

Summer 2017

Take a Vacation from Intimidation

Pastor Eddie Turner
Sunday, June 11, 2017

2 Tim. 1:6-7(NKJV)~ Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

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- Acrophobia~ the fear of heights
- Mysophobia~ the fear of germs
- Monophobia~ the fear of being alone

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- Aquaphobia~ the fear of water
- Somniphobia~ the fear of sleep
- Pogonophobia~ the fear of beards

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- Technophobia~ the fear of technology
- Cibophobia~ the fear of food
- Ergophobia~ the fear of work

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Unhealthy fear is a terrible master. Unhealthy fear either compels us to what is irresponsible or it impedes us from living responsibly.

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Fear and timidity is a spirit and it's not from God.

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2 Tim. 1:7(NKJV)~ ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

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Since intimidation is a spirit it cannot be fought on the level of intellect or will.

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Spiritual resistance requires spiritual assistance. Fear must be addressed in the realm of the spirit.

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1 Kings 18:17-21 (NLT)~ When Ahab saw him, he exclaimed, “So, is it really you, you troublemaker of Israel?”

<sup>18</sup> “I have made no trouble for Israel,” Elijah replied. “You and your family are the troublemakers, for you have refused to obey the commands of the Lord and have worshiped the images of Baal instead. <sup>19</sup> Now summon all Israel to join me at Mount Carmel, along with the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of Asherah who are supported by Jezebel.”

<sup>20</sup> So Ahab summoned all the people of Israel and the prophets to Mount Carmel. <sup>21</sup> Then Elijah stood in front of them and said, “How much longer will you waver, hobbling between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him! But if Baal is God, then follow him!” But the people were completely silent.

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1 Kings 18:25-29 (NLT)~ ²⁵ Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “You go first, for there are many of you. Choose one of the bulls, and prepare it and call on the name of your god. But do not set fire to the wood.”

²⁶ So they prepared one of the bulls and placed it on the altar. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning until noontime, shouting, “O Baal, answer us!” But there was no reply of any kind. Then they danced, hobbling around the altar they had made.

²⁷ About noontime Elijah began mocking them. “You’ll have to shout louder,” he scoffed, “for surely he is a god! Perhaps he is daydreaming, or is relieving himself. Or maybe he is away on a trip, or is asleep and needs to be wakened!”

²⁸ So they shouted louder, and following their normal custom, they cut themselves with knives and swords until the blood gushed out.

²⁹ They raved all afternoon until the time of the evening sacrifice, but still there was no sound, no reply, no response.

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1 Kings 18:30-40 (NLT)~ Then Elijah called to the people, “Come over here!” They all crowded around him as he repaired the altar of the Lord that had been torn down. <sup>31</sup> He took twelve stones, one to represent each of the tribes of Israel, <sup>32</sup> and he used the stones to rebuild the altar in the name of the Lord. Then he dug a trench around the altar large enough to hold about three gallons. <sup>33</sup> He piled wood on the altar, cut the bull into pieces, and laid the pieces on the

wood.

Then he said, “Fill four large jars with water, and pour the water over the offering and the wood.”

<sup>34</sup> After they had done this, he said, “Do the same thing again!” And when they were finished, he said, “Now do it a third time!” So, they did as he said, <sup>35</sup> and the water ran around the altar and even filled the trench.

<sup>36</sup> At the usual time for offering the evening sacrifice, Elijah the prophet walked up to the altar and prayed, “O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, prove today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant. Prove that I have done all this at your command. <sup>37</sup> O Lord, answer me! Answer me so these people will know that you, O Lord, are God and that you have brought them back to yourself.”

<sup>38</sup> Immediately the fire of the Lord flashed down from heaven and burned up the young bull, the wood, the stones, and the dust. It even licked up all the water in the trench! <sup>39</sup> And when all the people saw it, they fell face down on the ground and cried out, “The Lord—he is God! Yes, the Lord is God!”

<sup>40</sup> Then Elijah commanded, “Seize all the prophets of Baal. Don’t let a single one escape!” So, the people seized them all, and Elijah took them down to the Kishon Valley and killed them there.

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1 Kings 19:1-3(NLT)- When Ahab got home, he told Jezebel everything Elijah had done, including the way he had killed all the prophets of Baal. ² So Jezebel sent this message to Elijah: “May the gods strike me and even kill me if by this time tomorrow I have not killed you just as you killed them.”³ Elijah was afraid and fled for his life. He went to Beersheba, a town in Judah, and he left his servant there.

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During this Summer of 2017, I want to encourage you to take a vacation from fear, especially the fear and intimidation of man.

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Why is it so important to recognize and overcome the spirit of fear and intimidation? Because the purpose of fear and intimidation is to control us and force us into submission. Intimidation desires to prohibit us from accomplishing and being all God wants us to accomplish and be.

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2 Tim 1:6-7(NIV)- For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. <sup>7</sup> For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

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- God's gift and dream that he has placed inside of us~doesn't work automatically~we must keep it stirred up. If we don't keep it stirred up, the gift of God in us will go dormant.
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Intimidated Christians lose their authority in the spirit by default. Their gift, God's ability in them lies dormant, asleep, inactive.

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The purpose of that intimidation was to prevent Elijah from completing God's purpose. Jezebel wanted to stop God's influence over the nation so she intimidated God's man.

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Likewise, the fear and intimidation which tries to invade our life seeks to prevent God's purposes from coming to pass for us and through us!

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2 Kings 9:30-34(NLT)- When Jezebel, the queen mother, heard that Jehu had come to Jezreel, she painted her eyelids and fixed her hair and sat at a window. ³¹ When Jehu entered the gate of the palace, she shouted at him, "Have you come in peace, you murderer? You're just like Zimri, who murdered his master!"^[a]

³² Jehu looked up and saw her at the window and shouted, "Who is on my side?" And two or three eunuchs looked out at him. ³³ "Throw her down!" Jehu yelled. So, they threw her out the window, and her blood spattered against the wall and on the horses. And Jehu trampled her body under his horses' hooves.

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2 Kings 10:26-28(NLT)- They dragged out the sacred pillar used in the worship of Baal and burned it. <sup>27</sup> They smashed the sacred pillar and wrecked the temple of Baal, converting it into a public toilet, as

it remains to this day. <sup>28</sup>In this way, Jehu destroyed every trace of Baal worship from Israel.

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When we are intimidated, we give up our position of authority.

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An intimidated person honors what he fears more than he honors God!