

# He Was... I Am 3

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**John 14:27** - Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Today I want us to learn how to divorce the companion of fear and marry a life of grace and faith.

**Hebrews 2:14-15** – <sup>14</sup> Since we, God's children, are human beings-made of flesh and blood - Jesus became flesh and blood too by being born in human form; for only as a human being could he die and in dying break the power of the devil who had the power of death. <sup>15</sup> And also that He might deliver and completely set free all those who through **the haunting fear of death** were held in bondage and **living in constant dread** throughout the whole course of their lives.

People fear **dying**, because they fear rejection from God upon judgment.  
People fear **living**, because they fear rejection from those they love or respect.

Life is truly a rollercoaster ride.  
I want to encourage and empower you to take that ride being governed by faith in God, instead of fear.

Fear torments, and a life governed by torment is a life unfit to live.

Fear causes us to create walls of protection that create a prison that you live within.  
Many have accepted a “life sentence” to living in the torment and limits of fear.

I want you to leave today believing you can live above the influence and voice of fear.

**Each time God would give instructions about the future, He would precede it with the words, “Fear not.”**

- Fear is the great inhibitor.
- Fear says “No” before you ever get the chance to consider “Yes.”
- Fear removes God from the equation.

- Fear lives based upon past experiences and future forecasts out of the assumption of the absence of God's grace, power, and enablement.
- Fear is the invisible lid on the fulfillment of God's dream for our lives.
- **Faith** or **fear** will be the leader—one leads to **victory** and the other to **torment**.

**Deuteronomy 31:6-8** – <sup>6</sup> Be strong and of good courage, **do not fear nor be afraid of them**; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you." <sup>7</sup> Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and of good courage, for you must go with this people to the land which the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it. <sup>8</sup> And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; **do not fear nor be dismayed.**"

- All fear is rooted in the absence of God from the circumstance.
- Before God asked Joshua and the people to "Fear not," He made certain to let them know that He "would not leave or forsake them."
- Fear forecasts the future based upon the assumption that God's power and grace will be absent.
- **FAITH** takes the evidence of the Word and faithfulness of God as its final authority and acts.
- **FEAR** takes the past, feelings, and sense knowledge evidence as its final authority and acts.
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**Joshua 1:8-9** – <sup>8</sup> This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then **you will make** your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. <sup>9</sup> Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; **do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.**"

"You make your way prosperous" because your everyday life decisions are rooted in the faithfulness of God and not governed by the external circumstances of life or fear.

Our lives will follow the course of our beliefs, not our desires.

Fear is fed not by how we see God, as much as how we believe God sees us!

**John 16:27** - For the Father Himself loves you