

March 24, 2013

Cast Your Cares on Jesus #2
Pastor Charles Mendenhall

Last week Pastor shared on the blessing blocker of worry. And in Luke chapter 21 Jesus is teaching on the things that will happen before His return, and He begins to share practical aspects of what the believer is going to be challenged with in relationship to the end times.

Luke 21:33-36

Amplified Bible (AMP)

³³ The ^[a]sky and the earth (^[b]the universe, the world) will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

³⁴ But take heed to yourselves and be on your guard, lest your hearts be overburdened and depressed (weighed down) with the ^[c]giddiness and headache and ^[d]nausea of self-indulgence, drunkenness, and worldly worries and cares pertaining to [the ^[e]business of] this life, and [lest] that day come upon you suddenly like a trap or a noose;

³⁵ For it will come upon all who live upon the face of the entire earth.

³⁶ Keep awake then and watch at all times [be discreet, attentive, and ready], praying that you may have the full strength and ability and be accounted worthy to escape all these things [taken together] that will take place, and to stand in the presence of the Son of Man.

The adversary has a plan for God's people to ensnare them with worries and cares and be totally weighed down just by the affairs of life.

We need to be awake and alert spiritually and to be praying that we would escape these things and when the time comes for Jesus to come for His church it would be a glorious entrance into the kingdom of God for you and I because we are not ensnared. This is not to say that our cares and worries will cause us to miss heaven we just won't enjoy heaven here on earth.

A care or worry is defined as something that weighs one down, you are apprehensive, and it is a troubling emotion in relationship to affecting our mind and leads to depression or discouragement. W E Vines defines it as always being drawn in a different direction. You will be drawn away from the answer, and begin to be drawn away from Jesus and the body of Christ. You are drawn in a wrong way.

In Mark chapter 4, Matthew chapter 13 and Luke chapter 8 in the parable of the sower in every one is mentioned that the cares of this world will cause the Word of God to be nonproductive in life even though we know what The Word says.

In Mark 4 it tells of how the devil comes immediately to take The Word that gets planted. He comes poking around in our hearts and minds and gets us weighed down, offended or whatever so that the word cannot produce a harvest for us.

Matthew chapter 6 is teaching on the infinite provisions of God.

Matthew 6:25 (KJV)

²⁵ Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

We take thoughts by saying.

When fishing we don't catch a fish unless it takes the bait. So it is with us taking the bait that the devil uses with his lies, deception and schemes but until we start saying them we haven't taken the bait. Take no thought by saying.

Matthew 6:31-34

King James Version (KJV)

³¹ Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

³² (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

³³ But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

³⁴ Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

The purpose of the thoughts that are negative, the worries, cares, and anxieties is to separate us from seeking the kingdom. If we quit seeking the kingdom we get separated from God's provision for all the things to be added to us.

Matthew 6:33-34 (MSG)

³³ Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met.

³⁴ "Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don't get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes.

Having anxiety is to be full of uneasiness. Worry is a byproduct of fear beginning to get into our life. Worry is a symptom of fear. Worry is a small trickle of fear that meanders through our minds until it cuts a channel in our mind then every thought goes through that channel and is processed through worry and fear and not processed with faith and trust. Then all our thoughts and speech starts being seasoned with worry, anxiety and fear. This is why it is so important to allow faith and trust and confidence in God be dominant in our thinking process. Dismay is being afraid of what is going to happen before it ever happens. You start being the prophet of your future on the down side of life before it ever happens. Faith and trust need to be the prophet of our future on the right side of life.

We need to resist worry. Worry never helps a situation. How do we handle worry when it comes our way?

Number one we must realize that worry anxiety and frustration does not come from God. If we realize that we know that it is coming from the adversary. If you don't realize that it's not from God you will be hesitant to resist it because somewhere in your mind you may think God is behind it. The religious mind isn't going to want to resist God and that's a good thing, but if you are convinced in reality that it is coming from the adversary you will be more inclined to resist it steadfast in the faith giving glory to God.

John 16:33 (AMP)

³³ I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have [perfect] peace and confidence. In the world you have tribulation and trials and distress and frustration; but be of good cheer [take courage; be confident, certain, undaunted]! For I have overcome the world. [I have deprived it of power to harm you and have conquered it for you.]

Second we must not get into the mode of complaining. We need to praise.

Psalm 77:3 (KJV)

... I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. Selah.

When Paul wrote these scriptures he was imprisoned.

Philippians 4:6 (KJV)

⁶ Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Philippians 4:6 (AMP)

⁶ Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and petition (^[a]definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God.

We must understand the power of praise when we are tempted to worry and be frustrated and full of anxiety.

Cast your care. You have to keep at it, and keep at it until one time it is going to stick.

Matthew 11:28-30 (KJV)

²⁸ Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Jesus plan is for us to run to Him. The devil's plan is to draw us away from the answer. We need to seek first the Kingdom.

Matthew 11:28-30 (AMP)

²⁸ Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden and overburdened, and I will cause you to rest. [I will ^[a]ease and relieve and ^[b]refresh ^[c]your souls.]

²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am gentle (meek) and humble (lowly) in heart, and you will find rest (^[d]relief and ease and refreshment and ^[e]recreation and blessed quiet) for your souls.

³⁰ For My yoke is wholesome (useful, ^[f]good—not harsh, hard, sharp, or pressing, but comfortable, gracious, and pleasant), and My burden is light and easy to be borne.

This is our spiritual medicine. It is for when we are weighed down and think we can't go any further.

Isaiah 40:29-31 (KJV)

²⁹ He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

³⁰ Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

³¹ But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

The word wait here means to bind together by twisting, in expectation, and to wait on something we know is coming. God said if we wait on him there will be an exchange.

Habakkuk 3:19 (AMP)

¹⁹ The Lord God is my Strength, my personal bravery, and my invincible army; He makes my feet like hinds' feet and will make me to walk [not to stand still in terror, but to walk] and make [spiritual] progress upon my high places [of trouble, suffering, or responsibility]!

Father, we cannot help but worship you. You are so good. You are faithful. Your love through Jesus was extravagant. You loved extravagantly not to take from us but to get everything to us. Imprint that on the hearts, the minds and the emotions of us.

Father, thank you.

Father right now I have a heart after you and reveal to me how much you care for and love me. You have never taken your hand from me and your gifts and callings are without repentance. You have never changed your mind about me. And father I rebuke the tormenting spirit that is dogging my trail and is pouncing on me unmercifully beating me down again and again. I break its power in Jesus name. I release the peace of God in Jesus name. I rise up in the confidence and power of God and there is the divine exchange and I will run and not grow weary, walk and not faint in Jesus name. I am loosed into the love of God and I take on your yoke that is easy and your burden that is light.

Father, I accept your mercy and your grace and I take on your yoke Lord. It is easy, and I take on your burden that is light, and I ask you to forgive me Lord when I allowed the cares of this world, the busyness of life to separate me from your goodness. I cast all my care over on you again and I leave it there. In Jesus name. Amen.