

## **FACING THE FUTURE WITHOUT FEAR**

ISAIAH 43:1-3

Intro: "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." - Franklin D Roosevelt

Over time we have developed numerous acronyms for fear.

- ✓ Future Emotions Appearing Real
- ✓ False Emotions Appearing Real
- ✓ False Expectations Appearing Real
- ✓ Finding Excuses And Reasons
- ✓ Failure Expected And Received
- ✓ Future Events Appearing Real
- ✓ False Expectations About Reality
- ✓ Forget Everything And Run

Dr John Demartini gives us a great definition for fear:

*"Fear is the assumption that in the near or far future you are going to experience through your passive senses or imagination, more pain than pleasure, more negatives than positives, more losses than gains, more challenge than support from self or other(s)."*

*We all struggled with fear on occasions. There is a section in the book of Isaiah that can help us deal with our fear. Chapters 40-42 describe a sad time in the history of Israel. It is written near the end of the Babylonian captivity and chapter 43 reveals the reasons that they should persevere with confidence and we can take these same reasons and use them to deal with our own fears.*

### I. The introduction that is made v.1

"But now"

"created" – they were special and could be traced to Him

"fear not" – even though they were in Babylonian captivity

"redeemed" – bought, paid the ransom

"I have called thee by thy name" – denotes friendship

### II. The illustration that is mentioned v.2

"water, rivers, & fire" – most extreme

### III. The importance that is maintained v.3