

R of R BATS 10:

Approbation HATS: Fear and Worry

**How Mature Love Eliminates
Fear**

Fear and Worry

□ You cannot afford to be pinned down and you cannot afford to retreat after you have reached the adult stage of the spiritual life, because the fall is great and the misery that follows is very self-destructive.

Fear and Worry

- ❑ 7. Worry causes hysteria, Luk 10:41 "But the Lord answered and said to her, Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things;"
- ❑ Everyone has an area in which they are prone to worry.
- ❑ However, if you stop worrying about the potholes in the road, you will begin to enjoy the journey.

Fear and Worry

- ❑ Worries fall into three categories.
- ❑ 1. Worrying about personal sins, (the guilt complex).
- ❑ 2. Worrying about the problems of this life, and these run the gamut from security to retaliation situations, etc.
- ❑ 3. Worrying about death and dying - about what is beyond the grave.

Fear and Worry

- ❑ The field of worry is nearly unlimited and affects both believers and unbelievers.
- ❑ One might worry about how they will die, what the future holds after death.
- ❑ Others might worry about some past sin or failure, or some pressure or adversity that exists.
- ❑ Still others may be worrying about the future of this country or the future of their children or even their own personal happiness.

Fear and Worry

- ❑ Some might even worry about their own salvation by doubting it, or doubting God's promise of eternal security.
- ❑ Not only is the temptation to worry great, but the opportunity is always present.

Fear and Worry

- There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.
- a. “There is no fear in love.” As faith and doubt cannot exist together in the heart of the believer, so love and fear have nothing in common. Christians who, in fulfillment of God’s command, demonstrate their love for God and their neighbor have no fear.

Fear and Worry

- ❑ Fear has no place in love.
- ❑ Bold confidence (1Jn 4:17), based on love, cannot coexist with fear. Love, which, when perfected, gives bold confidence, casts out fear (compare Heb 2:14, 15).
- ❑ The design of Christ's propitiatory death was to deliver from this bondage of fear.

Fear and Worry

- ❑ Fear hath torment—Greek, “punishment.”
- ❑ Fear is always revolving in the mind as Worry, and the discomfort it causes is the punishment.
- ❑ Perfect love is incompatible with such a self-punishing fear.

Fear and Worry

- ❑ Godly fear of offending God is quite distinct from slavish fear of self-inflicted punishment.
- ❑ The latter fear is natural to us all until love casts it out.

Fear and Worry

- ❑ There are 5 common causes of fear:
- ❑ 1. Sin
- ❑ 2. Learned Fears
- ❑ 3. Ignorance
- ❑ 4. Imagination
- ❑ 5. Non-Biblical Self Esteem

Fear and Worry

- ❑ The Consequences of Fear:
 - ❑ 1. Loss of Clear Thinking
 - ❑ 2. Indecision
 - ❑ 3. Lack of Achievement
 - ❑ 4. Emotional Instability
 - ❑ 5. Interpersonal Relationship Damage
 - ❑ 6. Broken Fellowship with God

Fear and Worry

- ❑ Fear is a natural response to danger that quickens the mind efforts to anticipate and avoid potential danger or problems.
- ❑ However, stemming from the irrational part of the mind, it does not think logically.
- ❑ People whose lives are dominated by fear often continue to be afraid long after the potential danger has been removed, making up their own, irrational, reasons. .
- ❑ The natural result of fear is to act selfishly, without regard for the well-being of others.

Fear and Worry

- ❑ Fear is a debilitating state of mind that weakens body and soul, associated with heart conditions, nervous disorders, stress, depression and paranoia
- ❑ The natural result of fear is to act selfishly, without regard for the well-being of others.

Fear and Worry

- Approbation based fears revolve around our self-concept; how do I stack up to my standards for the "perfect me"?
- 1. Appearance
- 2. Abilities
- 3. Achievements

Fear and Worry

- ❑ These Biblical standards are not considered:
 - ❑ 1. Doctrinal Orientation
 - ❑ 2. Spiritual orientation
 - ❑ 3. Volitional orientation

- ❑ How are you functioning in your:
 - ❑ Ambassadorship
 - ❑ Priesthood

Fear and Worry

- ❑ These Biblical standards should be the true measure of our self-esteem and our self-concept, not how we look, what we can do, and what we have attained.
- ❑ You can essentially tell the difference if you compare your self to others.
- ❑ The spiritual life standards will have you comparing yourself to the Bible, not to others.
- ❑ If you are comparing yourself to others you are probably functioning in approbation motivation.

Fear BATS

- ❑ 2 Tim 1:7 - For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of
- ❑ Power ***The Holy Spirit***
- ❑ love ***Agape Love***
- ❑ sound judgment. ***Bible Doctrine***

Fear BATS

- ❑ 1 John 4:18 - There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.
- ❑ How does Agape Love eliminate fear?

Fear BATS

- 1 John 4:15 If someone acknowledges that Yeshua is the Son of God, God remains united with him, and he with God. ¹⁶ Also we have come to know and trust the love that God has for us. God is love; and those who remain in this love remain united with God, and God remains united with them.

Fear BATS

- ¹⁷ Here is how love has been brought to maturity with us: as the Messiah is, so are we in the world. This gives us confidence for the Day of Judgment.
- (Stern, D. H. (1989). Jewish New Testament)

Fear BATS

- ¹⁸ There is no fear in love. On the contrary, love that has achieved its goal (teleios) gets rid of fear, because fear has to do with punishment; the person who keeps fearing has not been brought to maturity (telioo) in regard to love.
- Telios/Telioo: “to bring to completeness, wholeness.”; maturity, in today’s vernacular – “fully functional”

Fear BATS

- ❑ “Of greater theological significance is kovlasis, “fear contains punishment in itself.”⁵
- ❑ This means that the man who lives in fear is already punished by this fear.
- ❑ His fear is his punishment.
- ❑ This is so true in Approbation Motivation.

Fear BATS

- The opposite of fear is love.
- Perfect love is free from every fear, because perfect love [of] God drives out fear before Him.
- (Theological dictionary of the New Testament. 1964-c1976. Vols. 5-9 edited by Gerhard Friedrich. Vol. 10 compiled by Ronald Pitkin. (G. Kittel, G. W. Bromiley & G. Friedrich, Ed.) (Vol. 3, Page 817). Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans.)

Approbation Fear BATS

- John 17:26 ...”and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”
- 1 John 3:14 ...We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.

Fear BATS

- ❑ The Holy Spirit declares that "agape" love is the greatest virtue of all in 1Co 13:13, so it is reasonable that it be first on the list.
- ❑ This love is unconditional, so with it you will accept and tolerate people as you find them.
- ❑ Not being critical, looking down your nose at them being legalistic.

Fear BATS

- ❑ This love contains virtue and therefore has capacity for true love in friendship, romance, marriage, and all human interaction.
- ❑ It is the type of love that The Lord Jesus Christ told us to operate in concerning our enemies, Mat 5:44, 46.
- ❑ This love is a problem solving device of Christianity which is defined as unconditional love toward all mankind.

Fear BATS

- ❑ Being impersonal, agape love emphasizes the virtue of the subject rather than attraction or rapport with an object.
- ❑ It is the ultimate expression of virtue, and is also the ultimate expression of humility.
- ❑ Without humility (enforced and genuine) people are disoriented to life.
- ❑ We see this type of Love in verses like Pro 17:9, Mat 5:44, Luk 6:27.

Fear BATS

□ "1 Corinthians 13:4-7

"Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always confident, and endures through every circumstance."

Fear BATS

- ❑ “Love suffers long...”
 - ❑ Love is relaxed and understanding while bearing offenses and injuries from others.
- ❑ “Love is kind...”
 - ❑ Love does for others or gives to others what is not deserved,
- ❑ “Love does not behave unseemly...”
 - ❑ Love is not sexually provocative

Fear BATS

- ❑ “Love does not seek its own...”
 - ❑ Love does not make demands to satisfy wants or desires
- ❑ “Love is not provoked...”
 - ❑ Love is not irritable, exasperated or aroused to anger.
- ❑ “Love is not jealous...”
 - ❑ Love does not have a passionate overriding desire or “agenda” concerning any person or issue”.

Fear BATS

☐ “Love does not Boast”

- ☐ “Love does not brag about things which would hurt others or cause bad feelings”.

☐ “Love is not Puffed Up”

- ☐ Love is not impressed with its own natural born appearance, abilities and talents.

☐ “Love thinks no evil...”

- ☐ Love does not keep an account record of past wrongs.

Fear BATS

- “Does not rejoice in iniquity...”
 - Does not happily greet unrighteousness

- “But rejoices in the truth...”
 - But joyfully participates in the trustworthiness of revealed doctrine as the revelation of God Himself

Fear BATS

- “bears all things...”
- “believes all things...”
- “hopes all things...”
- “endures all things...”

John 13:34-35

□“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 “By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Fear BATS

☐ 1 John 4:8

☐ The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

☐ 1 Cor 16:14

☐ Let all that you do be done in love.

Fear BATS

- Romans 13:8-10 ... Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. For this, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Fear BATS

☐ Philippians 1:9 ... And this I pray,
that your love may abound still
more and more in real knowledge
and all discernment,

Fear BATS

- 1 Timothy 1:5 ...But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.
- 1 Peter 1:22 ...Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,