

WELCOME

HAPPY SABBATH!

GRACE & PEACE TO YOU FROM GOD THE FATHER AND OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

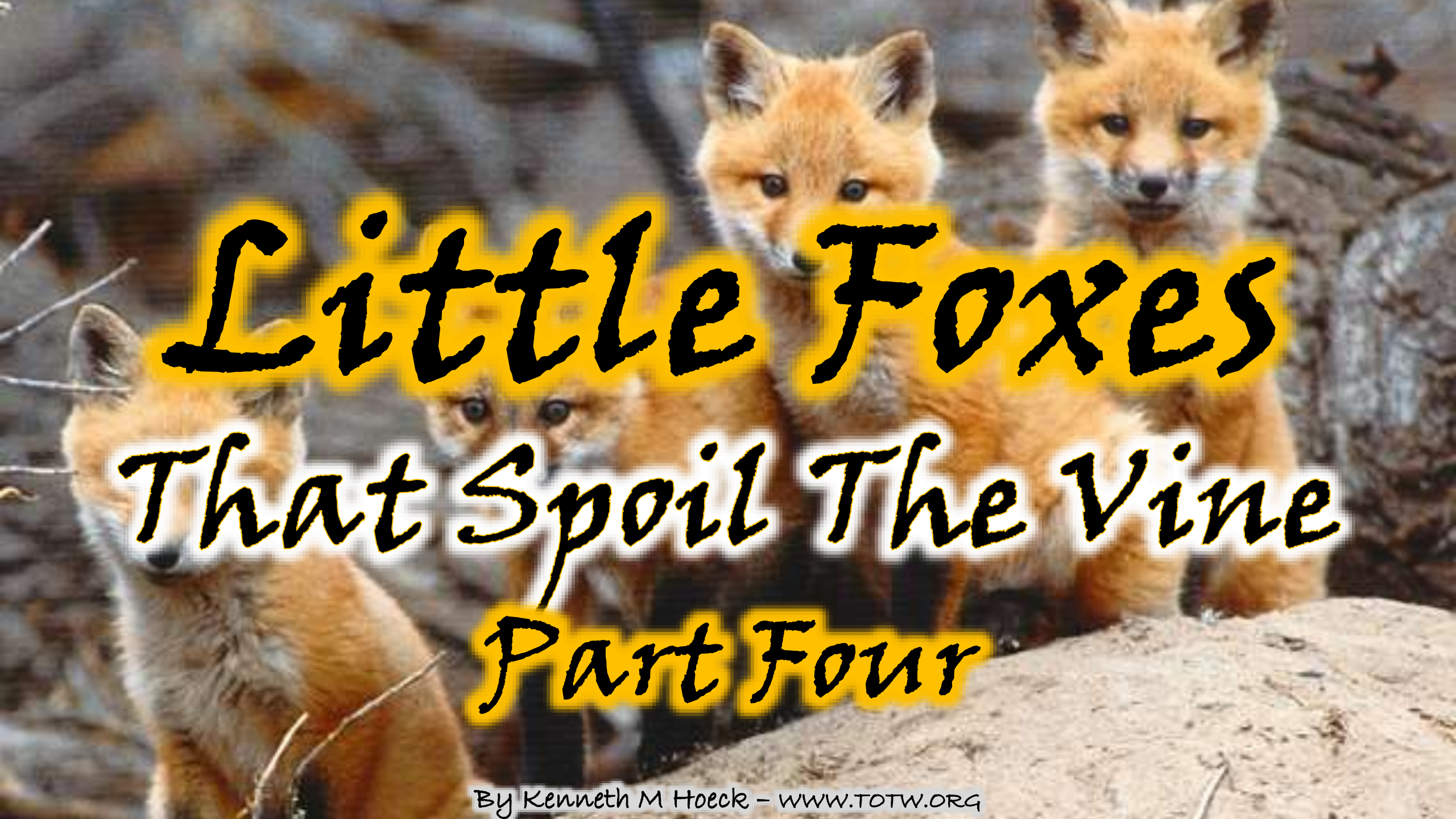


**TRUTH ON THE
WEB MINISTRIES**

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EPH 6:17 AND TAKE...THE SWORD OF THE
SPIRIT WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD
A CHURCH OF GOD IN WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS





Little Foxes *That Spoil The Vine* *Part Four*

By Kenneth M Hoeck - WWW.TOTW.ORG

Little Foxes

Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil
the vines: for our vines *have* tender grapes.

Song of Solomon 2:15



Intro:

- God often uses His creatures to teach us lessons:

Isa. 1:3; Psa. 32:9; Job 12:7

- Solomon uses “little foxes”:

Song of Solomon 2:15

- “little foxes” can spoil our spiritual fruit:

ref: John. 15:1-8; Gal. 5:22-23; 5:7; 6:1

Little Foxes

- Jealousy
- Covetousness
- Envy



Little Foxes: Jealousy, Covetousness & Envy

- **Jealousy** - The anguish caused by fear of losing something that you feel already belongs to you. Also denotes a feeling that another has gained something that one more rightfully deserves.
- **Covetousness** - The desire of that which is not yours and currently unattainable as it belongs to someone else or lies outside your ability to get.
- **Envy** - The desire of that which is not yours **and** the begrudging of the person who actually possesses it.

Little Foxes: Jealousy, Covetousness & Envy

James 3:14-16 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and **lie not against the truth**. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife *is*, there *is* **confusion and every evil work**.

Erwin Lutzer—Envy is rebellion against God's leading in the lives of his children. It's saying that God has no right to bless someone else more than you.

Lloyd John Ogilvie—One of the major causes of stress is combative competition—more accurately envy. . . it grows in the soul-soil of comparisons and blossoms in noxious thorns of desire for what others have or achieve.

Leslie Flynn—The envious man feels other's fortunes are his misfortunes; their profit, his loss; their blessing, his bane; their health, his illness; their promotion, his demotion; their success, his failure.

Clarence Macartney—Beware of envy! You are not too refined, too educated, too sensible, and too Christian to avoid destruction. The flame is there in your heart, and unexpected breezes of a tempting occasion may break forth in devastation that now would appall you.

Little Foxes: Jealousy, Covetousness & Envy

Proverbs 14:30 A sound heart *is* the life of the flesh: **but envy the rottenness of the bones.**

Job 5:2 For wrath killeth the foolish man, and **envy slayeth the silly one.**

Proverbs 24:19 Fret not thyself because of evil *men*, neither be thou **envious** at the wicked;

Proverbs 3:31 **Envy thou not** the oppressor, and choose none of his ways.

Proverbs 27:4 Wrath *is* cruel, and anger *is* outrageous; but **who *is* able to stand before envy?**

Little Foxes: Jealousy, Covetousness & Envy

Ecclesiastes 4:4 Again, I considered all travail, and every right work, that for this a man is **envied** of his neighbour. **This is also vanity and vexation of spirit.**

Romans 1:29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, **covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy**, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

Romans 13:13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, **not in strife and envying.**

1 Corinthians 3:3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas ***there is* among you envying**, and strife, and divisions, are ye not **carnal**, and walk as men?

Little Foxes: Jealousy, Covetousness & Envy

Galatians 5:19-21 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, **emulations**, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, **Envyings**, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, **envying one another**.

Little Foxes: Jealousy, Covetousness & Envy

A proof of carnal-mindedness **1 Corinthians 3:1-3** And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, *even* as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able *to bear it*, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas *there is* among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?

Hinders growth in grace **1 Peter 2:1-3** Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

Little Foxes: Jealousy, Covetousness & Envy

Instances of Envy: Cain, of Abel—Gen. 4:4-8; Sarah, of Hagar--
Gen_16:5-6; Gen_21:9-10; Philistines, of Isaac—Gen 26:14;
Rachel, of Leah—Gen 30:1; Leah, of Rachel—Gen 30:15; Laban's
sons, of Jacob—Gen 31:1; Joseph's brethren, of Joseph—Gen
37:4-11; 37:19-20; Act 7:9; Joshua, of Eldad and Medad—Num
11:28-30; Miriam and Aaron, of Moses—Num 12:1-10; Korah,
Dathan, and Abiram, of Moses—Num 16:3; Psalm 106:16-18;
Saul, of David--1Sam 18:8-9; 18:29; 20:31; Haman, of
Mordecai—Esther 5:13; The princes of Babylon, of Daniel—Dan
6:4; Priests, of Jesus—Matt 27:18; Mark 15:10; John 11:47;
Jews, of Paul and Barnabas—Acts 13:45; 17:5.

(From Nave's Topical Bible.)

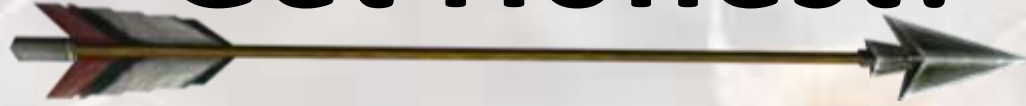
Little Foxes: Jealousy, Covetousness & Envy

Here are three questions to ask to discern if envy has taken hold in your heart.

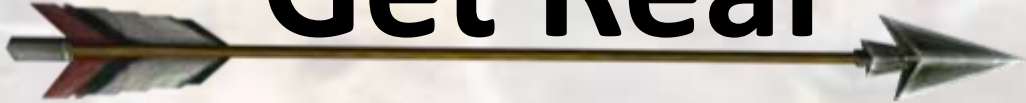
- 1. Do I complain or affirm when my spouse (or another person) is blessed?**
- 2. Am I content or am I comparing?**
- 3. Am I thankful or ungrateful?**

Little Foxes: Jealousy, Covetousness & Envy

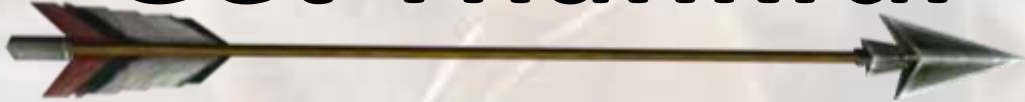
Get Honest!



Get Real



Get Thankful



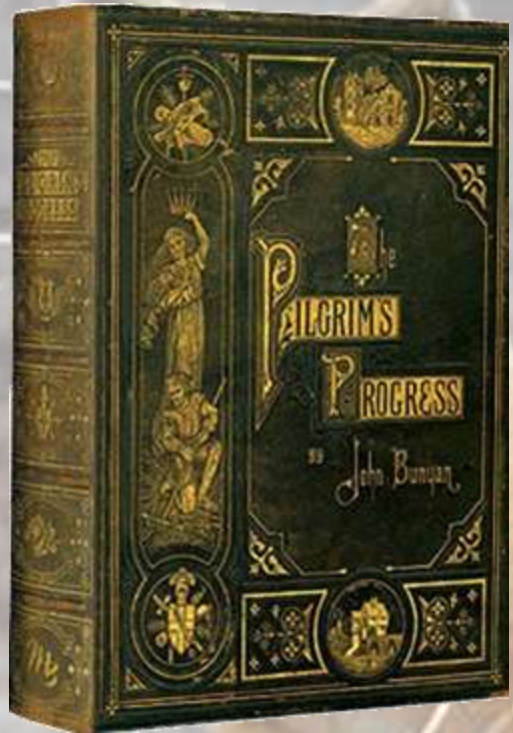
Little Foxes

Fear



Little Foxes

Fear



Little Foxes Fear & Worry

Genesis 3:10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself.

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Fear is that little darkroom where negatives are developed. —Michael Pritchard

Little Foxes Fear & Worry

Creates bondage: Romans 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

Takes the mind captive: 2 Corinthians 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Little Foxes Fear & Worry

Can lead to depression: 1 Kings 19:2-4 Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do *to me*, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time. 3 And when he saw *that*, **he arose, and went for his life**, and came to Beersheba, which *belongeth* to Judah, and left his servant there. 4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and **he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life;** for I *am* not better than my fathers.

Little Foxes Fear & Worry

Causes man to fear death: Hebrews 2:14-15 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them **who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.**

Torments the Mind: 1 John 4:18 There is **no fear** in love; but perfect love **casteth out fear**: because **fear hath torment**. He that **feareth is not made perfect in love.**

Can be related to our outward circumstances: Matthew 8:25-26 And his disciples came to *him*, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish. 26 And he saith unto them, **Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?** Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

Little Foxes Fear & Worry

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

1 Peter 5:5-7 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

1 Peter 5:9-10 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*.

Little Foxes Fear & Worry

Isaiah 58:11 And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: **for the LORD thy God, he *it is* that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.**

Hebrews 13:5 *Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*

One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord. Scenes from my life flashed across the sky. In each, I noticed footprints in the sand. Sometimes there were two sets of footprints; other times there was only one.

During the lowest times of my life I could see only one set of footprints, so I said, "Lord, you promised me, that you would walk with me always. Why, when I have needed you most, would you leave me?"

The Lord replied, "My precious child, I love you and would never leave you. The times when you have seen only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Little Foxes Fear & Worry

The Coyote's Wail

When businessman Allen Emery was in the wool business, he once spent an evening with a shepherd on the Texas prairie. During the night, the long wail of coyotes pierced the air. The shepherd's dogs growled and peered into the darkness. The sheep, which had been sleeping, lumbered to their feet, alarmed, bleating pitifully. The shepherd tossed more logs onto the fire, and the flames shot up. In the glow, Allen looked out and saw thousands of little lights. He realized those were reflections of the fire in the eyes of the sheep.

"In the midst of danger," he observed, "the sheep were not looking out into the darkness but were keeping their eyes in the direction of their safety, looking toward the shepherd. I couldn't help but think of Hebrews 12: 'looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.'

Little Foxes Fear & Worry

Psalms 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou *art* with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Psalms 91:5-7 Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; *nor* for the arrow *that* flieth by day; *Nor* for the pestilence *that* walketh in darkness; *nor* for the destruction *that* wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; *but* it shall not come nigh thee.

Psalms 91:1-4 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, *He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.* Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, *and* from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth *shall be thy shield and buckler.*

Little Foxes Fear & Worry

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

NOT A SPIRIT OF FEAR: Romans 8:14-15 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

Little Foxes Fear & Worry

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Luke 24:49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with **power from on high.**

Little Foxes Fear & Worry

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of **love**, and of a sound mind.

1 John 4:11-13 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. No man hath seen God at any time. **If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.** Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because **he hath given us of his Spirit.**

1 John 4:14-17 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son *to be* the Saviour of the world. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

1 John 4:18 There is **no fear in love**; but **perfect love casteth out fear**: because fear hath torment. **He that feareth is not made perfect in love.**

Little Foxes Fear & Worry

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a **sound mind**.

Strong's Greek Dictionary 4995. σωφρονισμος sophronismos *so-fron-is-mos'* from 4994; **discipline, i.e. self-control:—sound mind**. See Greek 4994 (used only in 2Tim 1:7)

Strong's Greek Dictionary 4994. σωφρονιζω sophronizo *so-fron-id'-zo* from 4998; **to make of sound mind**, i.e. (figuratively) **to discipline or correct:—teach to be sober**. See Greek 4998 (used only in Titus 2:4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,)

Strong's Greek Dictionary 4998. σωφρων sophron *so'-frone* from the base of 4982 and that of 5424; **safe (sound) in mind, i.e. self-controlled** (moderate as to opinion or passion):—**discreet, sober, temperate**. See Greek 4982 See Greek 5424

Strong's Greek Dictionary 4982. σωζω sozo *sode'-zo* from a primary sos (contraction for obsolete saos, "**safe**"); **to save, i.e. deliver or protect** (literally or figuratively):—**heal, preserve, save (self), do well, be (make) whole**.

Strong's Greek Dictionary 5424. φρεν phren *frane* probably from an obsolete phrao (**to rein in or curb**; compare 5420); the midriff (as a partition of the body), i.e. (figuratively and by implication, of sympathy) the feelings (or sensitive nature; by extension (also in the plural) **the mind or cognitive faculties**):—**understanding**. See Greek 5420

Little Foxes *Fear & Worry*

TO OVERCOME FEAR – TRUST THE LEAD OF THE SPIRIT

Ephesians 4:27 **Neither give place to the devil.**

James 4:7 **Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**

2 Timothy 1:6 **Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.**

Little Foxes That Spoil The Vine - Part Four



THANK YOU!

ENJOY THE REST OF THE SABBATH!

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