

In this article, we will focus on the portion of King David’s prayer recorded at Psalm 86:11, 12. What does it mean to fear the name of Jehovah? What basis do we have for being in awe of that great name? And how can the fear of God be a protection against giving in to temptation?

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(Psalm 86:11, 12) Instruct me, O Jehovah, about your way. I will walk in your truth. Unify my heart to fear your name. 12 I praise you, O Jehovah my God, with all my heart, And I will glorify your name forever,

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#### Paragraph 1

(Psalm 111:10) The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of wisdom. All those observing his orders show good insight. His praise endures forever.

(Proverbs 8:13) The fear of Jehovah means the hating of bad. I hate self-exaltation and pride and the evil way and perverse speech.

#### Paragraph 2

**(Psalm 86:11) Instruct me, O Jehovah, about your way. I will walk in your truth. Unify my heart to fear your name.**

#### Paragraph 3

(Exodus 33:17-23) Jehovah went on to say to Moses: “I will also do this thing that you request, because you have found favor in my eyes and I know you by name.” 18 Then he said: “Please show me your glory.” 19 But he said: “I will make all my goodness pass before your face, and I will declare before you the name of Jehovah; and I will favor the one whom I favor, and I will show mercy to the one to whom I show mercy.” 20 But he added: “You cannot see my face, for no man can see me and live.” 21 Jehovah said further:

“Here is a place near me. Station yourself on the rock. 22 When my glory is passing by, I will place you in a crevice of the rock, and I will shield you with my hand until I have passed by. 23 After that I will take my hand away, and you will see my back. But my face may not be seen.”

(Exodus 34:5-7) Then Jehovah came down in the cloud and stationed himself with him there and declared the name of Jehovah. 6 Jehovah was passing before him and declaring: “Jehovah, Jehovah, a God merciful and compassionate, slow to anger and abundant in loyal love and truth, 7 showing loyal love to thousands, pardoning error and transgression and sin, but he will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, bringing punishment for the error of fathers upon sons and upon grandsons, upon the third generation and upon the fourth generation.”

(Deuteronomy 28:58) “If you will not carefully observe all the words of this Law that are written in this book and you do not fear this glorious and awe-inspiring name, that of Jehovah your God,

#### Paragraph 4

(Psalm 77:11-15) I will remember the works of Jah; I will remember your marvelous deeds of long ago. 12 And I will meditate on all your activity And ponder over your dealings. 13 O God, your ways are holy. What god is as great as you, O God? 14 You are the true God, who does marvelous things. You have revealed your strength to the peoples. 15 With your power you have rescued your people, The sons of Jacob and of Joseph. (Selah)

#### Paragraph 6

**(Exodus 3:13, 14) But Moses said to the true God: “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your forefathers has sent me to you,’ and they say to me, ‘What is his name?’ What should I say to them?”**

**14 So God said to Moses: “I Will Become What I Choose to Become.” And he added: “This is what you are to say to the Israelites, ‘I Will Become has sent me to you.’”**

**(Isaiah 64:8) But now, O Jehovah, you are our Father. We are the clay, and you are our Potter; We are all the work of your hand.**

(Isaiah 46:10, 11) From the beginning I foretell the outcome, And from long ago the things that have not yet been done. I say, ‘My decision will stand, And I will do whatever I please.’ 11 I am calling a bird of prey from the sunrise, From a distant land the man to carry out my decision. I have spoken, and I will bring it about. I have purposed it, and I will also carry it out.

Paragraph 7

(Psalm 8:3, 4) When I see your heavens, the works of your fingers, The moon and the stars that you have prepared, 4 What is mortal man that you keep him in mind, And a son of man that you take care of him?

(Psalm 89:7, 8) God is held in awe in the council of holy ones; He is grand and awe-inspiring to all who are around him. 8 O Jehovah God of armies, Who is mighty like you, O Jah? Your faithfulness surrounds you.

Paragraph 8

(Deuteronomy 31:19) “Now write down this song for yourselves and teach it to the Israelites. Have them learn it in order that this song may serve as my witness against the people of Israel.

**(Deuteronomy 32:2, 3) My instruction will fall as the rain; My words will trickle as the dew, As gentle rains upon grass And as copious showers upon vegetation. 3 For I will declare the name of Jehovah. Tell about the greatness of our God!**

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Paragraph 9

(Isaiah 65:13, 14) Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Jehovah says: “Look! My servants will eat, but you will go hungry. Look! My servants will drink, but you will go thirsty. Look! My servants will rejoice, but you will suffer shame. 14 Look! My servants will shout joyfully because of the good condition of the heart, But you will cry out because of the pain of heart And you will wail because of a broken spirit.

Paragraph 10

(Genesis 3:1-6) Now the serpent was the most cautious of all the wild animals of the field that Jehovah God had made. So it said to the woman: “Did God really say that you must not eat from every tree of the garden?” 2 At this the woman said to the serpent: “We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden. 3 But God has said about the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden: ‘You must not eat from it, no, you must not touch it; otherwise you will die.’” 4 At this the serpent said to the woman: “You certainly will not die. 5 For God knows that in the very day you eat from it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and bad.” 6 Consequently, the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was something desirable to the eyes, yes, the tree was pleasing to look at. So she began taking of its fruit and eating it. Afterward, she also gave some to her husband when he was with her, and he began eating it.

Paragraph 11

(Psalm 119:97) How I do love your law! I ponder over it all day long.

(Psalm 119:111, 112) I take your reminders as my permanent possession, For they are the joy of my heart. 112 I have resolved to obey your regulations At all times, down to the last.

(Psalm 119:68) You are good and your works are good. Teach me your regulations.

(1 Corinthians 3:12-15) Now if anyone builds on the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or straw, 13 each one's work will be shown for what it is, for the day will show it up, because it will be revealed by means of fire, and the fire itself will prove what sort of work each one has built. 14 If anyone's work that he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward; 15 if anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved; yet, if so, it will be as through fire.

#### Paragraph 12

(Psalm 86:11) Instruct me, O Jehovah, about your way. I will walk in your truth. Unify my heart to fear your name.

(Exodus 20:17) “You must not desire your fellow man's house. You must not desire your fellow man's wife nor his slave man nor his slave girl nor his bull nor his donkey nor anything that belongs to your fellow man.”

(2 Samuel 11:1-5) At the start of the year, at the time when kings go on campaigns, David sent Jo'ab and his servants and the entire army of Israel to bring the Am'mon-ites to ruin, and they besieged Rab'bah, while David stayed in Jerusalem. 2 One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the rooftop of the king's house. From the rooftop he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful. 3 David sent someone to inquire about the woman, and he reported: “Is this not Bath-she'ba the daughter of E-li'am and the wife of U-ri'ah the Hit'tite?” 4 Then David sent messengers to bring her. So she came in to him, and he lay

down with her. (This happened while she was purifying herself from her uncleanness.) Afterward, she returned to her house. 5 The woman became pregnant, and she sent a message to David: “I am pregnant.”

(2 Samuel 11:14-17) In the morning David wrote a letter to Jo'ab and sent it by the hand of U-ri'ah. 15 He wrote in the letter: “Put U-ri'ah in the front lines where the fighting is fiercest. Then retreat from behind him, so that he will be struck down and die.” 16 Jo'ab had been carefully watching the city, and he stationed U-ri'ah where he knew there were mighty warriors. 17 When the men of the city came out and fought against Jo'ab, some of David's servants fell, and U-ri'ah the Hit'tite was among those who died.

(2 Samuel 12:7-12) Then Nathan said to David: “You are the man! This is what Jehovah the God of Israel says: ‘I myself anointed you as king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul. 8 I was willing to give you your master's house and put your master's wives in your arms, and I gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And as if that were not enough, I was willing to do much more for you. 9 Why did you despise the word of Jehovah by doing what is bad in his eyes? You struck down U-ri'ah the Hit'tite with the sword! Then you took his wife as your wife after you killed him by the sword of the Am'mon-ites. 10 Now a sword will never depart from your own house, because you despised me by taking the wife of U-ri'ah the Hit'tite as your wife.’ 11 This is what Jehovah says: ‘Here I am bringing against you calamity from within your own house; and before your own eyes, I will take your wives and give them to another man, and he will lie down with your wives in broad daylight. 12 Although you acted in secret, I will do this in front of all Israel and in broad daylight.’”

Paragraph 13

(2 Samuel 12:13) David then said to Nathan: “I have sinned against Jehovah.” Nathan replied to David: “Jehovah, in turn, forgives your sin. You will not die.

(Psalm 51:2-4) Thoroughly wash me from my error, And cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I am well-aware of my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. 4 Against you—you above all—I have sinned; What is bad in your eyes I have done. Therefore, you are righteous when you speak, You are right in your judgment.

(Psalm 51:17) The sacrifices pleasing to God are a broken spirit; A heart broken and crushed, O God, you will not reject.

(Psalm 86:11) Instruct me, O Jehovah, about your way. I will walk in your truth. Unify my heart to fear your name.

(1 Kings 11:4) In Sol'o·mon's old age, his wives inclined his heart to follow other gods, and his heart was not complete with Jehovah his God like the heart of David his father.

(1 Kings 15:3) He went on walking in all the sins that his father committed prior to him, and his heart was not complete with Jehovah his God like the heart of David his forefather.

Paragraph 15

(2 Corinthians 2:11) so that we may not be overreached by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his designs.

Paragraph 16

(James 1:5) So if any one of you is lacking in wisdom, let him keep asking God, for he gives generously to all and without reproaching, and it will be given him.

(Matthew 4:10) Then Jesus said to him: “Go away, Satan! For it is written: ‘It is Jehovah your God you must worship, and it is to him alone you must render sacred service.’”

Paragraph 17

(Matthew 22:36-38) “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” 37 He said to him: “‘You must love Jehovah your God with your whole heart and with your whole soul and with your whole mind.’ 38 This is the greatest and first commandment.

Paragraph 18

(Proverbs 27:11) Be wise, my son, and make my heart rejoice, So that I can make a reply to him who taunts me.

(Micah 4:5) For all the peoples will walk, each in the name of its god, But we will walk in the name of Jehovah our God forever and ever.