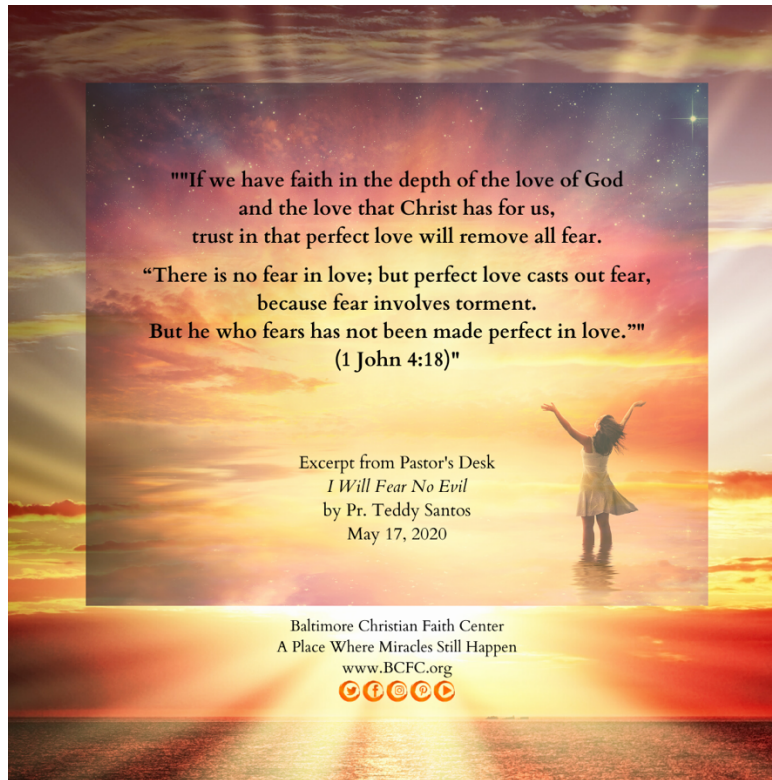


# I WILL FEAR NO EVIL

## Pastor's Desk – May 17, 2020



**2 Corinthians 13:5** *Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.*

The Lord our God, through Paul, instructs us to examine our faith and to test ourselves. You might wonder, “How can I know the strength of my faith - my conviction in God's Word?” Examining our worries and fears is one of the ways!

The prophet Nehemiah wrote, *“For this reason he was hired, that I should be afraid and act that way and sin, so that they might have cause for an evil report, that they might reproach me”* (**Nehemiah 6:13**). In this text, what is the reason Nehemiah called it a sin to be afraid? Because worry and fear call God a liar, implying that His words about His sovereignty, power, love, and faithfulness can't be trusted.

In the New Testament, **Philippians 4:6** instructs us, "*Be anxious for nothing.*" In so many words, we are ordered, "DON'T WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING," which is another of God's absolutes. To worry, fear, have anxiety, and anything else questions God's goodness and care. It demonstrates a shortage of faith in His promises of a gracious destiny and imparts uncertainties on the depth of the love our God has for His children. If trusting God is not possible, how can He ever trust us? Think about it: Why would Christ marry a bride forever who doubts His love?

So, instead of giving in to worry and fear, we can choose - an action - to believe the Lord and His compassion for us. If we have faith in the depth of the love of God and the love that Christ has for us, trust in that perfect love will remove all fear. "*There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.*" (**1 John 4:18**) So that afterward we can say as David did: "*I will fear no evil; for You are with me*" (**Psalm 23:4**)

At His service,  
Pr. Teddy Santos