

Truth Matters: Why am I paralyzed by fear?

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – June 19, 2011

Isaiah 43:1-5

1 But now, this is what the LORD says — he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. **2** When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. **3** For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. **4** Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give men in exchange for you, and people in exchange for your life. **5** Do not be afraid, for I am with you;"

"I just recently lost my spouse. I am struggling with going forward in life instead of being content to live with the memories of the past. My fear of reaching out and embracing the future is paralyzing. HELP!!"

Ps 27:1

The LORD is my light and my salvation — whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life — of whom shall I be afraid?

1. THE LORD CREATED YOU...WHOM SHALL YOU FEAR!

Isa 43:1

1 But now, this is what the LORD says — he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:

2. THE LORD REDEEMED YOU AND CALLED YOU BY NAME... WHOM SHALL YOU FEAR!

Isa 43:1

1 ... this is what the LORD says — ... "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine."

Rom 8:15-17

15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." **16** The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. **17** Now if we are children, then we are heirs — heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ.

3. THE LORD IS WITH YOU THROUGH EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE...WHOM SHALL YOU FEAR!

Isa 43:1,2,5

1 ... this is what the LORD says — ... "Fear not, for ... **2** When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. **5** Do not be afraid, for I am with you;

Ps 23:4

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff they comfort me.

4. THE LORD IS HOLY AND YOUR SAVIOR...WHOM SHALL YOU FEAR!

Isa 43:1, 3

1 ... this is what the LORD says — ... "Fear not, ... **3** For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;"

5. YOU ARE PRECIOUS AND LOVED BY THE LORD... WHOM SHALL YOU FEAR!

Isa 43:1, 4

¹ But now, this is what the LORD says — ... "Fear not, ... ⁴ Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you..."

CONCLUSION:

- When we are paralyzed by fear it is an indication of areas in our life we have not surrendered our wound to Christ.
- The deeper we press into God, the less we fear.
1 John 4:18 ... perfect love drives out fear...
- When we love God perfectly, as He loves us perfectly — WE WILL NOT FEAR!!