

“ARE YOU TAKING GOD SERIOUSLY?”

PROVERBS 1:7

June 24, 2026

Introduction

When you see the word “fear” in the Bible, do you get uncomfortable? Is fear something to overcome? Is fear something unhealthy? Is fear something that holds you back?

Proverbs 1:7 tells us where wisdom starts and why many people can be smart, capable, and still make choices that can mess up their lives.

“*Fear of the Lord*” is an important phrase. It appears 18 times in Proverbs.

This fear is not terror or panic. It’s not about being scared of God. It refers to reverence, awe, and deep respect for who God is, and toward the majesty of God, the Creator of the universe. We recognize who He is and we recognize who we are.

To fear the Lord is to live with a settled awareness that God is God and you are not.

In Proverbs, a fool is not someone who lacks intelligence-it is someone who a) lacks intelligence, b) refuses correction, c) rejects guidance, and d) insists on being their own authority.

I. Let God have the first place in your life and let Him have the first and last word in your life!

Scriptures cited: Pro. 3:5-8; Psalm 37:5, 55:22, 16-17; James 4:7; Matt. 6:33-34, 11:28-30; Isa. 30:21, 41:10; Phil. 4:6-7; 1 Pet. 5:7; Heb. 12:1-2; Rom. 12:2; Psa. 46:10

II. Treat correction as a gift, not an insult!!

Scriptures cited: Pro. 12:1, 15:31-32, 3:11-12, 10:17; Psa. 141:3-5, 94:12; James 5:16; Heb. 12:11, 12:5-6; 2 Tim. 3:16-17

III. Choose trust over control-surrender control!

Scriptures cited: Pro. 3:5-8; Psa. 37:5, 46:10, 25:1-7, 56:3-4; James 1:5, 5:16; Matt. 6:33-34, 11:28-30; Isa. 26:3-4, 55:8-9; Phil. 4:6-7, 8-9; 1 Pet. 5:7; Rom. 8:28, 15:13; Jer. 29:11; Joshua 1:9; John 14:27

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