

“The Christian and Worry”
Matthew 6:25-34
Sunday March 15, 2020

Matthew 6:25 “That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—

Greek word **Worry** – Jesus uses, means “to be drawn in two different directions, to be pulled apart” The English word **Worry** - comes from an old German word meaning to “strangle, or choke”

Jesus says “**Don’t worry” 3 times in Matthew 6:25, 31,34**

Thought Of Our Passage: “Worry Is Shortsighted, Senseless, Useless, Faithless, For Unbelievers, Not The Children Of God.”

7 Principles To Experience Victory Over Worry:

1. Verse – 25 Worry Reveals Short Sightedness:

Matthew 6:25 “That is why I tell you or therefore, - What reason, **Matthew 6:19-24** Continues with the idea of what our ambition is?

1. Earthly treasure, or heavenly treasure?
2. Earthly eyesight, or heavenly eyesight?
3. The god of riches, or The Lord Jesus Christ?

(KJV) “take no thought for your life.”
That is an unfortunate translation.

2 Thessalonians 3:10; 1 Timothy 5:8

not to worry about everyday life— *Jesus is saying, don’t be consumed by the daily things of life. A self-centered worry, Concern for self.*

Isn’t life more than food, and your body more than clothing?
(“Trinity of Cares” food, drink, clothing) Romans 8:32

Don’t misunderstand what Jesus is saying. **“He is not saying to deny or despise the needs of the body, no. Jesus made us with a need for food and covering.”** Jesus taught us to pray – **Matthew 6:11**

Shortsighted - more to life, our focus is not the temporal but eternal!

2. Verse 26 Worry Is Senseless:

Matthew 6:26 Look at the birds. Jesus is literally saying "be a bird watcher, watch the birds!" Let the birds be your teacher.

Birds are not lazy. (Have you watched birds, scratching the ground, hopping up and down the trees? Building nests?)

for your heavenly Father feeds them. (God Provides Food)

The Father feeds them because He is their creator.

And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are?

How much more will He take care of our needs He is our Father! (lesser to the greater.) 1 Peter 5:7

Senseless - God will take care of you!

(Exclusively Our Heavenly Father will care for you! - Are you His?)

3. Verse 27 Worry Is Useless:

Matthew 6:27 Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?

(KJV) Matthew 6:27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

Cubit: A linear measurement. It is 18-22 inches. It is from the index finger to the elbow.

Is Jesus saying we can't grow 18 inches through anxiety? A cubit is also a symbol for measurement, for example, a span of time.

Jesus is saying you can't add height or length to our lives. We sure seem to be cutting our lives shorter with worry.

It will not make you live longer - It does not create a better quality of life. It is Useless

4. Verses 28-30 Worry Is Faithless:

Matthew 6:28 "And why worry about your clothing?"

Look at the lilies of the field – Wildflowers, ordinary field flowers, poppies, that came up in March and April.

how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, not as men, as women work and toil

Matthew 6:29 This was a proverbial saying, "**Solomon in all his glory.**" Who was like Solomon, in resources, craftsmanship?

Matthew 6:30 if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers
Then the Lord produces these beautiful flowers with no pain or strain.

that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, In Jesus' day people would take the flowers after they were dry and place them into these brick ovens.

he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?

Do you look to Jesus as the one who saves from hell, but is dead to your daily needs and concerns? If so, you are worrying.

(Worrying Is Faithless) Little faith - He wants to help us daily

5. Verses 31-32 Worry Is For Unbelievers:

Matthew 6:31

Argument from the Lesser to the Greater.

Matthew 6:32 **These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers,** What things? Food, drink, clothing, the secondary things of this world.

unbelievers, Gentiles (*non-Jews*) - were considered pagans, heathens by the Jews. They believed in lesser gods, or no gods at all.

Gentiles had anxiety because their gods could not be trusted.

eagerly seek;

When we worry, we are insulting our God and Savior. Like atheism, it is an affront to our God Jesus.

If you are an unbeliever you can worry and should worry, because the future is only gloomy!

6. Verses 32-33 Worry Denies Sonship:

Matthew 6:32 **These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers**
What things? **'What shall we eat?'** or **'What shall we drink?'** or **'With what shall we clothe ourselves?'**

Matthew 6:33 Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, - We are told what to seek after!

As a child of God, I should be seeking **after 2 things:**

Seek – Greek *"a hunter that is hiding in the blind to hunt a bird, knowing he may have only one shot"*

- 1. His Kingdom** - Jesus ruling in our lives
- 2. live righteously,** - His inward righteousness, apart from my works

and he will give you everything you need.

Is God your heavenly Father or not? We are His children; can we not trust our Heavenly Father?

7. Verse 34 Worry Is Impractical:

Matthew 6:34

God Gives Strength to deal with the problems of each day: "So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries.

Jesus divides life into bite size chunks called days. Trying to chew more than a day at a time causes one to choke!

Don't choke on tomorrow when God wants to help us today. Why worry when He will help us right now?

We will never be trouble free: Today's trouble is enough for today.

Worry brings on us hardships that we would otherwise never know:

Application:

- 1. Man Does Not Live By Bread Alone, So Believers Focus Upon The Spiritual:**
- 2. Since God Cares For Birds, God Will Certainly Cares For Us:**
- 3. Seek First His Kingdom And His Righteousness:**
- 4. Life Is Now, Live Each Day To Please God And To Glorify Him:**