

Doing Theology in the Fear of God

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge, and so must be foundational for all who are called to be theologians. But what exactly is the right fear of the Lord? And how should it shape and guide us as we go about the task of theology?

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I. Introduction: a neglected and misunderstood theological theme

II. Two *types* of fear of God

A. Sinful fear

B. Right fear

III. Two *levels* of fear of God

A. Fear of the Creator

B. Fear of the Redeemer

IV. Theological knowledge and the fear of God

V. Conclusion: the vital importance of the fear of God for theologians

Suggested Readings:

John Bunyan, 'A Treatise On the Fear of God,' in *The Works of John Bunyan*, vol. 1 (Glasgow: W.G. Blackie & Son, 1854; repr. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1991)

John Murray, *Principles of Conduct* (London: Tyndale, 1957)