

What EXACTLY is “The Fear of the Lord”?

Most of us have heard the expression that “the Bible defines itself”. This is absolutely true, but few realize exactly what that means, and it is a blueprint by which we are to read it and glean the nuggets of gold contained in the passages. God desires to make His scriptures exciting for us and creates this pattern throughout it so we can become excited as we put the pieces of His puzzle together scattered through 66 books, written by 40 authors, over a period of 1,500 years. Like any puzzle, no two pieces are exactly alike but they all fit together perfectly to reveal God to us and His plan of salvation for us.

God shows us this blueprint by which we are to study His word through multiple passages such as *“It is the glory of God to conceal a thing; but the honor of kings is to search out a matter”* (Prov 25:2). In this simple example of how God desires us to understand His Word as he provides to us the meaning of “kings” nearly 800 years after that verse is written where Christ himself indicates that He has *“made us kings and priests unto God”* (Rev 1:6).

The reason **“The Fear of the Lord”** is such an extremely important concept for us to understand is because we can't receive knowledge from God without it. *“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge ...”* (Prov 1:7). We are also forbidden to “guess” what it means as we are told that *“... that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation”* (2 Peter 1:20); therefore, the scriptures must define what this extremely important phrase means, and it does within the same book. *“The fear of the Lord IS to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth ...”* (Prov 8:13).

In order to receive any knowledge from God and understand His Word, we must start by hating evil, pride, arrogancy, evil ways, and lying. If we do not hate evil and eliminate it from our lives, then we cannot receive any knowledge from God as that is God's own requirement to begin to receive His knowledge (Prov 1:7). Let us therefore purge sin out of our lives and study His Word. In fact, we are commanded by God to *“Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”* (2 Tim 2:15). Studying is not optional for Christians but required of God.

The problem is that there is no such thing as a perfect English translation that tells us exactly what God's word is. There is always a discrepancy between the original Greek (NT in this case) to English. The best you can hope for is to find a translation that mirrors as closely as possible to the original meanings of the scriptures.

The Pure Word is a Resource All Christians Must Have!

The Pure Word is a word-by-word translation from the Textus Receptus Koine Greek (the exact same text that the 1611 KJV scribes used) to English and it also incorporated the original Greek Parsings which the King James scholars completely ignored because they didn't understand them. Don't get me wrong - The King James Version is an amazing translation, but the scribes didn't go far enough because they simply couldn't because of lack of knowledge. At the time of the 1600's no one understood the majority of the Koine Greek root words used in the New Testament nor did they understand nor use the Greek parsings. It took another 260 YEARS before the Greek words were separated into their root components which was published by Strong in 1890. Without identifying the root words, the meanings they assigned to words in different verses constantly varied and had little to do with the true meaning of the text.

Not only that, but the scribes had no clear idea of what the Greek parsings were that were assigned to over 115,000 of the words (of the 140,745 total words). The purpose of the parsings is to provide text that could not be misinterpreted which then resulted in a crystal-clear message. Since they didn't use the parsings, the context and meaning of the English words they assigned constantly varied between verses and that gave rise to hundreds of denominations and disagreements which fragmented Christianity we see today. Their own letter to King James clearly states their frustration and their limitations in not knowing the words and their inconsistency in the final English text and they chalk it up to their "creative freedom or liberty". It wasn't until 260 years after the King James Version was compiled that the parsings of each of the 115,000 words were clarified and released in 1894 by Dr. Scrivener using upwards of 100 scholars spending decades of work on the task.

The Pure Word has taken each of the 5,624 Koine Greek root words and took the single primary meaning at the time of Christ of each word and directly substituted it into each use of the same root word. In addition, the precise parsings of each of the 115,000 words that were mostly ignored by the KJV scribes and nearly all scholars since, was applied to each word. This process removed all known discrepancies and provided a clarity of meaning that was never before possible.

I would strongly suggest that every Christian obtain a copy of ***The Pure Word*** and use it alongside your favorite Bible version to see the original meanings and open your eyes like never before. I humbly wouldn't even say it was a translation as verses were not "translated", but a Pure extraction from the Greek into English using the original meaning of each root word as closely as possible as it existed at the time of Jesus Christ and the Apostles along with the original parsings applied to each word.

May our Lord Bless you and lead you into a deeper understanding and relationship with Him,