

I begin with a question... **Whose opinion matters most to you? What drives your decisions? Who or what do you fear?**

God has wired us in this way, to seek confirmation and affirmation from someone other than ourselves. No human can find fulfillment in and of himself... he must look outside of himself to find **purpose, value, and meaning.**

A **Diamond** does not get to determine its own WORTH... an appraiser does this... As you live your life, you develop a **HEALTHY** fear of man, or an unhealthy fear of man.

**Let's turn to Matthew 10:26-31**

In the earlier verses of this passage, Christ send his disciples out for a short missions trip.

- **WITH** confirmatory signs (cast out... heal...) and
  - **WITHOUT** a lot of provisions.
  - **TO**—not the Gentiles, not the Samaritans—the Jews, the lost sheep of Israel
- As they went, Christ said: “Don’t fear man... Fear God.”

From this passage, let's simply consider what “The Fear of the Lord” is...

- **The Fear of God is not clueless about the world around us. Matthew 10:16-18**
- **The Fear of God requires strength beyond your own strength. Matthew 10:19-25**
- **The Fear of God is rooted in confidence in His Sovereignty. Matthew 10:26-28**
- **The Fear of God will shape your understanding of your value. Matthew 10:29-31**
- **The Fear of God is made manifest by self abandonment and total commitment to God. Matthew 10:32-39**

**CONCLUSION**

What you value, determines what you fear. What you fear, determines your decisions.

We need a big view of God—a big view that causes us to Fear him above anyone or anything in every situation in life.

- Fear Him who is Sovereign, who knows all and will reveal all.
  - Fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.
  - Fear Him who is both Creator and Caretaker of the smallest among us.
  - Fear Him who values you enough to number the hairs of your head
- Fear Him.