggerate dangers.

Lecture support: Weaver notes, 'Truth, facts, and evidence mean absolutely nothing to fear... they brought this evil report against God and against the land.'

Fear magnifies enemies and minimizes self

The spies' fear caused them to see themselves as grasshoppers and the Canaanites as unconquerable giants, distorting reality.

Lecture support: Weaver points out, 'Fear always magnifies obstacles. And fear always magnifies the enemy... they're magnifying their weakness and their position.'

Fear leads to destruction and loss of blessing

The fearful generation died in the wilderness and did not enter God's rest because of unbelief, illustrating the devastating consequences of fear.

Lecture support: Weaver references Hebrews 4:6, 'they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief,' and states, 'God killed them all in the wilderness.'

Scripture References

Numbers 13:1-2

God commands Moses to send spies into Canaan, the land He promised to give Israel.

Mark 4:40

Jesus asks the disciples why they are fearful and if they have no faith, showing the opposition between faith and fear.

Hebrews 11:6

Without faith it is impossible to please God, emphasizing the necessity of faith.

Hebrews 11:1

Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen, with substance meaning foundation.

Malachi 3:8-10

God challenges Israel to prove Him by bringing tithes, showing that obedience tests God's faithfulness.

Numbers 13:28-30

Caleb acknowledges the strength of the inhabitants but declares they are well able to overcome, demonstrating faith in God's power.

Joshua 14:6-12

Caleb, at 85, recalls his wholehearted following of the Lord and requests the mountain where the giants are, trusting God's power.

Genesis 18:13-14

God asks Abraham if anything is too hard for the Lord, affirming His power to fulfill the promise of a son.

Jeremiah 32:24-27

Jeremiah questions buying a field during siege, and God responds by asking if anything is too hard for Him, linking promise and power.

Romans 4:21

Abraham was fully persuaded that God was able to perform what He had promised, exemplifying faith in God's power.

Mark 14:62

Jesus refers to God the Father as 'Power,' indicating God's omnipotence.

Psalms 62:11

Power belongs to God, affirming His omnipotence.

Numbers 13:31-33

The ten spies give an evil report, claiming inability to conquer because the people are stronger and they are like grasshoppers.

Deuteronomy 1:28

The people recount that the spies said the cities were walled up to heaven, showing how fear exaggerated the report.

Deuteronomy 2:10-12

The Emims, tall as the Anakims, were destroyed by the children of Esau, proving giants can be conquered.

Deuteronomy 3:11

Og's bedstead dimensions are given, but Weaver suggests it may have been exaggerated to impress posterity.

Hebrews 4:1-6

The Israelites failed to enter God's rest because of unbelief, serving as a warning to believers.

Isaiah 12:2

God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid, for the Lord is my strength.

Psalms 27:1-4

David declares the Lord is his light and salvation, so he will not fear even if an army encamps against him.

2 Timothy 1:7

God has not given a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind.

Discussion Questions

1. How does fear lead to a practical denial of God's omnipotence in our daily lives?

Consider: Weaver argues that fear disrespects God's power and calls Him a liar.

2. In what ways do we, like the ten spies, magnify our obstacles and minimize God's ability?

Consider: The spies saw themselves as grasshoppers and the cities as walled to heaven.

3. Why is it impossible to separate belief in God's promises from belief in His power?

Consider: Weaver states that God's promises and power go together, using Abraham and Jeremiah as examples.

4. How can we cultivate a Caleb-like faith that says 'we are well able' despite daunting circumstances?

Consider: Caleb wholly followed the Lord and trusted His power even at 85.

5. What are some practical steps to replace a spirit of fear with the spirit of power, love, and a sound mind?

Consider: 2 Timothy 1:7 is given as a key verse for overcoming fear.

Applications

Trust God's power in the face of fear

Believers should actively trust in God's omnipotence rather than giving in to fear, remembering that God is able to fulfill His promises.

Lecture support: Weaver exhorts, 'We must learn not to fear, but to exercise faith and obey God regardless of the consequences.'

Reject the spirit of fear

Recognize that fear does not come from God and instead embrace the spirit of power, love, and a sound mind given by God.

Lecture support: Weaver states, 'If you are fearful, you must remember this, your fear does not come from God.'

Obey God despite intimidating circumstances

Like Caleb and David, believers should obey God's commands even when obstacles seem insurmountable, trusting His power to overcome.

Lecture support: Weaver uses David's example: 'David said, God will enable me to kill this uncircumcised Philistine.'

Do not let fear rob you of God's blessings

Fear may allow you to see blessings but will prevent you from possessing them; faith is necessary to enter God's rest.

Lecture support: Weaver warns, 'Fear will keep you from receiving those blessings that God has for you.'

Study notes

Personal Application and Notes

Which application will you work on, and what specific step will you take?

What Scripture or teaching will you return to as you put this into practice?

Additional notes or questions to discuss

Online Lecture Resources

Scan a code or select the lecture link in the PDF. The original lecture identifiers and destinations are preserved.

Lesson 1: The Differences Between Faith and Fear - 1

Lecture JW00473

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00473&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted)



https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00473&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted

Lesson 2: The Differences Between Faith and Fear - 2

Lecture JW00472

[Open the formatted lecture online](https://weaverbiblecollege.com/transcript.php?library=weaverbiblecollege&lecture=JW00472&transcript=ai&pc_view=formatted)



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Source information

Study material: existing Major Themes, Key Arguments, Scripture References, Discussion Questions, and Applications from the corresponding Weaver Bible College lecture records. Original lecture titles and provenance are retained in those source records.

Layout upgraded September 30, 2026. Original manuscripts, study-guide data, and previous PDFs have not been changed.