

WORD OF THE DAY



WORD OF THE DAY ([Proverbs 29:25](#))

"The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe"

The Snare of Fear



A Bold Gospel. Jesus had a bold new message to share with the world; a message which was then, and is now, at times, controversial. Although a crucial part of the Gospel (good news) message which Jesus commanded His disciples to share with the world centered on love, the other part of this message related to repentance from sin. When Jesus told the people in the crowd to love everyone (as the law commanded), some may have smiled; but when He revealed the source of the authority for His message, telling them that He was the Son of God, many picked up stones to kill Him. We can see clearly that this bold message of Christ requires bold messengers.

Fear Hinders Boldness. A major hindrance to the boldness which believers must have to deliver the message of Christ, is the fear of others. In our verse of the day, Solomon writes, *The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe*". Many times, disciples of Christ fail to share the Good News, and live the lifestyle, which Jesus commands of them because they are afraid of how others will react. We are afraid of offending others and we are sometimes afraid of the consequences of sharing such a bold message.

Free Yourself, Then, Free Them. Jesus did not promise a journey without dangers, however His WORD tells us that we will be kept safe so that we can complete the work that God has appointed for us. In the quest for this safety that God delivers, many seek it through the approval of people which unfortunately leads to a snare. A snare is a trap often set to capture animals when hunting. Solomon tells us that when our life is directed by fear of people rather than faith in God's WORD, it is like being trapped. Fortunately, in the second clause in the sentence, the conjunction "But" offers us hope as a contrasting clause is introduced. We are told "But", "whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe". Solomon continues in the next verse and states, "Many seek the ruler's favor, But justice for man comes from the Lord." Solomon reminds us that we should not compromise the gospel message of Christ for safety or favor. Instead, we need to free ourselves from the prison of the opinions of others so that we can free them from their bondage to sin. Remember, if we seek security through obliging the convicted, instead of obeying our commander[Jesus], it is conceivable that both the Christian and the carnal will remain in their collective chains.

-Your brother in Christ, WNL

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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

You won't be able to free people from the prison of sin, until
you first free yourself from the prison of their opinion(s).

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, thank you for reminding me that the only one I need to fear with reverence and seek favor from is ultimately you. Free me from this prison of public opinion so that I can free others from the bondage of sin. In Jesus name I pray, Amen.



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