Perfect Love, Fear, Torment and Boldness in the Day of Judgment.

1 John 4:17-18 (KJV)
17 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.  
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.

Introduction.

The above verse written by apostle John was not penned down by impulse nor was it solely based on his own experience, as the Sum of the Word will reveal to us in this study. Like all the prophets, it was all from the inspiration of the holy spirit of God, and they were moved to write it down for our admonition.

2 Peter 1:20-21 (KJV)
20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private [Gk: own] interpretation.  
21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake [for example, John writing 1John 4:17-18.] as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Therefore, any question we ask, (and in this study we will be asking questions concerning 1John 4:17-18) we will only receive answers and increase our knowledge abiding by the principles laid down by the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 2:11 (KJV)
11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God [which He inspired the prophets to write] knoweth no [ natural ] man, but the Spirit of God.

That Spirit is His Word, teaching us by comparing spiritual words with Spiritual. The holy spirit of God inspired the words, and it is ONLY the Spirit that can teach us concerning any subject, not our own natural wisdom.

1 Corinthians 2:13-14 (KJV)
13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.  
14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.
John 6:63 (KJV)
63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Proverbs 1:23 (KJV)
23 Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words [1 John 4:17-18] unto you.

The aim of this study is to search the Scripture (as noble Bereans -Act 17:11) on the meanings of perfect love, fear, torment and boldness in the Day of Judgment.

To learn how the acts of the disciples reveal the thoughts and intentions of the Lord, what He wants us to understand in inspiring 1 John 4:17-18.

These can only be discerned through the Word of God, which is the Spirit of God, teaching us to compare spiritual words here a little, there a little to eventually come to the sum of the Truth.

Hebrews 4:12 (KJV)
12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. [Of men and the mind of the Lord concerning any issues of life.]

A lot has already been written about the Fear of the Lord and Fear in general, and there are many studies on fellowship websites (Iswasandwillbe.com and tryingthespirits.com) showing the narrow way to understand the sum of this Truth.

Here are a few links for further in depth studies on the topic of FEAR.

http://www.iswasandwillbe.com/i-will-teach-you-the-fear-of-the-lord/

http://www.iswasandwillbe.com/fear-not/

Some searching questions about 1 John 4:17-18.

If we want to increase wisdom concerning the things of God, we must ASK in order to be given such wisdom, in FAITH that is not going above what is written, nor asking foolish double-minded questions, wavering in unbelief.

We must ask in the faith of Jesus, (not asking amiss in the lust of the flesh -James 4:2-3) to receive answers / Wisdom of the Lord.

James 1:5-7 (KJV)
5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.
6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.
7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

1 John 3:22 (KJV)
22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

We receive of him by keeping His word / His commandments.

This is the very thing that is pleasing in His sight, therefore the Word itself will be answering our questions, and the practical manifestation of the spiritual words will be given to us in the Acts of the disciples.

We need not so much as think above what is written, (1Corinthians 4:6) as the Sum of the written Word is Truth. (Psalm 119:160 NASB)

**Question 1.**

1 John 4:17-18 (KJV)
17 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.
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.

What is this" perfect love" apostle John speaks of? And what kind of love is not "perfect love"?

Not thinking above what the apostle wrote, perfect Love is:

1 John 2:3-5 (KJV)
3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.
4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: [G5048] hereby know we that we are in him.

1 John 5:2-3 (KJV)
2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.
3 For this is the [perfect] love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

2 John 1:6 (KJV)
6 And this is [perfect] love, that we walk after his commandments.

This word "perfect" is being used in the context of matured love, a complete love and a love that is full of age, as opposed to immature childish love.

Greek 5048 = perfect / perfected.
Pronunciation
tel'-i-o'-o

from 5046; to complete, i.e. (literally) accomplish, or (figuratively) consummate (in character):--consecrate, finish, fulfil, make) perfect.

Greek 5046
Pronunciation
tel'-i-os

from 5056; complete (in various applications of labor, growth, mental and moral character, etc.); neuter (as noun, with 3588) completeness:--of full age, man, perfect.

The Spirit inspired apostle John to write these verses in the New Testament. The same spirit inspired the older prophets to first tell us what perfect love is in hidden wisdom, and passing of time does not change the definition and meaning of spiritual words.

1 Kings 8:61 (KJV)
61 Let your heart therefore be perfect with the Lord our God, [How?] to walk in his statutes, and to keep his commandments, as at this day.

The holy spirit of God contrasts this perfect love with the love that focuses on all things aside from the true God, the love of the World and all things in it.
1 John 2:15-16 (KJV)

15 Love [Greek 25: pronounced as Ag-ap-ah’o] not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love [G25] the world, the love [G26, pronounced as Ag-ah’-pay], from G25] of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

The heart of the natural man is set to love the world and mind all the things that are in the world, to "love his own". Contrary to some teachings, ‘Agape’ love is not exclusive to God. The world also has ‘agape’ love also. There are many ‘men’ that ‘agapaho’ the world, and there are few that have ‘agapaho’ of God. The contrast is one is obedient to “his own”, the world and the things in it, and the other’s heart and affection is set on obedience to God’s commandment. One word can have both a positive and negative meaning. This is one of the foundation principles of scriptural interpretation.

John 15:19 (KJV)

19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

More in depth study on the matter of Godly love can be found here: http://www.iswasandwillbe.com/the-matter-of-godly-love/

Perfect love does not mean that one is already perfected, fully matured in the spirit, and has already attained while in body of this flesh. Perfection in the Spirit, full maturity / completeness is the end goal, that the man of God be thoroughly furnished unto all good works, that is, to be as our Father which is in heaven is perfect. (Matt 5:48, 2Cor 13:9, 2Tim 3:16-17) “Perfect love” is a spiritual code word for keeping His word, the means unto that Perfection.

Psa 119:96 I have seen an end of all perfection: [but] thy commandment is exceeding broad.

Philippians 3:12-13 (ASV)

12 Not that I have already obtained, or am already made perfect: but I press on, if so be that I may lay hold on that for which also I was laid hold on by Christ Jesus.

13 Brethren, I count not myself yet to have laid hold: [of perfection] but one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before.
"Perfect love" is a spiritual word that is foolishness to the mind of the natural man. He cannot comprehend its full meaning.

Perfect love of God is perfect hatred to all that oppose God and are contrary to the ways of God.

Psalms 139:21-22 (ASV)
21 Do not I hate them, O Jehovah, that hate thee? And am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee?
22 I hate them with perfect hatred: They are become mine enemies.

Obedience to the doctrine of Christ is how this love is perfected, and we are to press towards. As our obedience is fulfilled, this love grows in us as we abide in the doctrine of Christ. It is not an instantaneous full perfection. It is love we grow and abound unto perfection.

2 Corinthians 8:7 (KJV)
7 Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

Philippians 1:9 (KJV)
9 And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;

1 Thessalonians 3:12 (KJV)
12 And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and [to be perfect/complete/mature, that love must also be] toward all men, even as we do toward you:

**Question 2.**

1 John 4:17-18 (KJV)
17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have § the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.
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.

This perfect love "casteth out fear", and fear is contrasted with boldness in the previous verse, all in the Day of Judgment.

First, when is this Day of Judgment and what is its outcome?
For brevity's sake, the Day of Judgment begins when the judge sits on His judgment seat within the hearts and minds of His people. He is at the door, and when that door opens, He takes His seat / throne within the heart, judgment begins.

**James 5:9 (KJV)**
9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: [Gk: judge against...] behold, the judge standeth before the door.

**Romans 2:16 (KJV)**
16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

**Hebrews 10:30 (KJV)**
30 For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

That day is now upon the chosen of God. Judgment must FIRST BEGIN at the house of God. Thus the admonishment of being bold in this day is for this very elect, as opposed to them that at this time are not obedient to the gospel.

There is a time for judgment of the sons of men.

**Ecclesiastes 3:17 (KJV)**
17 I said in mine heart, God shall judge the righteous and the wicked: for there is a time there for every purpose and for every work.

But that Day of Judgment begins somewhere, and this is first at:

**1 Peter 4:17 (KJV)**
17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

The outcome of the ages, the fruit of all judgment is told to us by the prophets of old.

**Isaiah 26:9 (KJV)**
9 With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

But specifically, John is inspired to emphasise this end result to us:

**John 4:42 (KJV)**
42 And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

Not a 'potential' saviour at the end of judging all men, but THE Saviour of all men through judgment.

John 5:22-23 (KJV)
22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: [for the end result?]
23 That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

1 John 2:2 (KJV)
2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 4:14 (KJV)
14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

More in depth study of judgment can be found on the study section on the fellowship sites.

http://www.iswasandwillbe.com/studies/

http://tryingthespirits.com/bible-studies/

Secondly, what type of fear is the holy spirit of God concerned about being cast out? Fear of whom should we be concerned to be cast out?

In order to receive the wholesome Truth to this question, we must also search the acts of the disciples, such as John's experience himself, coupled with the context and contrast he wrote in his epistles. Such is the importance of rightly dividing this section of John's epistle that failure to do right will and has led some to wrestle the scripture unto their own destruction.

Matthew 13:52 (KJV)
52 Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven [concerning the question of fear and boldness in the day of judgment] is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.
John wrote some things concerning those we must not fear, the seducers and deceivers in the world. These if possible, will seduce and deceive the very elect, hence we must take great heed to these inspired words of the apostles.

Mark 13:22-23 (KJV)
22 For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.
23 But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things.

1 John 2:26 (KJV)
26 These things have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you.

1 John 3:13 (KJV)
13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.

Can we be more specific who in the world John is referring to?

1 John 4:1 (KJV)
1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

False prophets and false Christ's -Christians- prophesy (1Cor 14:3) falsely to deceive many called into the church world that they are of God, that they believe in Christ, but really are of a contrary spirit and do not confess the true name / doctrine of Jesus Christ.

1 John 4:3 (KJV)
3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

1 John 4:5 (KJV)
5 They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.

The type of fear that was most exhibited and written of by the prophets of the Lord and apostle John was also inspired of the holy Spirit to write to us are "the fear of the enemies" - Psalm 64:1-10, "the fear of death", Fear of "them that seduce you", fear of "the antichrists", fear of "they of the world" which is all briefly comprehended in saying, "the fear of men."

Proverbs 29:25 (KJV)
25 The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.
It is this very context John is inspired to continue to write this in 1 John 4, and one and the same context throughout the Scripture.

Verse 17-18
17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: [against the world that hates you...wherein are the false prophets, them that seduce you...spirit of the antichrists.....and BOLDNESS is needed...] because as he is, [...Christ, the righteous and bold Lion of the tribe of Judah...] so are we in this world.
18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: [of all these false prophets with devilish doctrines, fear of the 'Jews'...fear of many antichrists and seducers, fear of the spirit of Cain, fear of these many deceivers] because fear hath torment.
He that feareth [“the world and all the things in it”] is not made perfect in love.

John continues in his second epistle identifying them we must not be fearful of, as we increase in boldness in the Day of Judgment.

2 John 1:7 (KJV)
7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

These deceivers, antichrist are of the same unclean spirit as was written of old time.

Psalms 27:1-2 (KJV)
A Psalm of David.
1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
2 When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

Psalms 31:9-13 (KJV)
9 Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble: mine eye is consumed with grief, yea, my soul and my belly.
10 For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength faileth because of mine iniquity, and my bones are consumed.
11 I was a reproach among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbours, and a fear to mine acquaintance: they that did see me without fled from me.
12 I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind: I am like a broken vessel.
13 For I have heard the slander of many: fear was on every side: while they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life.
It is a very fearful thing indeed when the enemies of the Lord devices to take away one's life, whether physical life or spiritually to take away Christ, our life, (John 14:6, Col 3:4) from the mind and hearts of believers and their children, to forget His name.

Here is a physical example of the spirit of antichrist that brought great fear to many saints, and even now, we must be constantly vigilant and watch.

Acts 26:10-11 (KJV)
10 Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them.
11 And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities.

3 John 1:9-10 (KJV)
9 I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not.
10 Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, AND forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church.

The spiritual admonitions and doctrine John is inspired to teach us is also filled with the physical manifestations and examples of all that he wrote. Every word inspired of God he and the brethren lived by also. (Matthew 4:4, Luke 4:4)

John begins to make it clear as crystal in his epistles the separation of the sons of God and the children of the devil, making a "they" and an "us" separation, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. The separation is based solely on who holds and keeps the wholesome of the Lord, that is, the doctrine of Jesus Christ and who do not.

"They" can "kill" the body of this flesh, but afterward no more they can do. And there naturally is a cause to be fearful while in the body of clay. However, because of the hope of glory in "us", the power of the age to come, seeing what eyes has not seen and ears not heard, justice and judgment to come, and the power of God yet to be revealed to all, our hearts are strengthened to count it all joy to suffer shame for His name. The supernatural makes "us" bold.
Acts 5:40-41 (KJV)
40 And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.
41 And they departed from the presence of the council, ["they"] rejoicing that they [the apostles, which is "us" that is of God..] were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

Question 3.

1 John 4:17-18 (KJV)
17 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.
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.

Greek 5401 = FEAR
Pronunciation- fob'-'os
from a primary (to be put in fear); alarm or fright:--be afraid, + exceedingly, fear, terror.

Greek 5399 FEARETH
Pronunciation- fob-eh'-'o
from 5401; to frighten, i.e. (passively) to be alarmed; by analogy, to be in awe of, i.e. revere:--be (+ sore) afraid, fear (exceedingly), reverence.

What type of fear did John witness in the days of his flesh?

John tells us he is declaring exactly what he has seen and heard.

1 John 1:3 (KJV)
3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Let us take heed to what John wrote in the gospel concerning fear and boldness, what he has "seen and heard".

John 7:12-13 (KJV)
12 And there was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; but he deceiveth the people.
13 Howbeit no man spake openly of him for fear of the Jews.
John saw a particular disciple of Jesus in fear of the Jews also...

John 19:38 (KJV)
38 And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus.

What about John himself?

John 20:19 (KJV)
19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

Three times we read John write for "fear of the Jews"!
That should be helping us remember whom he is referring to in 1 John 4:17-18.
John himself was sore afraid and tormented of the threats of the physical Jews that he was assembled with the disciples.

Fearfulness took hold of all of them at this time.

John knew what fear of men really entails. How it manifests, and how that fear is a snare holding many in bondage to be slaves of unrighteousness and lies.

Isaiah prophesied of these...

Isaiah 57:11 (KJV)
11 And of whom hast thou been afraid or feared, that thou hast lied, and hast not remembered me, nor laid it to thy heart? have not I held my peace even of old, and thou fearest me not?

...... And it will continue to be fulfilled in every generation, as it was in the days of John when he saw the cause of the fear that was in men causing denial of Christ.

John 12:42-43 (KJV)
42 Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, [because of the FEAR of the Jews, the religious sect taking hold of them as it is today] lest they should be put out of the synagogue: 43 For they loved the praise [=fear/reverence] of men more than the praise [=fear/ reverence] of God.
Many believed on Jesus, but did not confess him, for fear of the Pharisees.
Till this very day, many Christians believe in a name of Jesus, but because of their devilish doctrines taught by the traditions of the fathers, instilling in them the praise of men more than the praise and fear of God, they are yet reserved in the blackness of darkness for an appointed time, and their salvation from the dead is still pending. (2Peter 2:3)

Romans 10:9-10 (KJV)
9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.
10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

The praise of men is intrinsically linked to the fear of men. The praise of God is intrinsically linked to the fear of God.

No man can serve both. One has to be CASTED out.

Matthew 6:24 (KJV)
24 No man can serve two masters: [with Fear / Reverence] for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

John wrote his epistles to the "elect lady and her children", (2John 1:1) that is, the true believers, the Body of Jesus Christ. The fear he tells us that is, was and will be casted out when our obedience is fulfilled is the FEAR OF MEN that is contrary to the Fear of God, which inhibits us from obedience to God.

Isaiah 8:12-13 (ASV)
12 Say ye not, A conspiracy, concerning all whereof this people shall say, A conspiracy; neither fear ye their fear, nor be in dread thereof.
13 Jehovah of hosts, him shall ye sanctify; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

Psalms 2:11 (KJV)
11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

Hebrews 12:28 (KJV)
28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

That is the primary context of 1John 4:17-18.
Do not fear their fear, nor be in dread of it. Let God be our fear, let God be our dread.

We are given an example of one apostle serving the Lord with boldness, with a more matured love having cast out the fear of men (one and the same as the fear of the Jews, the circumcision) and another with less matured love fearing Men and treasuring up torments for himself.

Galatians 2:11-14 (KJV)  
11 But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, [=BOLDNESS in the day of Judgment] because he was to be blamed.  
12 For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision.  
13 And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation. [=Hypocrisy!]  
14 But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, [=devoid of perfect love, obedience to the gospel.] I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?

Before Pentecost, before the coming of the holy spirit in the hearts and mind of those the Lord had chosen, all the disciples were gripped with the fear of the Jews. They were in their dread.  
Peter was in the dread of the circumcision that he played the hypocrite. Fear caused him to live a lie for a moment and not fear God by obedience to the truth of the gospel. Shortly after Pentecost, he and some of the other disciples were still having attitude adjustments to the reformation that was at hand. Fear of men was all around them.

Isaiah 57:11 (KJV)  
11 And of whom hast thou been afraid or feared, that thou hast lied, and hast not remembered me, nor laid it to thy heart? have not I held my peace even of old, and thou fearest me not?

We must bear in mind that the time of reformations also carries a lot of fear - by nature, people fear changes. Fear can cause a lot of torments trapping people in unrighteousness, lies, hatred, personality disorders and many such, and it takes time to overcome as the natural instinct is to prefer the old wine from the changes of the new.

Luke 5:39 (ASV)  
39 And no man having drunk old wine desireth new; for he saith, The old is good.
The powers of the heaven, the rulers of the darkness of the age were about to be shaken, to remove those things that are made that opposes the Way of The Lord.

25 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;
26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.
27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

Before that great day from of reformation started, the disciples themselves were still afraid of the witness of Jesus Christ. Boldness (the spirit of Christ) was not in their unconverted hearts though they believed on Him and have known him after the flesh.

This even continued for some time after Pentecost as Peter's example above showed us. This act of the disciples signifies to us that growth unto perfect love, complete matured love is not an instantaneous ten seconds sinners prayer event.

Perfect love is a growing event, little by little, day unto day as fear of men decreases, is cast out of our hearts and minds and our obedience in the fear of the Lord increases.

Just as old Adam was afraid, the disciples were yet naked because they did not have the spirit of Jesus Christ to clothe them. This caused them to be afraid and in dread of the religious powers of the day, having to lie. (Isaiah 57:11) This treasured up torments for them later. Paul judged Peter straightaway at Antioch and brought him to accounts.

This is a practical example to us in the Body of Christ that fear of men / of the circumcision can cause members to play the hypocrite, to lie, and therefore not walk uprightly according to the Truth of the gospel. This however will not abide with Christ and His Christ, as Paul showed us. We must be clothed with Christ's boldness.

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

"Afraid" is used here in a negative sense.
Hebrew 3372 = AFRAID
Pronunciation- yare'
A primitive root; to fear; morally to revere; causatively to frighten: -- affright, be (make) afraid, dread (-ful), (put in) fear (-ful, -fully, -ing).
(be had in) reverence (-end), X see, terrible (act, -ness, thing).

Afraid and FEAR are used interchangeably in the Scripture, both in a positive and a negative sense.

Luke 12:4-5 (KJV)
4 And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid [G5399] of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.
5 But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: [G5399] Fear him, which AFTER HE HATH KILLED [Deuteronomy 32:39] hath power to cast into hell; [Gk: Gehenna, lake of fire white throne judgment -] yea, I say unto you, Fear him.

Greek 5399=afraid = FEAR
Pronunciation- fob-eh'-o
from 5401; to frighten, i.e. (passively) to be alarmed; by analogy, to be in awe of, i.e. revere: --be (+ sore) afraid, fear (exceedingly), reverence.

Be not afraid / fearful of them that kill the Body.

That type of fear inhibits us from doing righteousness and from fidelity to the word of God, and it must be casted out.
Do not fear and dread them people like Saul, and this takes Christ in us. (Acts 9:26, Acts 26:10-11)

"Be not afraid of them".
In the day of judgment when antichrist spirit like Saul is persecuting believers even to strange cities and putting some to death, this will take great boldness through the power of God in us to "not be afraid", a supernatural event simply because the fear of death is a very natural, real thing.

Not being afraid of the spirit of antichrist is one and the same thing as not being afraid/fearful of death.
The "dream is one" principle applies here (Genesis 45:25-26) in studying these deep things of God.

As John wrote many times, only "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Col 1:27) "greater is he than" any antichrist, seducers, deceivers and false prophets "that is in the world" CAN and WILL overcome and cast out that fear of men / death in us.
He will teach us His fear, [Ephesians 4:21] not by precepts of men, teaching us Him in the Father only to be "our fear and dread".

Isaiah 8:12-13 (KJV)
12 Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; **neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid.**
13 Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself; and **let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.**

1 John 4:3-4 (KJV)
3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and **even now already is it in the world.**
4 Ye are of God, little children, and have **overcome them:** because greater is **he that is in you,** [...] the bold lion of the tribe of Judah, whom we become as He is because He is dwelling in us, and is greater....] **than he that is in the world.**

Hebrews 2:14-15 (KJV)
14 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,** [=thus the fear of death] that is, the devil;
15 And deliver them [prisoners of fear] who **through fear of death** were [held in that prison under that power] **all their lifetime subject to bondage.**

The power and fear of death that the children of the Devil are temporarily given has no hold on Christ Jesus. John himself witnessed when he saw Christ brought before the Judgment seat of Pontius Pilate the governor.

John 19:10-11 (KJV)
10 Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? [...] you do not fear me??!] knowest thou not that **I have power** [...] of death...] **to crucify thee,** and **have power** to release thee?
11 Jesus answered, Thou couldest have **no power** [of death and fear..] **at all against me,** except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.

Christ told John and the other disciples this truth and the boldness of the Father that was in Him earlier.

John 14:30 (KJV)
30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: **for the prince of this world cometh,** [Acts 4:27] and **hath nothing in me.**
The disciples would still be hiding away from the children of the devil, the prince of this world in fear of death / power of death, (within and without) locked up in the bondage of the flesh and prison of lies, unable to confess the Lord’s name / doctrine. The fear of men binds and delivers many into prisons of the world’s system, whether it is religious, pride of life, lust of the flesh and evil eye to lust for worldly things. All to keep the natural man from the true fear of God.

Luke 21:12 But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, [of the fear of men] being brought before kings and rulers for my name’s sake.


It takes the captain of our salvation to come and deliver us captives from the prisons of worldly fear.

The torment and bruises the fear of men produces includes this bondage to the carnal mind (bondage to death –Romans 7:23-24, Rom 8:2) that the Lord comes to free us from in the day of judgement.

As the power of death has nothing on the Spirit of Christ, for that cause, He is the mediator to bring us from the fear and power of death to the fear and power of God under the New Testament.

Hebrews 9:15 (KJV)
15 And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, [and all it's power and fears] they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

That boldness Christ displayed in the face of death, is what Paul refers to as a good confession, what we also must strive and fight for in the day of judgment through the keeping of the commandment of God.

1 Timothy 6:12-14 (KJV)
12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

By having boldness in the Day of judgment as a soldier of Christ, through perfect love.
13 I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;
14 That thou keep this commandment without spot, [=PERFECT LOVE] unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**Question 4.**

1 John 4:17-18 (KJV)

17 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.
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.

What does John mean by having "boldness in the Day of Judgment"? Boldness for what?

Let us search the acts of the disciples to reveal to us this boldness John speaks of. This was post-Pentecost, and the spirit of Christ had come to fill the hearts of Peter and John. Boldness has come.

Fear of men begins to be cast away; they were no longer assembling in a house for fear of the Jews. The riches of Christ were esteemed far higher than the fear of men.

What can men do that we need boldness?

Psalms 56:11 (KJV)

11 In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.

Psalms 118:6 (KJV)

6 The Lord is on my side; **I will not fear**: what can man do unto me?

Here is what man can do in the acts of the disciples.

Acts 4:5-6 (KJV)

5 And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes,
6 And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.

Acts 4:13 (KJV)

13 Now when they saw **the boldness of Peter and JOHN**, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.
Acts 4:17-21 (KJV)
17 But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name.
18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.
19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them,
[Here's a demonstration of boldness in the day of judgement, and carnal fears, fear of men, spirits of many antichrists etc being casted out. The things John wrote for us in 1John 4:17-18, he lived by also.]
20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.
21 So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people: for all men glorified God for that which was done.

Here is another example of boldness for us to walk in the Acts of the disciples.

Acts 13:45-46 (KJV)
45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.
46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

It takes great boldness to tell the Jews then and now, and their carnal supporters around the world, that God has now made "of twain one new man" (Ephesians 2:14-16, Romans 2:28, Romans 11) and physical lineage is nothing now but dung.(Phil 3:8)

Paul himself was given great boldness to preach the reformation to the Jews that the Israel of God is now only those that are in the Spirit of Christ.
Neither physical circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything. (Gal 5:6, Gal 6:15) It is now the Spirit of Christ that makes alive, the flesh, genealogies, physical nations and lineage profits nothing. (Jn 6:63)

Speaking the word in boldness in the midst of religious antichrists is to speak without fear of men. Great boldness is needed because it is inevitable that there will be contentions, even at times, persecution unto death.
1Tim 3:13 For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, **and great boldness in the faith** which is in Christ Jesus.

This knowledge and profession of the gospel is no light thing, and one must always sit down first and count the cost. (Luke 14:28-30)

To be in the faith of God’s elect (Titus 1:1), boldness is a requisite to enter into the faith, walk in the faith, live and die by the faith of Jesus.

Hebrews 10:19 Having therefore, brethren, **boldness to enter** into the holiest [the pure faith of God’s elect] **by** the blood of Jesus,

Philippians 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that **with all boldness**, as always, **so now** also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be **by life, or by death**.

It takes the boldness of Christ in us to overcome the fear of men and confess a good witness, to speak the truth as we ought to.

Philippians 1:14 (KJV)
14 And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more **bold to speak the word without fear**.

1 Thessalonians 2:2 (KJV)
2 But even after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated, as ye know, at Philippi, **we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention**.

Acts 9:27-29 (KJV)
27 But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.
28 And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem.
29 **And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus**, and disputed against the Grecians: but **they went about to slay him. !!**

And finally, why boldness is needed?

Acts 20:22-24 (KJV)
22 And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, [Paul showing us an example of GREAT BOLDNESS.] **not knowing the things that shall befall me there**: 23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that **bonds and afflictions abide me.**
24 But none of these things move me, **neither count I my life dear unto myself**, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry,
which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Eph 6:19-20 (KJV)
19 And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,
20 For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

To testify of the gospel of the grace of God, the secrets of the gospel, we need and must always come boldly to the throne of grace and mercy, and continually ask for boldness in our prayers.

Let us always bear in mind this word of the Lord, who left us an example (1Pet 2:21), as John himself witnessed the need for boldness in the Day of Judgment.

Luke 12:4-5 (KJV)
4 And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.
5 But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.

John 7:25-26 (KJV)
25 Then said some of them of Jerusalem, Is not this he, whom they seek to kill? 26 But, lo, he speaketh boldly, and they say nothing unto him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is the very Christ?

The rulers did not know, just as the rulers of today will not know that the elect of God scattered around today “is the very Christ” of Christ.

Question 5.

1 John 4:17-18 (KJV)
17 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. 
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.
Fear hath torment. What is the “torment”? Who is “he that feareth”?

The torment that fear of men produces has two sides to it.

The torment from the fear of false prophets, antichrist, they of the world etcetera is the torment of living a lie under bondage of men, lying to God and his people under false doctrines (such as believing the God of love and righteous judgment will cast unbelievers into eternal hellfire forever having lived a life of a vapour)

Torments and pain also comes from living under falsehood when one knows of the truth. The heart becomes restless and fearful, because knowing to do good, and doing it not for fear, is reserving one’s own punishment / torments.

G2851 =torment
Pronunciation- Kol’as-is
From 2849; penal infliction: -punishment, torment

Greek 2849
Pronunciation- Kol-ad’-zo
(dwarf); properly, to curtail, i.e. (figuratively) to chastise (or reserve for infliction):--punish

There are consequences of disobedience to God's word that the natural man 'reserve for infliction', that is, treasures up to himself wrath against the day of wrath unto the Day of Judgment. (Romans 2:5-6)

Deuteronomy 28:58-61 (KJV)
58 If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that [=Perfect love for the reason that] thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, the Lord thy God;

59 Then the Lord will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance.
60 Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, [...deliver you unto Satan and his false prophets, false pastors / ministers, to all the false doctrines and the torments, pain, distress that those comes with] which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee.
61 Also every sickness, and every plague, which is not written in the book of this law, them will the Lord bring upon thee, until thou be destroyed.

For example, those that believe in eternal hell torments of unbelievers will be put through the feelings of torment, distress and pain of heart as their
own wickedness chastens them, as Joseph put his brothers through for a season in type and shadows.

Genesis 42:21-22 (KJV)
21 And they said one to another, We are verily guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the anguish of his soul, when he besought us, and we would not hear; therefore is this distress come upon us.
22 And Reuben answered them, saying, Spake I not unto you, saying, Do not sin against the child; [Do not sin against Christ in false deeds and doctrines...] and ye would not hear? therefore, behold, also his blood is required.

That period of time Joseph subjected his brothers was a distressful time for them. Their own wickedness some years back (Benjamin excepted) in not fearing God and sinning against Joseph, reserved for themselves punishment of heart many years later in the presence of Joseph. They had doubt of their life, tortured and pained what possibly could Joseph do unto them? What will my evil in loving the world do to me? They had no assurance of their life, even after their old man Jacob passed away.

Genesis 50:15 (KJV)
15 And when Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Joseph will peradventure hate us, and will certainly requite us all the evil which we did unto him.

Their hearts was still in torments.

Deuteronomy 28:66-67 (KJV)
66 And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life:
67 In the morning thou shalt say, Would God it were even! and at even thou shalt say, Would God it were morning! [why?] for the fear of thine heart wherewith thou shalt fear, [...] and for the sight of thine eyes which thou shalt see.

Jeremiah 2:19 (KJV)
19 Thine own wickedness shall correct [H3256- to chasten, punish] thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee: know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and bitter, that thou hast forsaken the LORD thy God, and that my fear is not in thee, saith the Lord God of hosts.

These torments are stored up till the time the Lord comes to deliver us from it through destruction of the flesh.
The other side of torment, but having the lighter yoke, is the process of being delivered out of that flesh through the wrath of God.

Just as we are delivered from death through death, (John 12:24, Colossians 1:22, Hebrews 2:14) likewise, we are and will be delivered from torments of ungodliness through the torment and pain of the destruction of the flesh, that is, the death of the Cross.

Just as an addict to illicit drugs or strong drinks is tormented, distress and is pained with the addiction after some time, the process of giving up that addiction, casting out that unclean spirit, either by ‘cold turkey’ or gradual decrease, involves some torments/pain to the flesh also.

Luke 8:28-29 (KJV)

28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment [G928] me not. [why? What is the torment?]

29 (For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he brake the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness.)

Greek 928

Pronunciation- bas-an-id’-zo

From 931; to torture; -PAIN, toil, torment, toss, vex

At the appointed time of the Father, few in this age, many in the age to come, God’s wrath is poured out upon the flesh to cast out all the unclean spirits to bring us to a sound mind.

All the lies it has accumulated up, the overflowing scourge that is the fierceness of the wrath of God begins to put an end to it in the Day of Judgment.

Isaiah 57:11 (KJV)

11 And of whom hast thou been afraid or feared, that thou hast lied, and hast not remembered me, nor laid it to thy heart? have not I held my peace even of old, and thou fearest me not?

So at the appointed time, He begins to teach us His fear and dread by His holy spirit.
Isaiah 28:14-15 (KJV)
14 Wherefore hear the word of the Lord, ye scornful men, that rule this people which is in Jerusalem.
15 Because ye have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell [Gk:Sheol, the abode of death - the carnal mind] are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: [why?] for we have made lies our refuge, [we have been afraid and chosen the fear of death, to love the world and the things that are in it ] and under falsehood have we hid ourselves:

While many are basking in their praises of men, love of the world, the truth is that they are still under falsehood "subject to bondage", wallowing in the "pollutions of the world" unashamedly.

Making refuge in lies and living under false doctrines is nothing but treasuring up the torments and pain that comes with the wrath of God.

Many scorners and rulers of men till this very day say in their heart "when the overflowing scourge shall pass through," .... when Judgement day comes, "it shall not come unto us", that is, we will not go through the heart cleansing process of the wrath of God.
The carnal mind says "We already are saved", ‘we already are in the Truth’, ‘we are Abraham’s seed and have no need’, ‘and we are ‘Christians’ and in bondage to no lies’.

Not knowing, the Devil, the great traducer, deceives the whole world. The natural man is under strong delusions indeed; having made an old covenant with him that is delivered the power and fear of death for a season.

As apostle John revealed and written also by the old prophets, their torment will be the wrath of God which is poured out to destroy the kingdom of the beast all men fears and cannot make war with. That covenant with death, the fear of death and all that is in it, WILL BE DESTROYED.
The overflowing scourge SHALL pass through it, and all men that are subjected and made covenant with the fear of death, the fear of men, will be overcome and conquered by the conquering King Jesus Christ, in the Day of judgment.

Isaiah 28:17-18 (KJV)
17 Judgment also will I lay to the line, 
and righteousness to the plummet:
and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, 
and the waters shall overflow the hiding place.
18 And your covenant with death shall be disannulled, and your agreement with hell shall not stand; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, then ye shall be trodden down by it.

The removal process of the fear of men in our hearts and minds to be replaced / transformed into the fear of the Lord is, to the flesh, a wrathful process.
The fear of the Lord to the natural man, vessels of wrath, comes across as the burning anger, wrath of God. It is all but a demonstration of His Almighty power and age lasting glory.

Romans 9:22 (KJV)
22 What if God, willing to shew his wrath, [why?] and to make his power known, [=HIS FEAR!] endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:

Psalms 90:11 (KJV)
11 Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath.

Only Christ the Judge can and will overcome that beast the whole world fear and serve by nature.

Revelation 14:9-10 (KJV)
9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,
10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented [G928- Pain] with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

Revelation 16:19-21 (KJV)
19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.
20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.
21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; [Isaiah 28:17 above] for the plague thereof was exceeding great.
This torment is for an appointed time as we have learnt earlier; the end of all is salvation of the soul, salvation of the whole world as John testified to us in the same chapter of our study. It is all a process unto salvation.

1 John 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

But all those unclean spirits in us that is fearful and timid of 'men', loving the praise of men than praise of God will be burnt out by fire / cast out of us in due time. This will be at the lake of fire for many, their Day of judgment. That fire and brimstone –the breath God - begins at the house of God.

Revelation 21:8 (KJV)
8 But the fearful, [G1169-timid, (no boldness in the day of judgment) faithless,] and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Isaiah 30:33 (KJV)
For Tophet [type of Gehenna, the lake of fire] is ordained of old; yea, for the king it is prepared; he hath made it deep and large: the pile thereof is fire and much wood; the breath of the LORD, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle [H1197 – consume by fire, set on fire] it.

Contrary to all the false doctrines of the false prophets in the churches of the world, that torment / pain will come to an end when all the wonderful works of God to the children of men are accomplished.

Fear of men is faithlessness towards God. It takes the fire and brimstone of God to cleanse that out of us and teach us His fear. But that pain / torment comes to an end. This is the great hidden news of the gospel of Jesus Christ apostle John was inspired to pen down in the book of Revelation.

Revelation 21:4 (KJV)
4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: [no more torments of the wine of the wrath of God] for the former things are passed away.

That is HOW God's people are and will always be sanctified, through His consuming fire, that the Fear of the Lord becomes our fear, no more the fear of men/death.
Isaiah 8:12-13 (KJV)
12 Say ye not, A confederacy,
to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy;
neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid.
13 Sanctify the Lord of hosts himself;
and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.

Isaiah 8:11-13 (New Living Translation)
11 The L ORD has given me a strong warning not to think like everyone else does. He said,
12 "Don’t call everything a conspiracy, like they do,
and don’t live in dread of what frightens them.
13 Make the LORD of Heaven’s Armies holy in your life.
He is the one you should fear.
He is the one who should make you tremble.

Question 6.

1 John 4:17-18 (KJV)
17 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.
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.

How does obedience to the commandment of God, (perfect love) relates to suffering and makes us unafraid...?

There is and was suffering for the disciples then and now in "perfect love" of the brethren. Suffering is a central part of obedience in that the flesh is being denied and dying daily. We have been told numerous times.

1 Thess 3:4 (KJV)
14 For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know.

Philippians 1:29 (KJV)
29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

The side effects of that transformative process is pain, sorrow but through that also producing a peace and love that surpasses natural understanding, producing wisdom that is not of this world.
The difference now is that suffering that comes (because of not being afraid / fearful of the men of this world, overcoming the flesh and confessing the name of Christ) is now for righteousness's sake, not suffering for evil doing.

Romans 13:3-4 (KJV)
3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid [G5399] of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:
4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; [G5399] for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

1 Peter 3:13-14 (KJV)
13 And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good? [=Perfect love]
14 But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid [G5399] of their terror, neither be troubled; [because...?]

The Judgment is His:

Deut 1:17 (KJV)
17 Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment is God's: and the cause that is too hard for you, bring it unto me, and I will hear it.

The Battle against the great multitude of the church in the world is His, not ours:

2 Chronicles 20:15 (KJV)
15 And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

The Lord is with us wheresoever we go:

Joshua 1:9 (KJV)
9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.
Jeremiah 1:7-8 (KJV)
7 But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak.
8 Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

We are no longer fearful / afraid of the terrors of men and their carnal faces because the suffering there is not worthy to be compared to the glory that lies ahead.

Rom 8:18 (KJV)
18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

1 Peter 3:17 (KJV)
17 For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, [in the Fear of God] than for evil doing. [In the fear of men and love of this world]

Dying daily to our flesh is the very process of becoming fearless to all men, as we become more and more comfortable in the fire of God's fear. Who are ‘all men?’ They are ‘the world,’ John speaks of, specifically, the church in the world with its many false prophets and antichrists.

The Lord gives us His Peace that passes understanding as we become hated of “all men”.

Matt 10:22 (KJV)
22 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name’s sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

That is how the disciples of old and now become unafraid in heart in the Day of Judgment and suffer for well doing.

John 14:27 (KJV)
27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Question 7.

1 John 4:17-18 (KJV)
17 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. 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.
To conclude, does that verse mean perfect love cast out ALL kinds of fear? Including the fear of God?

The love of God and the fear of God cannot be partitioned. When the natural man attempts to do that, they become deceived into thinking one can love God and not fear Him! The love of God works by fearing God, by obedience to His commandments.

God cannot deny Himself. His fire to be feared remains from the beginning until the end, even as His love. He cannot deny it, though man attempts to.

2 Timothy 2:13 (KJV)
13 If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

In Him are ALL the attributes and characteristics of Love, fear, righteousness, wisdom, knowledge, judgments and all spiritual attributes all in ONE.

What can be separated from the throne of God, as we have seen so far in the acts of the disciples, is the fear of men, the Jews, fear of them that kill the body, fear of enemies/adversaries etc all summarised as FEAR OF DEATH.

It is these that will be casted out of our hearts and mind in this our day of judgment.

John 12:31 (KJV)
31 Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world [whom we fear with the power of death] be cast out.

Salvation, strength, and boldness in the fear of The Lord comes to God’s elect only when that spirit of fearing men/death is casted out of our heavens, that is, our mind and hearts.

Revelation 12:9-10 (KJV)
9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: [Hebrews 2:14-15 - He that is given the power of death and subjected many their whole lifetime to the fear of death] he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

VICTORY!! No more fears of death! Boldness has come as Paul, Peter and others displayed in the Acts of the disciples.
10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, [=BOLDNESS IN THE DAY OF JUDGMENT] and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren [whom we used to fear in times past] is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

The flesh is separated from the Spirit, beginning in our heavens, as both are contrary to one another.

Galatians 5:17 (KJV)
17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

Carnal fear causes many to turn aside from the righteousness of God; to turn aside from the Way as they are afraid of the face of man.

Deuteronomy 1:17 (KJV)
17 Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid [H1481] of the face of man; for the judgment is God's: and the cause that is too hard for you, bring it unto me, and I will hear it.

Hebrew 1481= Afraid
Pronunciation; guwr
A primitive root; properly to turn aside from the road (for a lodging or any other purpose), that is, sojourn (as a guest); also to shrink, FEAR (as in a strange place);

One of the main issues for the elect of God is their witness of Christ in this evil world, as evil men and seducers wax worse and worse. (2 Timothy 3:13)

Being able to confess Jesus, as we saw earlier, necessitates forsaking the fear and praise of men.
Spiritual blessings, contentions, much spiritual warfare will come with persecutions, needing great boldness against religious followers that believes on Jesus but are uncircumcised in heart, as Philistines.

Mark 10:29-30 (KJV)
29 And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, [the fear of the Lord's sake] and the gospel's,
30 But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.
1 Samuel 7:7 (KJV)
7 And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpeh, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines.

The increasing abominations of the laws of the land as the world becomes darker and darker, will have the saints persecuted even to "strange cities", and just like Peter at the Jerusalem council, the Israel of God will always be inspired to say the same thing when a 'face off' before the 'Philistines' of the land comes about.

Acts 5:27-29 (KJV)
27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them,
28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.
29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

Whosoever is afraid / fearful of men, in the Day of Judgment, will not be granted to abide with Him in the narrow and difficult journey ahead.

Judges 7:2-3 (KJV)
2 And the Lord said unto Gideon, The people that are with thee are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.
3 Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever is fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.

Perfect love to this very day is casting out the fearful, afraid, timid spirit ('men') in our hearts.

Ezekiel 2:3-6 (KJV)
3 And he said unto me, Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, even unto this very day.
4 For they are impudent children and stiffhearted. I do send thee unto them; and thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God.
5 And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear, (for they are a rebellious house,) yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them.
6 And thou, son of man, **be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words**, though briers and thorns be with thee, and thou dost dwell among scorpions: **be not afraid of their words**, nor be dismayed at their looks, **though they be a rebellious house**.

**Conclusion.**

This study has posed a few questions and looking at the acts of the disciples, old and New Testament scripture, the spirit has revealed to us the dual usage, positive and negative meaning of the word love, fear and torment.

The Spirit also reveals that it is the fear of men, fear of being hated of all men, the false prophets, antichrists, children of the devil and many deceivers in the world that opposes our spiritual growth and obedience to the doctrine of Jesus Christ that **must be casted out**.

It is by the fear of God we do service to the Lord himself out of the heart.

**Colossians 3:22-23 (KJV)**

22 Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, **fearing God**: 23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

The many called till this day fear the wrath of men, the King of Egypt / Babylon, the rulers of the darkness of this age **above** the fear of God. Our examples of faithful men of God were not fearful of the kings of the world.

**Hebrews 11:23 (KJV)**

23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; **and they were not afraid of the king's commandment**.

**Hebrews 11:27 (KJV)**

27 By faith he forsook Egypt, **not fearing the wrath of the king**: [boldness in the day of judgment in type] for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

**Proverbs 29:25 (KJV)**

25 **The fear of man bringeth a snare**: [and must be cast out in the heavens by perfect love] but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.
False teaching of the fear of God by precepts of men also brings a snare, such as God burning all sinners in eternal hellfire forever, physical tithing of money to receive blessings of God or else one will be cursed, are NOT true teaching of the fear of God, but bringing a snare to entrap or entangle many unawares, imprisoning many in religious bondage.

Isaiah 29:13 (KJV)
13 Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:

Mat 5:8-9 (KJV)
8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.
9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

True worshippers worship through fear of the Lord. The doctrines in the commandments of men do not have fear towards God, and are all vain worship. Worshipping the Father in spirit and truth (John 4:23-24) is through having the fear of God.

Those in the fear of men, subject to bondage of traditions of men, cannot teach the Fear of The Lord. Darkness cannot teach Light.

Only the holy spirit of God by Jesus Christ can deliver us and teach us His fear.

Hebrews 2:15 (KJV)
15 And deliver them who through fear of death [the fear of man] were all their lifetime subject to bondage. [=A snare]

Isaiah 51:7 (KJV)
7 Hearken unto me, ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; fear ye not the reproach of men, neither be ye afraid of their revilings.

Psalms 34:11 (KJV)
11 Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Then boldness replaces fear of man:

2 Tim 1:7 (KJV)
7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear [of man, of death] but of power, and of [perfect] love, and of a sound mind.

Hebrews 13:6 (KJV)
6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Revelation 2:10 (KJV)
10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: [..."not fear what man shall do unto me"] behold, the devil [and his children - 1 John 3:10] shall cast [some] of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, [=ten days!] and I will give thee a crown of life.

Some of the many spiritual blessings of having the fear of the Lord the saints are given to enjoy are:

Isaiah 11:1-5 (KJV)
1 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: [The Spirit of Jesus Christ dwelling in your hearts – Eph 3:17]

2 And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

3 And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

4 But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips [fire and brimstone!] shall he slay the wicked.

5 And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

Malachi 3:16 (KJV)
16 Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name.
In closing we have Christ Himself as our example and as the pattern whose footsteps we are to follow:

1Pe 2:21 (KJV)
21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

If "perfect love casts out fear" included the fear of God then Christ's example and His steps would make that clear to us.

If on the other hand Christ feared His Father, then that is the example He has left us "that [we] should follow His steps".

What is His example?

What do "His steps" lead us to do concerning what "perfect love casts out fear" means as it relates to the fear of God?

Heb 5:7 (KJV)
7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

Christ’s ultimate example He left for us receiving His kingdom is that we are and will be saved from death, the body of death, the mind of death, the power of death, the fear of death and all therein, BY serving God the Father of all, with “reverence and godly fear”.

Hebrews 12:28-29 (KJV)
28 Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and GODLY FEAR:
29 For our God is a consuming fire.

Your brother in the fear of the Lord thinking upon his name,

Ayo Fabiyi.